

Green Construction Roundup

September, 2009 No. 187

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Construction News

Strawbale theatre planned for Hackney

An east London theatre is planning to appoint architects to design the UK's first carbon-neutral theatre building. The Arcola Theatre in Hackney aims to relocate to a site next to Dalston Junction station and create a 350-seat theatre built of sustainable materials including straw bales and doors salvaged from skips.

Building Design. 11 September (Pg. 5)

<http://www.bdonline.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=3148299>

Periodical Articles

How to build a sustainable primary school: Four case studies

PassivHaus, zero-carbon, a BREEAM Outstanding rating - each of these approaches drives differing solutions to school design. The projects shown in this article; by Sarah Wigglesworth Architects in Wakefield, Gaia Architects in Argyll, Penoyre & Prasad in North London and White Design Associates in Devon, have all interpreted low-carbon design in radically different ways.

Architects Journal. 24 September (Pg. 41-45)

<http://www.architectsjournal.co.uk/sustainability/how-to-build-a-sustainable-primary-school-four-case-studies/5208606.article>

Global warning: Construction's carbon cutting agenda

The Copenhagen summit is set to be the most important environmental conversation ever. This article looks at which countries emit most carbon, and why construction will top the agenda.

Building. 18 September (Pg. 26-29)

<http://www.building.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=31&storycode=3148936&c=0>

Passivhaus site visit: 'We think this is the future'

Building has been charting the construction of a Passivhaus in West Yorkshire for the past 18 weeks. This article looks at how the builders are hitting the tough energy targets – and what the clients think of it.

Building. 18 September (Pg. 56-58)

<http://www.building.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=3148746>

Building pathology – air permeability

Reducing air leakage is a cost-effective way of improving a building's energy efficiency and reducing bills. This article looks at how this can be done.

Building. 18 September (Pg. 63)

<http://www.building.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=3148745>

Taming the beast

How a sixties brutalist eyesore was turned into a building more becoming to the town of Winchester, and made into one of the UK's greenest offices in the process.

Building. 11 September (Pg. 41-44)

<http://www.building.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=3148319>

Living with eco towns: The hard sell

The idea of eco-towns has never been popular with neighbouring communities. So now that the four sites have been chosen, how is the government going to convince the locals to buy into its low-carbon dream?

Building. 11 September (Pg. 46-47)

<http://www.building.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=3148303>

Secrets of a longer life

The focus on IT hardware as the main driver for office design has created buildings that will date quickly. However, the assumption of a 25 year lifespan for commercial buildings is no longer viable, environmentally or financially. Article, in which Chris Twinn looks at occupant satisfaction as the driver for office design.

Building Sustainable Design. September 2009 (Pg. 15)

Who's the fairest?

The energy rating systems of the UK, Australia and the USA influence most of the world, but how do they stack up against each other. This article looks at a comparison of the figures in Green Star, LEED and BREEAM using IES' Virtual Environment software.

Building Sustainable Design. September 2009 (Pg. 27-29)

SWAT team

Termite mound construction offers engineers an object lesson in natural ventilation. This article looks at a recent study, by Dr Rupert Soar, on the exact and complex mechanics of how a termite mound 'breathes', without ventilation by air bulk flow.

Building Sustainable Design. September 2009 (Pg. 35-37)

Web Resources

Integrated Environmental Solutions (IES) has published a selection of energy discussion White Papers, at

<http://www.iesve.com/Learning/IES-Whitepapers>

Events

Sustainability now

8/9 December, 2009 (Tuesday/Wednesday)

A free virtual exhibition and conference dedicated to bringing you the best content on creating a green built environment. To find out more about the event go to the Sustainability Now event site.

<http://www.ubmvirtualevents.com/sustainability-now/>

End Note

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