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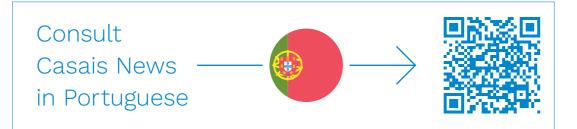
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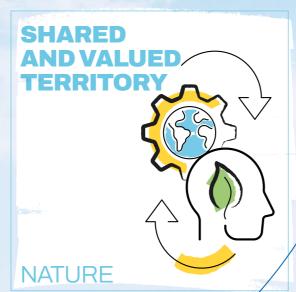


SUSTAINABILITY AT CASAIS









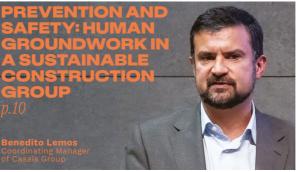
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António Carlos F. Rodrigues
Chairman of the Executive Committee - CEC



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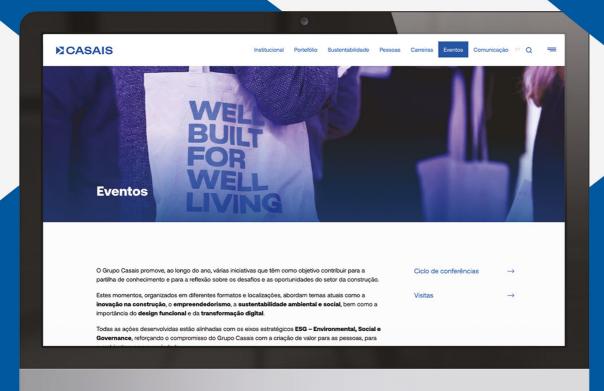
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Conferences, launches, debates and much more - all in one place. Access the new Eventos (PT only) page on the Grupo Casais site and find out what we're building, sharing and transforming.



casais.pt



António Carlos Fernandes Rodrigues // Chairman of the Executive Committee - CEO

The times we live in are demanding but also full of opportunities. The construction sector is undergoing a transformation, and the Casais Group has assumed a determined, responsible and active role in this process of change. In this edition of Casais News, we celebrate achievements, reaffirm commitments and plan for the future we want to continue building — with People, for the Planet and with a focus on Productivity.

We have invested heavily in **talent development**, working closely with educational institutions such as the Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave, with training programmes that anticipate construction skills that will be needed in the future. The links between education and practice, and between youth and experience, are essential to ensure a robust response to the challenges posed by the energy and digital transition.

We also continue to lead by example, by contributing to projects that are national and international benchmarks, from high-speed rail to the development of affordable and sustainable housing, as well as educational and technological infrastructure. Each project is more than just a construction project; it is a commitment to communities and to our collective future.

Innovation is what drives our progress. Through Blufab, synergies with centres of excellence such as Center Construction Robotics in Germany, and our investment in **industrialised construction**, we are scaling solutions that respond effectively to the challenges of cost, time and sustainability. And this is a path we want to take side by side with our partners, as was clearly stated at the Connect to Build conference and in the partnership agreement with the Order of Engineers.

The **Mestre Casais Foundation** has also played an active role in promoting critical thinking about sustainability and valuing academic and civic projects. Our joining the Portuguese Centre for Foundations affirms the importance we place on social responsibility in our development model.

Every step we take—whether in Guimarães, Beja, Sintra, Luanda or Dubai—reflects our vision, which is to build with awareness, innovate with purpose and grow with everyone. It is not just about leaving a mark on the territory, but about ensuring that this mark is positive, transformative and long-lasting.

To all those who make this journey possible every day, I offer my deepest gratitude.

Let us continue to build well together, to live better.

The tall laws

Casais Group 7

ENERGY, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND HOME AUTOMATION

August 2025

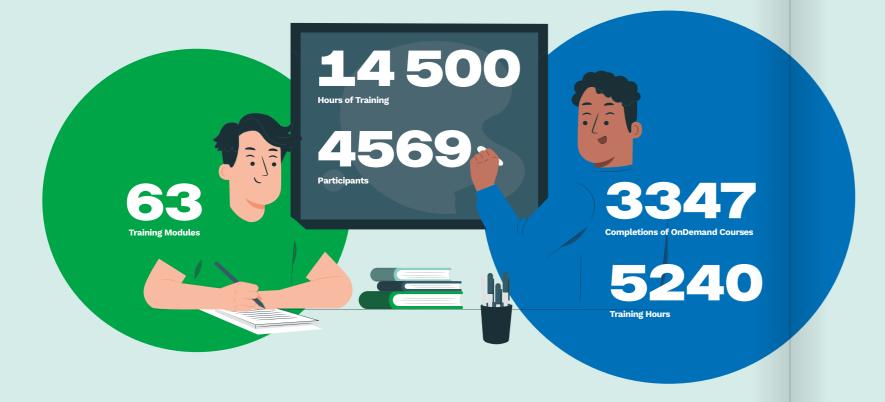
-Braga Quadrina, the Casais Group electricity distribution company, has established a strategic partnership with the Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave (IPCA), within the scope of the Higher Professional Technical Course (CTeSP) in Energy, Telecommunications and Home Automation, taught at the Braga campus, to promote the upskilling of talent in electrical

engineering. This collaboration is a direct response to the growing demand for skilled labour in these areas, which are undergoing the rapid growth and transformation being driven by the energy and digital transition.

The two-year CTeSP course combines a strong technical component with an intensive practical aspect that includes a compulsory 840-hour internship. The Casais Group plays a central role here, offering students direct contact with real-world contexts of technological innovation, automation and sustainability – all hallmarks of the Group's activities in the domestic and international markets.

