

# HEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY WHERE CAN TECHNOLOGY TAKE YOU?

May 11,2015

# Econ 2505 Environmental Economics

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# Topic BUILDING DESIGN & LAND USE

"LESS IS MORE"

# **Building Design:**

### **Sustainable Material**

- 1. Resource Consumption
- 2. Construction & Demo (C&D) Waste
- 3. Impact of Building Materials
- 4. Human Health & Safety
- 5. Life Cycle Assessment
- 6. Public Health & the Environment
- 7. Recycled Content
- 8. Embodied Energy / Carbon
- 9. What Makes a Material Green?

## **Renewable Energy**

1. Solar

## Water:

- 1. How Do Buildings Use Water?
- 2. Case study: the solaire

## **Resource Consumption**

Buildings account for:

- 40% of the Virgin Minerals consumed
- 25% of the Virgin Wood consumed
- Significant energy and water use for materials extraction, manufacture
- Significant air, water, and land pollution



# Sustainable Materials:

# **Impact of Building Materials**

## Construction & Demo (C&D) Waste

- Represents 40% of total solid waste stream in US
- •60% of the total NYC Waste Stream
- •US: generate > 4.5 lbs. waste per person per day



FRESH KILLS LANDFILL IN OPERATION



### **Resource Consumption**

 In the space of just one generation, the earth has lost 30% of its natural wealth of forests, fisheries and biodiversity.

World Wildlife Fund, Living Planet Report 1999



## Human Health & Safety

Materials impact Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)

 We spend over 90% of our time indoors
 Poor air quality reported in up to 30% of new/renovated bldgs.
 Products "off-gas" emissions of volatile or semi-volatile compounds
 Indoor pollutants can result in eye, skin or respiratory irritation

•Materials affect all humans who come in contact with any part of the process

Occupy the building and community
Construct the building
Manufacture the products that go into buildings
Live in communities that are impacted by raw material extraction,

manufacturing, or construction







## Public Health & the Environment

•Products may contain carcinogens, reproductive toxins, or other hazardous substances

•Product emissions can contribute to exterior air pollution



# Sustainable Materials: What Makes a Material Green?

- •Exceptionally Durable
- Incorporates recycled content
- Salvaged from buildings for reuse
- Made using natural and/or renewable resources
- Low "embodied energy"
- No highly toxic compounds
- Obtained from local resources and manufacturers
- Sustainable harvesting practices (for wood products)
- Easily reused or recycled
- •Biodegradable
- Minimally processed

# Sustainable Materials: What Makes a Material Green?

## Life Cycle Assessment

 Most green products have specific "green attributes" that separate them from competing products

•The "green attributes" are typically defined based on the concept of Life Cycle Assessment



# **Sustainable Materials:**

# Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

### Life Cycle of a Product

- Raw material extraction
- Material processing, manufacturing
- Transportation to building site
- Installation in a building

### •Use

- •Repair
- Replacement
- Disposal

## Life Cycle of a Building

- Demolition
- Construction
- Use / Operations
- Demolition



# Sustainable Materials: Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

## **Extraction Phase**

- •Mining -e.g., bauxite to make aluminum
- Logging -wood products











Sustainable Materials: Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

## **Disposal Phase**

•Toxic ingredients -e.g., fluorescent lamps

•Recycling & reclamation -e.g., carpet industry Fresh nylon manufacture chemical feedstock polyamide ("nylon") recycle small amount of carpet manufacture waste collection use in homes and businesses



Fluorescent lamps



# Sustainable Materials: Definitions

#### **Recycled Content Materials**

- Products that utilize existing material "waste" streams to replace virgin raw materials
- <u>Products that incorporate</u>:
   Post-consumer recycled materials
   Post-industrial materials
   Recovered materials
- -"Recycled content" ≠ "Recyclable"



Recycled Ceramic/Glass Tiles



Carpeting





**Recycled-content Ceiling Tiles** 

# Sustainable Materials: Recycled Content

### Steel

- According to Steel Recycling Institute: Each year, more steel is recycled in the US than paper, plastic, aluminum and glass combined.
- Secondary Cementious Materials (SCMs)
- •Used as replacement for Portland cement in concrete mixes
- •Environmental benefit: reduced carbon footprint of concrete (by replacing Portland cement)

## Types

### •Fly Ash

- -Post-industrial waste product from coal power plants -Environmental benefit: reduced carbon footprint of concrete (by replacing portland cement)
- -Environmental concerns: toxicity and disposal
- -Performance impacts: slower setting time, but higher ultimate strength
- •Ground Granulated Blast Furnace Slag ("slag") -Post-industrial waste product from steel mills





# Sustainable Materials: Recycled Content

**Carpet Industry Initiatives**  Recycled content backings •Recycled content face fiber •Refurbished Carpet Tiles •Carpet Leasing •Environmentally-Preferable Standards















# Sustainable Materials: Recycled Content



Recycled glass countertops



Recycled plastic decking



Recycled rubber pavers



**Recycled-content insulation** 

# Sustainable Materials: Embodied Energy / Carbon

### Embodied energy: total energy consumed during a product's life cycle

- Embodied carbon: quantity of CO2 emitted during a product's life cycle
- The energy used (or carbon emitted) during the entire life cycle of a product, including manufacture, transportation, installation, and disposal
- The inherent energy (or carbon) captured within the product itself



#### **U.S. Energy Consumption by Sector**

Source: @2013 2030, Inc. / Architecture 2030. All Rights Reserved. Data Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (2012).



Source: @2011 2030, Inc. / Architecture 2030. All Rights Reserved. Data Source: EIA (2011), Richard Stein.

