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Sebastian Herkel studied mechanical engineering at the University of Karlsruhe and joined the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft after graduating in 1991.

Sebastian Herkel heads the Energy Efficient Building department at the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems in Freiburg Germany, where he works as a scientist in applied research in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable energy systems in buildings.

He has a long term track in leading national and international research consortia as well as being involved in Technical Parties of the International Energy Agency. He published more than 250 articles, conference papers and books.

His focus is on the transformation of existing buildings, heat pump solutions and their integration in the energy system. scientific analyses of building performance and the digitalisation of design and installation processes.