TRAINING

JULY — SEPTEMBER



FEATURED TRAINING COURSES

At the start of the second half of the year, **safety** training leads as the type of training most carried out. We have accumulated over **15 training modules** on topics that include First Aid, Basic Safety Training, Working at Height, and Scaffolding Inspection and Approval. In total, we trained **153 participants** and totalled **1,568 hours** in this area.

The next area with the highest volume of training is **leadership**, in which we have accumulated **4 new training modules**, which have enabled **41 participants** to develop their skills and through which we have accumulated a further **1,064 hours** of training.

With the leadership of MEP companies in Portugal, we launched the first edition of **MEP Days**, an event that brought together **124 participants**, totalling **930 training hours**, which allowed us to strengthen skills in various topics related to fire safety in buildings.

Our **operating system**, which ensures the proper functioning of all areas of the organisation, also plays a prominent role in training. This quarter, we held a further **11 training modules**, this time focused on Cost Control and the SAP EWM and Ecoordina tools. We trained **153 people**, with a total of **868 hours** of training.

We maintained our focus on the Mais Lider Programme, a programme that is constantly in the spotlight and allows for the development of Team Leaders and Supervisors. Between July and September, we carried out 10 training modules that are part of this programme, resulting in 114 participants and 474 hours of training.

For the second time this year, we held a **mentor training** course, an initiative that aims to develop the skills of our employees so that they can better perform their role as mentors within the organisation. In total, we have trained **20 employees** this year, with a total of **140 hours** of training.

As far as the general public is concerned, we launched the first edition of the Construction Management course as part of the PROMOV project in September, with 21 participants. The course, which will continue over the coming months, is run in partnership with other construction companies and provided by CENFIC in Lisbon.

In September, we also began the second year of the Advanced Construction Technologies technological specialisation course in partnership with IPCA, a partnership structured to train professionals before they join the Casais Group. We have strengthened our connection with IPCA by becoming partners in the Energy, Telecommunications and Home Automation technological specialisation course, reinforcing our role in bringing the academic world closer and promoting technical qualifications for the market.

PREVENTION AND SAFETY: HUMAN GROUNDWORK IN A SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION

Benedito
Lemos
Coordinating
Manager of
Casais Group

What keeps my family happy is to see me happy and well when I come home after a day's work.

GROUP

It has always been this way – ever since 2000, when I began my career as an assistant construction manager under the conservation and maintenance contract for the Beira Alta railway line, where the objective was to ensure daily passenger transport while simultaneously carrying out any railway works required safely.

I left university without any real knowledge about prevention and safety at work, but I came face to face with the issue when I met a young colleague from the Sales Department who was completely paralysed in one arm for the rest of her life. She had suffered an accident on the North line, hit si-

deways by a moving train, yet, by some miracle, had survived.

From that moment on, safety became a serious priority in my life, not only as a professional but as a human being.

Coming into contact with someone who had such a personal experience had a profound effect on me and made me realise that behind every hard hat and every Hi-Vis reflective vest there is a life, a family, and a future. And it is this awareness that stays with me to this day, both as an individual and as a member of the Casais Group.

Prevention and Safety: Priorities that Define Our Commitment

Prevention and safety at work are an absolute priority for the Casais Group.

We want everyone who works with us and for us to have safe workplaces and working conditions and to experience a culture of safety based on cooperation, communication and mutual support between colleagues, teams and organisations, in an environment of transparency, trust and mutual respect.

cause someone identified a risk and reported it in time. This should be our guiding principle: "Identify it, and report it!"

Many incidents are avoided be-

Every alert given, every anomaly pointed out, is a valuable contribution to the common good and to the protection of everybody.

Leading by
Example: the Power
of a Culture that
Inspires and is Lived

Leaders play a decisive role in building a true culture of safety.

More than simply giving instructions, we have to inspire by example. When a manager, supervisor or director demonstrates safe and preventive behaviour in practice, it has a positive impact on their whole team.

One inspiring example comes from Paul O'Neill, former CEO of ALCOA, the world's largest aluminium producer. O'Neill always put safety at the centre of his meetings and speeches, and insisted that he be informed of any incident in the group.

His vision was simple but powerful: by taking care of people's safety, the entire organisation became stronger, more efficient and more humane.

This is also our vision. When we put safety first, we strengthen the group and value the people who build it.

We are on the right track, and to reinforce this culture, I recommend that you read the book "Culture of Prevention and Safety," authored by the Casais Group's Prevention and Safety De-

Group's Prevention and Safety Department (DPS). It is an essential resource that reflects our collective commitment to continuous improvement.



The Fundamental Role Played by the Prevention and Safety Department

The DPS's mission is to guide and support people in the development and implementation of prevention and safety plans in the workplace.

This team helps identify risks, advises on preventive measures and monitors operations in the field, providing technical and human support and guidance.

But the closer the connection with leadership, the greater the impact of the DPS.

Making the safety culture becomes practical, alive and effective when the Department is consulted, involved and valued in preventive actions.

And it is precisely when this collaborative spirit occurs that prevention ceases to be an obligation and becomes natural behaviour.

Training, Awareness and the "5 Minutes of Safety" Rule: Small Gestures, Big Results

Training and continuous awareness-raising are the basis of a solid culture of prevention.

We therefore call for everyone's active participation in training initiatives, safety days and meetings, and the daily practice of the "5 minutes of safety" in each workplace.

These moments of sharing and reflection help us to reinforce safe behaviour, identify risks and value the contribution the individual makes to collective safety.

These are small gestures that make a big difference and consolidate our safety culture, day after day.

Safety Ambassadors: Voices and Examples that Inspire

Among the most emblematic initiatives of the Casais Group is the creation of Safety Ambassadors, employees who are committed to spreading and promoting a culture of integrated safety, inspiring others by example.