# Sustainable Materials: Material Health

**Transparency Movement** 

- What's in our building materials?
- Precautionary Principle
- Health Product Declaration (HPD)
- Material Red List -Living Building Challenge





# Renewable Energy: Supply

### Solar

• Every hour the sun provides energy to satisfy global energy needs for an entire year

- Solar photovoltaic (PV): generate electricity
- Solar thermal: generates hot water
- <u>Utility scale:</u> Concentrating solar plants (CSP):

- the heat boils water, drives steam turbine, generates electricity

- Downside: not at night (without batteries)
- World leaders: Germany, Spain, US, China
- US States: California, NJ
- Manufacturing leader: China, then Germany





# Water: How Do Buildings Use Water?



Sustainable building: Cyclical use of resources

Conventional building: Wasteful use of resources

# Water: How Do Buildings Use Water?

### Residential

- Plumbing fixtures (domestic water)
  - Flush fixtures (toilets)
  - Flow fixtures (faucets, showerheads)
- Heating (service water)
- Clothes washers
- Dishwashers
- Sprinklers for plants



Washing machines use 56 gallons

to complete an average load.



A standard toilet uses six gallons per flush.



A dishwasher will use 24 gallons per load.



A typical shower uses seven gallons of water every minute it is running.



A lawn sprinkler covering one-fifth of an acre will use 24 gallons each month.



A faucet with a slow drip uses 17 gallons of water per day.

# Water: Water Use Priorities

### First #1, then #2...

- 1. Reduce demand for potable water (conserve water)
- -Low flow plumbing fixtures
- -Drought tolerant plants on site (native or adaptive)
- -Efficient irrigation for plants (drip with smart controllers and rain sensors)
- -Water efficient mechanical systems
- -Water efficient kitchen, laundry, etc.

2. Increase supply of available water (recycle water)

-Collect or harvest water (stormwater, greywater, backwater, cooling condensate) -Reuse water for non-potable uses(instead of using potable water)





Rain sensor

# Water: Efficient Strategies

- Require special design, installation, and operation
- Storm water management (green roofs)Water collection ("harvesting")
- -Stormwater
- -Greywater
- -Cooling condensate
- •Water reuse systems -Irrigation -Mechanical system (cooling towers) -Flushing fixtures



#### NYC Dept. of Design & Construction: Water Matters, June 2010

#### The good news is ... It's Getting Easier to Be Green again!!!



# **CASE STUDY: THE SOLAIRE**

### SUMMARY INFORMATION

Located in Manhattan's Battery Park City

Occupancy: 27-story residential tower with 293 units Size 357,000 sq. feet.

- Completed August 2003
- Owner River Terrace Associates, LLC
- Developer Albanese Development Corporation
- Architect Schuman, Lichtenstein, Claman, Efron Archi
- Awards and Ratings LEED Gold certification
- Green Project Award (2004)

### The Solaire offers its residents

- convenient access to public transportation,
- on-demand hybrid rental cars, bicycle parking
- electric vehicle charging



## **Project overview**

theproject

building-integrated photovoltaic panels and how they are an important design element in the building's main façade



maximize the thermal efficiency of the wall

the exterior building materials used REVEALED

Materials choices, furniture selections

detail of the facade and the photovoltaic panels within it

NICAL & ROOF LEVE

SET BACK ROOF LEVE

ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE FEATUR

the building envelope, and details environmentally sustainable features. These include sustainable strategies for the mechanical systems, exterior building materials and systems, and roof-level landscaping, irrigation, and heat reduction strategies





### The building...help

- Reduce potable water demand by 50 percent overall,
- The building uses recycled wastewater for its cooling tower.
- Low-flow toilets and for irrigating landscaping.
- Cut its energy demand by 35% using automatic dimming fluorescent lights.
- High-performance windows.
- Day lighting and other strategies; westfacing photovoltaic panels supply 5% of the building's energy needs
- Gardens of native shrubs, perennials and bamboo cover 75 percent of the roof, helping to lower heating and cooling loads and increase tenant satisfaction

- 93% of the construction waste for the project was recycled.
- 60 percent of the building materials were made from recycled content.

- To maintain superior air quality, the building features filtered fresh air.
- Operable windows and controlled humidity



- One of only seven buildings to benefit from the New York green building tax credit initiative
- A total of 66.79% of the building materials (by cost) were manufactured within a 500-mile radius of the building

- First building designed in accordance with new environmental guidelines instituted in 2000 by the Battery Park City Authority (BPCA),
- The project's annual pollution was reduced by 1,662 tons/yr of CO, 1.9 tons/yr of NOx and 1.9 tons/yr of SOx

# **COSTS AND SAVINGS**

#### **Construction Costs**

Total: \$114,489,750 (without land) Per square foot: \$321 **Greening Costs** Total: \$17,250,000 Per square foot: \$44.57 *Photovoltaic system: \$375,000 4-year payback period. Low-e windows: \$1,500,000 7-year payback. Lighting control system: \$125,000 4-year payback* 

# **Economic view**

### Scenario A

- No customer cost benefit until sometime after 2016
- Developer experiences \$1 million of additional capital expense with no economic benefit and a payback period of over 20 years<sup>3</sup>

## Scenario B

- Immediate customer cost benefit
- Reduced capital expenditure from approximately \$1 million to \$300,000
- Payback period is still approximately 10 years

## Scenario C

- No customer cost benefit until 2014
- Developer experiences \$1 million of capital expense with a payback period of over 20 years

# KEEP CALM BECAUSE LESS IS MORE

# ALWAYS REMEMBER in Building Design & Land use

# "LESS IS MOERE"

Mies van der Rohe

# THANK YOU

# THE STORY OF STUFF



http://storyofstuff.org/movies/story-of-stuff/