Dematerializing Buildings

Building Better with Less

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Session Description

• The session will explore the cutting edge of material science for the built environment and the challenge of putting these advances into actual practice. The speakers will show a profusion of radical new innovations for dematerialization drawing from fields such as nanotechnology and biomimicry. They will engage participants in identifying risks and dealing with challenges to using these lightweighting techniques and technologies to improve building performance, durability, and resilience.

Learning Objectives

- Able to describe how buildings can function better with less material mass
- Able to understand how the design community is assimilating and applying new material and information science
- Able to explore how actual projects are practically using this new knowledge
- Able to apply new approaches for overcoming resistance to adopting new materials and technologies

The Sustainability Challenge

Is it possible to sustain continued economic growth to meet the needs of 7 billion people, and to adequately protect our natural environment at the same time?

The Sustainability Challenge

If so, how?

How will it affect the built environment?

Necessary but Not Sufficient



A Short Story



What is an Album?



What is a house?









Can we build better with less?







INPUTS

OUTPUTS





INPUTS

OUTPUTS



A New Perspective

✓ Most products are mostly waste

 \checkmark Innovation has direction

✓ People buy benefits not products

✓ Benefits are weightless

✓ All pollution is wasted resources

The Science of Lightweighting



Clothing Power







Anti-bacterial Surfaces



Hydrophobic Surfaces



Integral Energy Storge



Poo Tiles



Mushrooming Buildings



Soil Power







Adaptive Materials



Concrete Cloth



Power Strip



Building Integrated Hydro







3D Printing



Unprinting



Photo By: Whitney Truste

Personal Cooling



Waterless Laundry



Lightweight Structure



Lightweighting Lighting







Lightweighting Lighting



60w

800 lumens

2 oz





Lightweighting Lighting



Lightweighting: Lighting



Letting nostalgia go



Grid-integrated luminaires



LED Sheet



Light Emitting OLED Walls



Firefly LED Coatings









Field-induced polymer electroluminescent

Light Emitting Plasma



Electrofluidic Cells



Sun Lighted Pavement



Storing Light



The Quality of Light



Base Zero Lighting Design



Dematerializing the Built Environment: In Theory & Practice

Design to Dematerialize

Providing most value with the least resources

✓ Taking the initiative



 Improving the quality of human experience

△ RESOURCE PERFORMAN€E △ DELIVERED BENEFITS △ RESOURCE MASS



Questions? Comments?

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