

No. 4 / April 2025, Cologne #FSB

FSB 2025: public spaces and playground equipment in the spotlight

FSB, the International Trade Fair for Public Space, Sports and Leisure Facilities, will open its doors again from 28 to 31 October 2025, serving as the key gathering place for the industry's experts, planners and decision-makers. There will be particular focus on the "Public Spaces and Playground Equipment" segment, with innovative solutions for the sustainable and inclusive design of playgrounds, sports and leisure facilities a key talking point.

The plannerFORUM, organised in cooperation with the BSFH (German Association of Playground Equipment and Leisure Facility Manufacturers), the BDLA NRW (North Rhine-Westphalia branch of the Federation of German Landscape Architects) and the trade journal Playground@Landscape, is set to be one of the highlights of the trade fair again in 2025. With its wide-ranging programme, the plannerFORUM will present practical solutions and new trends relating to the design of urban recreational landscapes. In addition, FSB media partner Playground@Landscape is once again organising the Marketplace Play & Exercise, a valuable networking space for businesses operating in the sector. Key issues to be explored over the four days of the trade fair will include the planning of public spaces, neighbourhood design, and sports and leisure facilities in urban areas.

Inclusion as a core topic

BDLA NRW Day on Thursday, 30 October 2025, also promises to offer exciting insights into planning sustainable public spaces and the role they play in urban development. This year, the event will have a special focus on inclusion. Not only will the topic be in the spotlight at the plannerFORUM, but a fully-functional inclusive zone will also be constructed to demonstrate how accessible facilities for play and exercise can be designed in practice. The aim is for everyone to enjoy these activities equally, regardless of their needs or abilities. There will also be discussions exploring how exercise influences the design of urban areas and contributes to social integration.

"FSB isn't just a platform for innovation; it's also a place where forward-looking concepts for inclusive and sustainable sports and leisure facilities take shape," stresses Bettina Frias, Director of FSB.

Sponge cities: sustainable solutions for climate change

Another topic of discussion at FSB will be sponge cities and how they may constitute a key climate change adaptation strategy. The concept, which is drawing increasing attention, centres on sustainable water management systems that can also be used as recreational spaces. Splash parks are particularly noteworthy in this context, as they not only offer ample opportunities for play but also contribute to rainwater



FSB 28.10. - 31.10.2025 www.fsb-cologne.com

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harvesting and the cooling of urban environments.

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Innovative playground design

Another important topic in this segment of FSB is the design of schoolyards and playgrounds. Innovative concepts aim to enable pupils to get more exercise, experience nature and interact socially. Sustainable materials, multifunctional play equipment and semi-natural areas contribute to children's physical and mental health.

FSB 2025: a platform for the future

"FSB is the go-to event for everyone involved in shaping the future of our public spaces. It's where experts gather to discuss innovative ideas and develop new solutions together," says Ulrich Scheffler, Managing Director of playground equipment manufacturer Kaiser & Kühne Freizeitgeräte GmbH, adding that "Networking between planners, manufacturers and decision-makers is essential in order to create long-term, sustainable concepts for cities with a good quality of life."

FSB 2025 therefore offers a unique platform for dialogue across disciplines and for the further development of public space concepts that place equal weight on environmental and social considerations. Visitors will have the opportunity to gather a wealth of information, network with experts and play an active role in shaping the public spaces of tomorrow.

FSB 2025 will take place in Cologne from 28 to 31 October in co-location with aquanale, the International Trade Fair for Sauna. Pool. Ambience.

Koelnmesse - Global Inspiration for Living, Contract and Public Spaces

At its home base in Cologne, flagship events such as imm cologne and idd cologne are joined by internationally renowned and well-established trade fairs including interzum, ORGATEC, spoga+gafa, FSB, and aquanale. These events comprehensively represent the interior and design sectors, supply industries for furniture manufacturing and interior construction, modern working environments, garden lifestyle, as well as outdoor spaces, sports and leisure facilities, and wellness areas such as saunas and pools. In addition to its events in Cologne, Koelnmesse is strategically expanding its portfolio in key growth markets around the globe. Its international trade fairs include La Feria De Diseño Medellín - powered by imm cologne in Colombia, ORGATEC TOKYO in Japan, ORGATEC INDIA in Mumbai, ORGATEC WORKSPACE Saudi Arabia in Riyadh, and the interzum brand family events: interzum guangzhou in China, interzum bogotá in Colombia, interzum jakarta in Indonesia, and the interzum forum italy in Italy. A new addition to Koelnmesse's Living, Contract and Public Spaces portfolio is the FSB Sports Show Riyadh in Saudi Arabia.

The next events:

ORGATEC TOKYO - SHIFT DESIGN - THE LEADING INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR IN ASIA FOR THE MODERN WORKSPACES, Tokyo 03.06. - 05.06.2025 FSB Sports Show Riyadh - Saudi Arabia's largest trade fair for sports build, leisure facilities and public spaces, Riyadh 16.06. - 18.06.2025



spoga+gafa - The world's biggest garden and BBQ trade fair, Cologne 24.06. - 26.06.2025

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ORGATEC WORKSPACE Saudi Arabia - Saudi Arabia's Premier Trade Event for Workspace Solutions, Riyadh 16.09. - 18.09.2025

FSB - International Trade Fair for Public Space, Sports and Leisure Facilities, Cologne 28.10. - 31.10.2025

aquanale - International Trade Fair for Sauna. Pool. Ambience., Cologne 28.10. - 31.10.2025

ORGATEC India - India's International Trade Fair for the Future of Workplaces & Ecosystems for Facilities, Mumbai 04.11. - 06.11.2025 imm cologne - The interior business event, Cologne 20.01. - 23.01.2026 spoga+gafa - The world's biggest garden and BBQ trade fair, Cologne 22.06. - 24.06.2026

ORGATEC - The leading international trade fair for the modern working world, Cologne 27.10. - 30.10.2026

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