These Ambassadors do not replace Safety Officers, but complement their work, serving as role models and agents of positive influence within their teams. Their mission is to:

- Disseminate and promote the organisation's safety policy and culture;
- Collaborate in the identification of risks and implementation of preventive measures;
- Encourage colleagues and partners to comply with safety standards; and
- Report risk situations and contribute to continuous improvement.

Safety Ambassadors work on two fronts:

- ➤ Simple and immediate interventions, such as correcting the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or making improvements to the organisation of the construction site;
- ▶ Coordinated and more serious interventions, when there is a need to stop work or equipment due to serious risks, always made in coordination with the Prevention and Safety Officer.

As the Safety Ambassadors' motto states, "Safety is about everyone, by everyone and for everyone".

Each Ambassador is an essential link in the safety ecosystem, promoting a culture that is built from the inside out – with commitment, empathy and action.

The General Safety Committee (CGS): Strategic and Collaborative Structure

Since November 2018, the General Safety Committee (CGS) has played a central role in strengthening the safety culture within the Casais Group.

Created in conjunction with the Project Safety Committees (CSP), the CGS aims to ensure the existence of separate systems and processes that are independent of the operational structure, thereby guaranteeing compliance with Portuguese law per EU requirements (Directive 89/381/EEC).

The CGS operates in two complementary spheres:

- It analyses the realities on the ground, gathering contributions and interpretations from operations; and
- Ensures that the measures and actions implemented have a real and measurable effect.



Since its creation, more than 100 external audits and 30 CGS meetings have taken place, with the support of the external auditor TABIQUE. These audits—distinct from certification audits—aim to measure the "safety atmosphere" on construction sites, verify that processes and communication channels are operational and effective, and confirm analyses carried out on the causes of accidents and the status of implementation of corrective actions.

The CGS meets quarterly and comprises around 10 members, including administrators, managers and operational representatives.

At a global level, CGS Global promotes annual meetings that bring together representatives from all markets, allowing for the sharing of best practices, the alignment of strategies and the definition of recommendations for international application.

Each CGS Global meeting is an opportunity to share knowledge and promote collective reflection on prevention and safety.

This collaborative approach reinforces our commitment that safety is a collective endeavour, sustained by dialogue and the participation of everyone.

To act is to live safely. Safety is not a destination; it is a journey we take together.

It is an attitude that is expressed in every gesture, every warning, every conscious decision.

At the Casais Group, we believe that living safely means living better. Be vigilant, participatory and proactive. Identify and communicate. Because when we act rather than react, we live happier lives.

Safety is the foundation of our competence and a reflection of our humanity. And it is together, as Competent and Safe People, that we will continue to build the future with confidence.

July
2025

Braga
and Porto,
Portugal

STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS IN THE NORTH



Summer on Campus at the University of Minho

The Casais Group once again supported **Summer on Campus**, a **University of Minho** initiative that took place in July, with the aim of helping students choose a higher education course. Over five days, 400 young people from Year 9 at secondary school immersed themselves in various scientific, cultural and vocational activities promoted by the University at its Braga and Guimarães campuses.



Sustainable Living Innovators at CEiiA

At **CEIIA** (Centre of Engineering and Product Development), the Casais Group sponsored the 6th edition of the international **Sustainable Living Innovators** (SLI) programme, which invited 29 students to embark on a four-week mission to design, develop and present a lunar base for sustainable living on the Moon, addressing four challenges: Construction, Energy, Mobility, and Health and Quality of Life.

On 23 July, the CEO of the Casais Group, António Carlos Rodrigues, shared with participants the Casais Group's vision of the challenges and opportunities of construction in a changing world and how the Moon can help us rethink the Earth. Conceptual exploration centred on the term climatropia, which is the way we need to adapt to the profound and irreversible change in the planet's conditions: extreme temperatures, resource scarcity, tension in ecosystems and growing pressure on infrastructure and societies.





Casais Group



BUILDING TRUST THROUGH COLLABORATION



Volker
Weissenberger
Head of Business
Development at

When introducing innovation into an old-economy industry like construction, one quickly learns that technology alone is not enough. The success of an innovation depends on the people and partners who adopt, implement, and continuously improve it.





At CREE Buildings, we have developed an industrialised building system that makes construction faster, cleaner, and more sustainable. Yet CREE's true strength lies not only in its technology but in the global collective of companies that use it, share their experiences, and help one another succeed. Among these partners, Casais Group stands out as both a heavy user of the CREE system and one of its most respected ambassadors worldwide.

A Partnership Built on Shared Values

The collaboration between CREE and Casais is not merely transactional – it is a relationship grounded in mutual respect, trust, and a shared vision for the future of construction.

When you bring innovation into an established industry, you are not just selling a product. You are building a movement. You are inviting others to question long-held assumptions and to join you in shaping a better way forward. This requires courage, belief, and a willingness to take calculated risks. Casais embodies all of these qualities.

From the beginning, Casais recognised that innovation demands both discipline and collaboration. Their teams approached the CREE system not as a challenge, but as an opportunity – to learn, to improve, and to lead by example.

Turning Experience into Collective Progress

In every innovation journey, two essential dynamics must coexist: implementation and feedback.

On one hand, innovators search for the right partners – those capable of translating a new system into real-world success. On the other, they rely on those same partners to create a loop of learnings and improvements that strengthen the entire ecosystem.

Casais excels at both. They do not just implement the CREE system—they refine it. They capture valuable insights from each project and share them openly with our network, helping CREE evolve in a way that benefits all partners around the world.



The Strength of a Global Collective

The CREE network today is a global community of forward-thinking builders, developers, and innovators. Every new member who joins looks around and evaluates the network by the strength, reputation, and integrity of its existing members.

That is why early pioneers like Casais are so crucial. They carry the responsibility—and the opportunity—to set the standard for what the network represents.

