



**Alexander Passer is
Professor of Sustainable
Construction.**

Lunghammer – TU Graz

Committed to sustainability

Alexander Passer's avowed professional passion is sustainability in construction. Life cycle assessment, life cycle sustainability assessment methodologies and climate neutrality are part of the everyday academic life of the Professor of Sustainable Construction at TU Graz.

Birgit Baustädter, Barbara Gigler

Alexander Passer is a civil engineer and sustainability expert at heart. His entire academic career has already been dedicated to the topic of sustainability in construction. The 46-year-old studied civil engineering at TU Graz, then worked at the Danube University Krems on the now highly relevant topic of refurbishment management and wrote his doctoral thesis on assessment methods for the environmental quality of buildings.

HOLISTIC VIEW

"Biodiversity and land use have to be considered as well as the environmental compatibility of building materials and the energy consumption of buildings," he says today about the breadth of his research field. In 2022, Passer accepted the Professorship for Sustainable Construction at TU Graz, endowed by the Trade Association of the Stone and Ceramics Industry, which he intends to establish in this broad-ranging idea. "Sustainability requires holistic thinking, from architecture and engineering to materials and energy science." That's why the professorship is located at both the Faculty of Architecture and the Faculty of Civil Engineering, where Passer has already been active in an interdisciplinary capacity for years. As an associate professor of

sustainable construction, he established the Working Group for Sustainable Construction in 2011, which he still heads and which is now based at the Institute of Structural Design. At the same time, he is a board member of Climate Change Centre Austria (CCCA), the scientific board in the Citizens' Climate Council of the Federal Ministry for Climate Protection, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, and chairman of the Sustainability Advisory Board of TU Graz, which he is shaping as TU Graz becomes a climate-neutral university.

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT

Passer is passionate about climate neutrality in construction, life cycle modelling of buildings and life cycle sustainability assessment methodologies. He is researching new dynamic life cycle assessment models that take future developments into account in order to better map the environmental impacts over an entire life cycle.

"It is important to me to create a new culture in the building industry that not only acts in a climate-friendly way today, but also doesn't leave any legacy of pollution for future generations," says Passer, summing up his ambition. ■