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Museum buildings equip themselves for the future

Today's technology is preserving the heritage of the past

More than 7,000 museums in Germany preserve and display artworks, archaeological treasures, local and national history, wildlife and technological inventions. All these facilities place considerable demands on the buildings and building services technology, whereby the funding bodies are often overwhelmed by the required energy consumption. The new BINE-Themeninfo brochure "Sustainable refurbishment of museums" (II/2014) presents the results of an extensive research project on the comprehensive refurbishment of these buildings and their technology. The analyses and recommendations relate to the various structural and technical options for meeting the necessary conservation requirements in ensuring the long-term preservation of cultural assets. Visitor comfort and the preservation of historic buildings and monuments also play a role.

Many museum buildings were built in the 19th century and were designed in a particularly representative manner. Today it is often evident that their building fabric is in need of renovation and that their energy requirement is too high. In a comprehensive research project, scientists from five German universities working in conjunction with the Fraunhofer Institute for Building Physics have developed recommendations for the sustainable refurbishment of museum buildings, which are now published as a BINE-Themeninfo brochure. The team was involved in numerous planning and construction projects, whereby it was always concerned with improving the overall energy balance and fulfilling all requirements with the least possible technological effort. The fundamental, energy-oriented renovation of buildings is a prerequisite in ensuring that museums can operate more cost-efficiently in future.

The BINE Themeninfo brochure, which can be obtained free of charge from the BINE Information Service at FIZ Karlsruhe, is available online at www.bine.info or by calling +49 (0)228 92379-0. The brochure cover and additional image material can be downloaded from this web portal in the press section.

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