To take that first step requires confidence: confidence in the technology, confidence in the partnership, and confidence in one's own ability to lead change. Casais has shown that confidence from Day One.

When you mention Casais within our network, people respond with trust and admiration. Their name has become synonymous with competence, reliability, and ethical collaboration. There is a quiet sense of pride whenever their projects are discussed – because they represent what is possible when innovation meets integrity.



Raising the Bar for Everyone

Casais' contribution has gone beyond implementing projects. They have raised the bar for CREE headquarters and for all licence partners worldwide.

Their commitment to continuous improvement has challenged us to become better – to refine our product platform, strengthen our partner support, and deliver even greater value to the entire ecosystem.

When potential partners visit Casais, they see more than a construction company. They see a vision realised – a place where innovation is tangible, where sustainability is measurable, and where collaboration is authentic.

Casais has become a destination within the CREE network: a living example of how industrialised construction can work at scale, how partnerships can thrive, and how shared purpose can turn into shared success.

Looking Ahead

The journey of transforming the construction industry is still unfolding. It requires courage to question the status quo, persistence to navigate complexity, and humility to learn from each other.

As CREE continues to grow its global collective, we know that our strength will always depend on the quality of our relationships. The partnership with Casais Group exemplifies that truth.

Together, we are not only changing how buildings are made – we are changing how people work together to make them.

And in doing so, we are proving that ethical and collaborative business is not just a pillar of sustainability – it is the foundation on which the future of construction must be built.

A Culture that Inspires Confidence

What truly makes Casais unique is its DNA. In every interaction—whether on-site, in meetings, or across borders—Casais radiates the same consistent qualities: professionalism, friendliness, and productivity.

Their teams listen, they care, and they deliver. These might sound like simple traits, but in a global industry as complex as construction, they are rare and invaluable. Every relationship, whether personal or professional, comes down to three questions:

- Do you care about me?
- Are you good at what you do?
- Are you committed to excellence?

Casais answers yes to all three—every single time.

That is why they have become a model for future partners within the CREE collective. They show others what it means to live the values of ethical and collaborative business—not just in words, but in actions, systems, and results.



July 2025 — Lisbon,

LAUNCH OF PORTUGAL'S FIRST HIGH-SPEED RAIL LINE



The construction of **the Lisbon-Porto high-speed railway line** took a decisive step forward with the signing of the concession contract for the first section, which will connect Porto to Oiã, and the signing of the financing contract with the European Investment Bank (EIB). The contract was signed by IP and Avan Norte – Gestão da Ferrovia de Alta Velocidade, formed by the **LusoLAV** consortium, led by Mota-Engil, of which Casais Group is a member.

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE ORDER OF ENGINEERS

September 2025

Porto,Portugal

The Casais Group reaffirmed its commitment to promoting engineering and transforming the sector by signing an **Institutional Partnership Agreement with the Order of Engineers**.

The partnership agreement was signed on 11 September at the Paço dos Duques de Bragança, in Guimarães, by António Carlos Rodrigues, CEO of the Casais Group, and Fernando de Almeida Santos, President of the Order of Engineers, during the ceremony that marked the resumption of the Order of Engineers' activities after the summer, and included the celebration of 25 years of cooperation with Confea, the Brazilian Federal Council of Engineering and Agronomy.







AFFORDABLE HOUSING & INDUSTRIALISATION UNDER DEBATE

Septemb 2025

Lisbon, Portuga The Casais Group held the **Connect to Build – Affordable Housing and Industrialisation: Scaling Solutions with Purpose** conference at the Belém Cultural Centre in Lisbon, bringing together various players in the sector to discuss housing challenges in Portugal and the role of industrialisation in responding to these needs. The event included panel discussions on affordable housing, modular construction, off-site construction and digitalisation.

The highlight of the event was the signing of the "Well Live" protocol between the Casais Group and IKEA Portugal, underscoring both organisations'

commitment to developing joint solutions that promote affordable and sustainable housing through innovation and environmentally responsible practices in the sector.

The conference was attended by representatives from public and private institutions, with the closing speech given by the **Secretary of State for Housing**, Patrícia Machado Santos, who highlighted the importance of collaboration in accelerating the transformation of the sector.

Conscientious and Innovative Soultions

IMPORTANT SYNERGIES WITH KNOWLEDGE CENTRES AND INNOVATION CLUSTERS

Pedro Andrade

Innovation and Technology Manager

The construction sector currently in a period of transition, marked by new environmental, digital and social demands. In this context, partnerships with knowledge centres, universities, research institutes and innovation clusters assume a decisive role in promoting more efficient and sustainable solutions.

These ecosystems act as bridges between scientific research and industrial application, allowing academic knowledge to be translated into practical innovation. This has made it possible to test new approaches to robotisation and automation. study different materials and develop construction systems optimised for circularity and reuse. Innovation clusters reinforce this dynamic by creating collaborative networks that facilitate knowledge sharing, the creation of critical mass and the reduction of risks associated with technological development.



For the Casais Group, and particularly for Blufab, these synergies have been fundamental in keeping pace with developments in the sector, anticipating trends and contributing to the definition of more sustainable standards. Cooperation between science and industry consolidates the capacity for innovation and reinforces the group's commitment to more industrialised, digital and conscious construction.

Center Construction Robotics

An important example and milestone in this journey of evolution for Blufab and the Casais Group was joining the prestigious Center Construction Robotics (CCR) consortium. This is an innovation centre based at RWTH Aachen University in Germany which is focused on digitalisation, automation and robotics in the construction industry.

