

## Video: Restoring historic buildings and saving energy

January 30 2014, by Corinna Hackenbrock

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A brand new window with thin-layer glazing combines energy efficiency with the aesthetics of a baroque window.

Restoring historic buildings and saving energy at the same time is now a reality. Passive house window expert Franz Freundorfer developed the heat-saver for the Waaghaus in Bolzano, a building from the 13th century. Combining [new technology](#) and old traditions the scientists want to bridge the gap between the conservation of historic buildings and improving [energy efficiency](#).

Also, the Palazzina della Viola, built in Bologna in 1497, was given a make-over. Preserving delicate original material had limited the [energy savings](#), but even though the heating and cooling loads were reduced by 12% and 30% respectively. The indoor climate conditions were improved for achieving comfort and artwork-preserving conditions. Today, the building is the headquarters of the University's Department of International Exchange, serving seven thousand students every year.

Passive house window expert Franz Freundorfer developed the heat-saver together with researchers and experts of the [3encult](#) project for the Waaghaus in Bolzano, a building from the 13th century.

**More information:** Retrofitting of historical buildings requires multiple expertise: [phys.org/news310293561.html](http://phys.org/news310293561.html)

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