References

La Pinada Lab: Centre for Innovation in Sustainable Urban Planning for the Future



La Pinada Lab: Uponor, a key player in one of the leading open innovation centres for sustainable urban planning

La Pinada Lab is an open innovation hub dedicated to urban sustainability. It facilitates innovation processes by fostering the sharing of ideas, knowledge and experiences, and bringing to life projects that generate business opportunities with a positive impact.
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It is a space where businesses, start-ups, universities, technology centres, the public sector and the general public come together in an environment that serves as a testing ground for creating new, highly sustainable products and services in areas such as water management, materials and energy, or which bring about a real transformation in mobility and construction.

“We are a hub for driving systemic and open innovation in the development of solutions for energy and water efficiency, urban renaturalisation and sustainable mobility, amongst other areas,” says Juan Murillo, Director of Innovation at Zubi Cities, the company behind the project.

Project Facts:

Location
Paterna (Valencia), Spain

Completion
2021

Building Type
Multifamily homes

Project Type
New building

Partners

Dirección Técnica: Zubi Cities
Ingeniería: Diversos partners de La Pinada Lab
Instaladora: Itecon

La Pinada Lab, a testing ground for Zubi Cities projects

La Pinada Lab comprises four pavilions built using natural materials, cutting-edge technologies, and geothermal and photovoltaic systems that enable them to operate off the grid. Two of them feature Uponor's Invisible Climate Control system using radiant surfaces (one with underfloor heating and the other with a radiant ceiling for cooling). Furthermore, Uponor has been responsible for the water distribution via its Q&E system.

These facilities have made it possible to observe how Uponor's solutions perform in different settings over the course of almost a year, by monitoring factors relating to comfort, such as humidity and temperature. This knowledge will be put to direct use in the future Barrio La Pinada development, as well as in other Zubi Cities projects.

Each of Zubi Cities' developments incorporates innovative solutions and tools that enhance resource efficiency and people's well-being. This innovative framework, designed to create a positive impact, is applied throughout every stage of a residential project's lifecycle, from conceptualisation and design through to construction and new models of management and financing.

According to Aurelio Silveira, CEO of Zubi Cities, "this is a new model of urban development, designed in collaboration with its future residents. Society has evolved, and the city must adapt and respond to the new needs of its inhabitants, doing so in a sustainable manner and in harmony with the natural environment, moving towards circular models of management that are neutral in terms of emissions and environmental impact".

> "Uponor has added significant value through the expertise and knowledge of its professionals, the innovation of its solutions, and the content, sessions and workshops it has shared and delivered at the Lab to promote the future of construction." María Gil, industrial engineer and collaborator at La Pinada Lab.