The CCR membership ceremony coincided with the CCR's official welcome ceremony at its annual Open-Campus-Week. Present at this milestone were the Mayor of Aachen, Sibylle Keupen, the Minister of Culture and Science, Ina Brandes, and the Scientific Director of the CCR and head of the institution. Sigrid Brell--Cokcan. The urgency of bringing together research and practice was highlighted: knowledge exists on automation, artificial intelligence (AI), building information modelling (BIM) and sustainability, but the real revolution requires this knowledge to be applied in construction

processes. Academic-industrial cooperation accelerates this translation of knowledge into innovation in the field.

Open Campus Week took place

at Europe's first digital Referen-

ce Construction Site, part of the 5G-Industry Campus Europe, which illustrates this commitment well: a real digital and collaborative construction laboratory, bringing together research, technology and industry. The consortium of CCR member companies met to present development proposals. Blufab and Casais presented a project, which received the most votes and will be jointly developed by the consortium. It aims to develop a solution that integrates the BIM2Fab flow, i.e., the entire digital BIM process up to manufacturing, supported by robots designed for use in the industrialisation of construction. This project will be disruptive and will streamline and accelerate many of the processes we currently carry out. In the current European context, this partnership will enable an acceleration on the innovation, sustainability and digitalisation fronts, which will have a real impact on current and future challenges.







CEiiA – Terra Luna

Another milestone in this journey is the partnership with CEiiA in the 6th edition of the Sustainable Living Innovators (SLI) programme. As part of the **Missão TerraLuna**, this project explored constructive solutions for extreme environments, with applications on both the Moon and Earth. Its motto was: "From the Moon to the Earth: How can lunar exploration technologies contribute to a more sustainable planet here on Earth?".

For four weeks, young people from Portugal and Brazil teamed up to respond to challenges that compel us to step outside our comfort zone, such as:

- building in extreme environments
- ensuring energy in inhospitable locations
- creating independent mobility
- preserving health and wellbeing in extreme situations

One of the key terms was climatropia, which is the way we need to adapt to the profound and irreversible change in the planet's conditions: extreme temperatures, resource scarcity, tension in ecosystems and growing pressure on infrastructure and societies. Faced with this new world, construction must change. And the best way to do this is to place ourselves in an even more extreme scenario: living off-planet. It was based on these challenges that the *innovators* presented ideas for solutions designed for the Moon, but applicable to Earth: facades with enhanced thermal protection, closed water circuits with ultra-efficient consumption, and quick-assembly modular housing using local materials.





We were responsible for the Construction area, a challenge that involved designing a lunar base, knowing that this would require the use of resources available on the Moon, given that the space for transporting equipment and materials from Earth was very limited. The proposal presented - based on a modular system using 3D printing of mineral mortars-focusing on the technical feasibility of these materials for automated construction by robots-was based on the huts of the Musgum tribe, who used materials available in nature to build their dwellings, thus coming up with a traditional architectural solution that allows excellent rainwater drainage and promotes passive ventilation, thereby significantly reducing heat transfer. The dwellings are erected without the use of formwork or industrial materials, demonstrating a sustainable and resilient approach, with low environmental impact and high durability - a remarkable example of bio-architecture and traditional engineering.



Blufab modelled this structure in detail, using generative modelling, dividing it into 132 unique blocks, with individual parameterisation of each block and definition of the respective printing paths. For printing, we used the ARENA Laboratory at the School of Architecture of the University of Minho, with which we have been working closely with the teams involved.









WATCH VIDEO ON YOUTUBE



This prototype was presented at the 6th edition of SLI, where the students presented the daily life of astronauts on the moon, as well as their interaction with the building and how it could be constructed using a robot dedicated to 3D printing with lunar regolith. From a technical point of view, this exercise is on a par with the best in the world in terms of 3D printing and generative modelling, where each printed block is unique, forcing us to put all our technical expertise to the test.

Subsequently, the 3D-printed prototype was part of an exhibition at the Serralves Foundation at the BOIL Climate Festival, a meeting between science and art to think about the climate crisis and take action. In this session, the discussion focused on how space engineering can inspire and offer solutions to challenges here on Earth. The debate continued at the Terra Luna project, where activators (professionals involved) and innovators (students) came together again to reflect on the future, technology and humanity.





This project is particularly important because it reinforces the contribution to society and places value on continued collaboration with partners. It represented a significant challenge, both technologically and logistically, and was achieved in record time. At

the same time, it was an essential exercise in reflecting on the importance of making use of existing resources, and so promote a more sustainable and responsible society.

Synergies with academia for the development of the sector

In terms of links with academia, the University of Minho (UM) stands out, with its collaboration in the "BIM A+" European Master's degree, which offers an advanced education programme in integrated projects, construction and operation of infrastructure in BIM, with a strong emphasis on collaborative practices. It should be noted that in January 2026, two doctoral students will begin studving robotised processes with a view to optimising industrialised processes, with the themes of "Design for disassembly BIM2FAB" and "Hot Wire for flooring solutions with pendings from BIM2Fab".

A major milestone in this relationship was the creation of the first non-academic "Construction in the Digital Age" Department, to address the profound transformation in the architecture, engineering and construction sectors, marked by the transition from traditional methods to more digitalised, efficient and sustainable approaches. This Department represents a strategic investment by the Casais Group and an opportunity for Lab2PT and the UM School of Architecture, Art and Design. The knowledge generated will be applied to the development of innovative construction solutions that increase competitiveness in the domestic and international markets. This is a pioneering project in Portugal, focused on areas such as robotics, additive manufacturing (3D printing in concrete), modularisation, prefabrication and integration with BIM models, which are essential pillars for more

industrialised, efficient and circular construction.



Much more than being about creating a concept or an idea; innovation is about creating value. And it is the client and society who define value. Therefore, innovation means being attentive to the needs of society, our partners and our processes; it means communicating and sharing, being present and discussing solutions. Collaborative partnerships are essential for sharing, understanding needs and learning. Innovation should therefore be understood as a collective and continuous attitude. Partnerships with academia and innovation clusters reinforce this vision, promoting a culture of experimentation, learning and collaboration.

Real change occurs when knowledge ceases to be individual property and becomes shared, thereby creating common value and driving the transformation of the sector. The ecological and digital transition of construction depends on this ability to network, bringing together those who research, those who design, those who manufacture and those who build. By innovating in this way, we create purpose and help society and the environment in which we operate. In this context, the Casais Group and Blufab assert themselves as agents of responsible innovation. committed to linking knowledge to practice and building, with partners and communities, a more conscious and sustainable future.

September 2025

Beja, Portugal

INAUGURATION OF THE BEJA UNIVERSITY RESIDENCE



The Casais Group has inaugurated Residência Europa in Beja, a EUR 17 million investment that will house 503 students from the Polytechnic Institute of Beja. The building has 327 studio, single, and double rooms, and 15 rooms adapted for people with reduced mobility, as well as several common areas for socialising and studying. Built using the CREE Buildings timber--hybrid system, which combines wood and concrete through industrialised solutions, the work was completed on time and to a high standard of sustainability, in a project that also involved IKEA for the furnishing of the spaces.

August 2025

Germany

SYNERGIES WITH CENTER CONSTRUCTION ROBOTICS

The Casais Group is one of the newest members of **Center Construction Robotics (CCR)**, an international network that brings together leading companies, universities and institutions to drive digitalisation, automation and robotics in construction.

The membership was presented at Open-Campus-Week, held from 26 to 28 August at the Melaten Campus of RWTH Aachen University in Germany, where CEO António Carlos Rodrigues and Blufab Technical Manager Pedro Andrade represented the Casais Group at different points in the programme. By becoming a member of CCR, the Group joins some of the leading European players in construction and technology, and reinforces its commitment to digital, sustainable and innovative solutions for the sector.



MUNICIPAL HOUSING IN CERRADO DE MIRA

July 2025

Amadora Portugal The slabs and industrialised façades of the **Municipal Housing** building in Amadora, comprising **48 dwellings**, were completed in just three weeks. The speed and efficiency of the industrialised building assembly process, proven once again in the field, are some of the advantages of innovative, sustainable and technologically advanced construction systems.



ISCTE STUDENT RESIDENCE

Septembe 2025

Sintra, Portugal

Construction of the new ISCTE University Residence and Technology Hub has already begun in Portela de Sintra. While the teams on site are moving forward with work infrastructure and the foundations, industrialised construction factories are already producing the first components with precision and at a rapid pace. On land provided by the Sintra City Council, there will soon be a 197-bed student residence and a digital innovation centre.



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NEW FORMS OF URBAN MOBILITY

Margarida Pina CEO BEN4US

We look at the world and how it is organised today, and we see growing urban concentration in cities that are increasingly larger, denser, more congested and more polluted. Spaces where, despite the diversity of options—public transport, sharing services or private vehicles—urban mobility remains a complex problem to solve.



We continue to see more cars, more emissions and more urban chaos. It is time to move from an individual and fragmented logic to optimised, flexible and community-based mobility, where moving around sustainably is a collective and responsible act.

Improving quality of life and carbon neutrality require a **change in habits and behaviours**, and transport systems geared towards complementarity, comfort, convenience and reducing the environmental footprint.

What went wrong? The strate-gy—the alignment of public and private policies, urban planning and the integration of modes of transport—has not worked. But neither has the lack of focus on individual behaviour, rarely treated as a factor for transformation.

This is where the potential for **collective impact** lies: in the daily choices of each citizen. Understanding what leads a person to choose a particular mode of transport is essential to creating **new models of mobility**, centred on collective, complementary needs and not just individual ones.



Agile, flexible and integrated models that improve quality of life, reduce emissions and allow, for example, vehicle sharing with the community, making mobility a common and sustainable good.

The way we move defines the future of our cities. This is more than a challenge – it is a **call to** action and responsibility for all.

New urban mobility operators

For new mobility services to be a viable alternative to individual vehicle ownership and use, they must guarantee three fundamentals: **trust**, in terms of guaranteed availability; **predictability**, in terms of reliable schedules; and **value**, in terms of their cost-effectiveness as perceived by the user.

It involves engaging those who conceive and build cities, those who design urban areas and public spaces, and those who have the ability to influence and accelerate the adoption of new behaviours. It involves implementing mobility models that effectively improve people's lives, bringing the services closer to them and integrating them into the space where they are, and covering their daily commutes.

This transformation requires a paradigm shift. In fact, it requires a several paradigm shifts: from ownership to **sharing**, from cost to **optimisation of use**, from the city and traditional **operators to the community and the creation of micro-markets for mobility**.

With these new paradigms, solutions emerge that are more people-orientated and better adapted to the real needs of communities.

Relevant agents in the design and organisation of the city integrate solutions and new concepts of mobility from home and from the workplace, with the aim of optimising the use of vehicles that are stationary more than 90% of the time. For this optimisation to be possible, people need to be open to using a fleet that is theirs, but not exclusively so. By sharing ownership, they create communities that promote use. This guarantees other benefits, in addition to reducing the cost of mobility. Users now have access to other complementary types of urban mobility, such as bicycles and electric scooters. They also receive a return - a return generated by use, calculated by technology that quantifies and values the emissions avoided, transforming them into tradable value. Individually, this value is not significant, but it gains scale and impact when aggregated within the community. The network dynamic aggregates and exponentially increases value for everyone.

The X4US service





The new X4US service boosts usage, ensuring the optimisation of vehicle use in cities, based on travel profiles and maximising the number of hours of use, especially for four-wheeled vehicles. It avoids the high number of cars in cities, quantifies avoided emissions in real time and values them, transforming them into tradable assets in environmental ecosystems.

The service is designed so that the user is a network generator, offering new features such as various modes of mobility, the generation of virtual docks and network sharing, among others. The platform integrates secure and reliable mechanisms and supports the traceability of vehicle information in real time.

The service uses soft mobility electric vehicles, connected to each other and to users, managed from a platform that allows the quantification and valuation of emissions avoided by using the service and the optimisation of the number of vehicles in cities through community use and sharing. Unlike the traditional sharing model, users have the opportunity to share ownership of an urban mobility solution and obtain compensation for promoting its use. The flexibility and optimisation of the usage profile is enhanced by sharing different types of urban mobility solution—bicycles, scooters and four-wheeled vehicles-and by community mobility.

In the case of a company, a vehicle owned by the company (community) is made available to the user (property sharing), who in turn can share it with their network (use sharing). At the same time, they are encouraged to increase their use by quantifying the emissions avoided in their journeys and those of their network. The company also accumulates avoided emissions and can offset them.

We are talking about a new concept of an urban mobility service that is shared, connected and sustainable, one which allows its users to do without their own vehicle, move around during the day in a simple and less costly way, and contribute to a healthier urban environment.

These new concepts require fresh approaches to mobility. They require new partners and agile, scalable and replicable business models.

Partnerships that make a difference

CEIIA has been designing and developing new mobility products and services **focused on improving quality of life and carbon neutrality** as a way to make cities more sustainable.

A new mobility paradigm requires integrated solutions and a common vision among the agents organising and designing the city itself. It requires forward-looking partnerships with a common purpose.

The Casais Group embodies this strategy by planning the introduction of a new service in its developments, expanding its offering and reinforcing its positioning and role as a builder of solutions geared towards people's needs while presenting new approaches to complex problems.

In close collaboration, BEN4US and CEiiA, in partnership with the Casais Group, are developing an innovative business model and the integration of services for condominiums, offices, companies and other local communities. For people who live and work in cities committed to carbon neutrality.

This partnership represents a decisive step towards smarter, more humane and more sustainable cities.



MITH PHASE II

September
2025

Guimarães,
Portugal

The Casais Group has announced the start of the second phase of **the Minho Innovation & Technology Hub (MITH)** in Guimarães, which involves the construction of housing and new infrastructure for commerce and services. The works include the completion of street and land subdivision infrastructure by as early as 2026, with the first residential building

scheduled for 2027, and project completion in 2033. Developed using the **CREE Buildings timber-hybrid system**, which uses a timber and concrete composite, MITH combines workspaces, residential spaces and technological innovation, promoting interaction between companies, universities and the community in a sustainable environment.

The coworking space based in what was the first phase of MITH, SITIO, is now in the process of integrating the Artificial Intelligence Factory of the National Centre for Advanced Computing (FCT), ensuring remote access to the Deucalion supercomputer and creating new opportunities for companies and researchers.





FOUNDATION STONE AT THE NEW CAMPUS OF LUSÓFONA UNIVERSITY

2025

Porto, Portugal The foundation stone of the future School of Architecture of Lusófona University in Porto was laid on 31 July. The project, to be implemented by **Constru by Grupo Casais**, will be an inclusive and innovative **modern campus**, built to respond to today's challenges and tomorrow's needs. With an exposed concrete structure and defined stereotomy, the project was designed by architect **Eduardo Souto de Moura** and conceived as a meeting place for experiences, knowledge and dreams.









INFINITY VILLAS BY ALD

July 2025

— Dubai Casais Construction in the United Arab Emirates is embarking on a new and ambitious project: **Infinity Villas By Ald**, located in **Nad Al Sheba First**, Meydan, Dubai. The mixed-use development will combine sophisticated commercial and luxury residential spaces to create a dynamic commercial environment and a high quality of life for residents. This project marks an important milestone in the Casais Group's trajectory in this region.





July 2025 —

— Angola

COMPLETION OF THE MUXIMA INFRASTRUCTURE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

On 2 July, the **Provisional Acceptance Certificate** was signed for **164 houses** and their respective infrastructure, as part of the **Muxima Infrastructure Redevelopment Project** in Angola.

This moment marks a significant step forward in the development of the village, allowing the rehousing of residents and enabling the launch of several strategic projects for the region.







TOPPING OUT AT THE RESERVE

The completion of structural work on **The Reserve** project in Gibraltar was celebrated. This is a **luxury real estate development**, built on the site of the former Europa Road casino. With around **100 high-end apartments**, including penthouses, it features sophisticated design, integrated technology, balconies with glass railings and amazing views – whether of the Bay of Gibraltar, the marinas or the Rock itself, or even Morocco, on the other side of the Strait.

2025

Sibroltor

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MESTRE CASAIS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCES WINNER

July 2025

Braga,

The Mestre Casais Foundation is a partner of the 1st edition of the Academia de Noticias Scholarships, since it sponsored the category dedicated to sustainability. The Academia de Notícias Scholarships, promoted by Notícias Ilimitadas, "allow young students to have their first contact with work as a journalist, with the advantage of seeing their work published in leading media outlets," said José Gomes Men-

des, Executive President of the Mestre Casais Foundation. "By investing in the media and academia, we are making a pact with the future — and we naturally want to be part of it," he added.

The winning project of **the Mestre Casais Foundation Scholarship for Sustainability** was developed by Beatriz Ferreira and Tânia

Costa, students at the University of Minho.



MESTRE CASAIS FOUNDATION JOINS PORTUGUESE CENTRE FOR FOUNDATIONS

July 2025

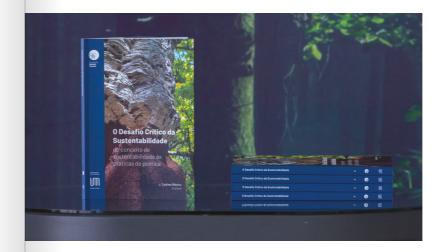
Braga, Portugal Since July 2025, the Mestre Casais Foundation has been a member of the **Portuguese Centre for Foundations** (CPF), the entity that brings together, represents and supports Portuguese foundations. Joining the CPF is a natural step in Mestre Casais Foundation's journey, as it reaffirms its commitment to promoting the public interest, sharing best practices and collaborating with other similar institutions.



September 2025

Braga,

THE CRITICAL CHALLENGE OF SUSTAINABILITY



The Mestre Casais Foundation presents the latest work in **the Essays for Sustainability** collection, The Critical Challenge of Sustainability. The result of a partnership between the Mestre Casais Foundation, publishers **UMinho Editora** and the authors, this publication is an important contribution to the debate on today's major global challenges. The book offers an in-depth reflection on the many facets of environmental, social and economic sustainability, and on the tensions between development models and the constraints facing the planet.

FMC TALKS WITH ASSUNÇÃO CRISTAS

Septembe

Braga,

37

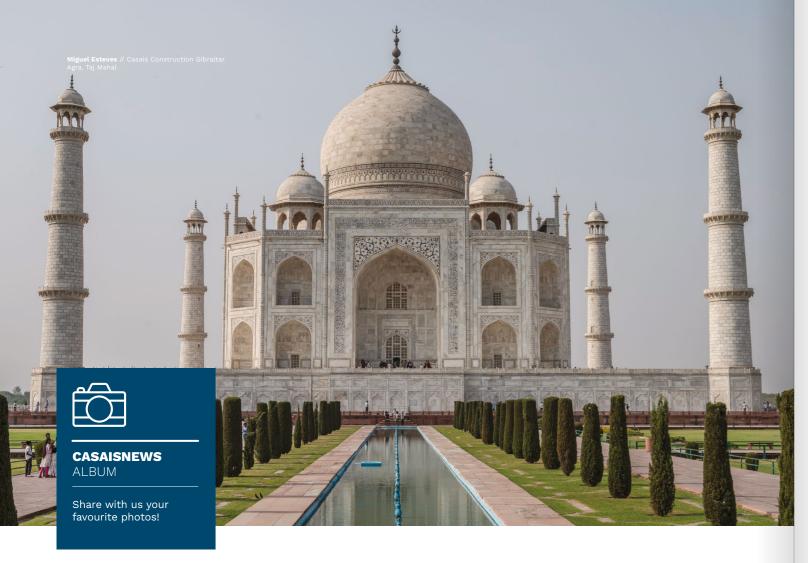
Assunção Cristas, lawyer and university professor, attended the latest edition of FMC Talks on 23 September. The lunch debate, held at the Hotel Meliá Braga, focused on the challenges of sustainability, the framework of public policies and the decisive role of leadership in social transformation.

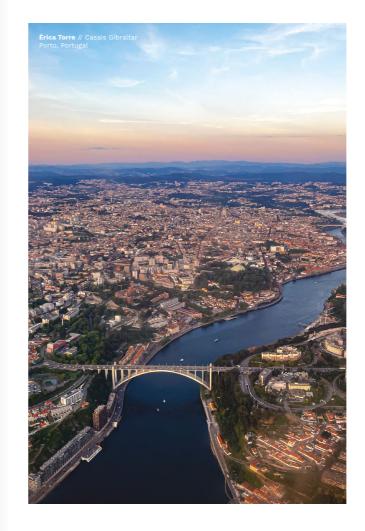
The speaker, whose academic and professional career is distinguished by her work in the areas

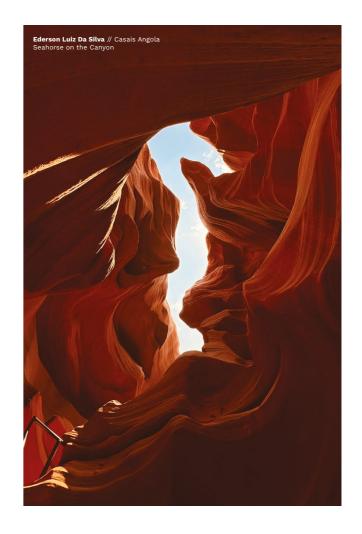
Casais Group

of environmental law and land--use planning, highlighted how legal and regulatory frameworks are fundamental to responding to the challenges of sustainability and mobilising effective initiatives in different sectors of society. Discussion among attendees also reinforced the need to promote a change in mindset, in which commitment to the future of the planet becomes a core value in everyday individual, organisational and institutional decisions.



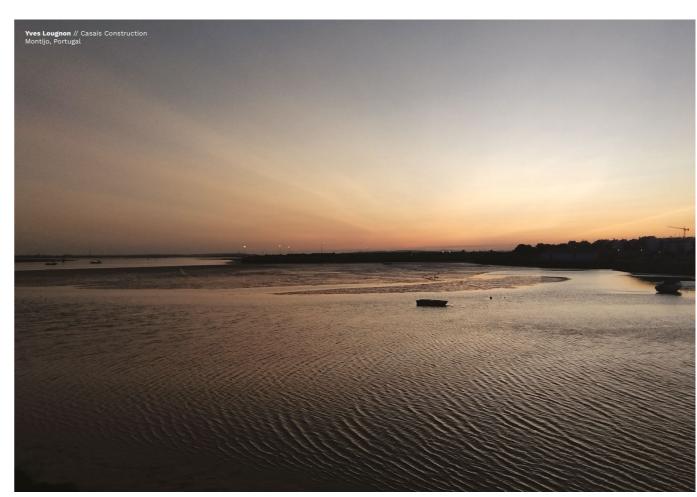












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