

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

FOLLOW US ON



www.twitter.com/archanddesign

EDITOR: GEMMA.BATTENBOUGH@REEDBUSINESS.COM.AU ADVERTISING: HELEN.MOORFOOT@REEDBUSINESS.COM.AU

Designing for deconstruction 'most sustainable': academic

■ TIME, RATHER THAN EFFICIENCY,
IS THE REAL GREEN TEST

BY GEMMA BATTENBOUGH

Buildings that can be dismantled, reconfigured and adapted in the future will prove to be the most sustainable, according to leading academics.

Professor Richard Reed of Deakin University told Architecture & Design that the real test of a building's sustainability is "time".

"We live in a society with an increasing obsolescence, from phones and mobiles, to cars - people are constantly changing," he said.

Buildings will need to be capable of change too, in order to keep up with their inhabitants' changing needs, he said.

"At a time when we need to be focused on the long term and recycling, buildings are being replaced a lot faster than they necessarily have to be. There's no point having an energy efficient building if it has to be replaced every 10 years."

Aesthetics has a lot to do with it and green design needs to avoid fad architecture, he said.



"If you design a building that is too different, it quickly becomes obsolete faster than a standard one," he said.

It was also difficult to judge the effectiveness of rating systems such as the GBCA's Green Star tools, since none of the Green Star-rated buildings are 10 years old yet, he said.

Senior lecturer at Deakin, Dr Sara Wilkinson, told Architecture & Design that the most successful sustainable buildings are designed for adaptability.

Future-proofing buildings by

considering how they can be dismantled, reconfigured and brought up to date with future trends, is the best way to achieve sustainable design, Wilkinson said.

"It's the idea that, if you have a flexible building it's going to have a longer life," she said. "As time goes by you have less energy embodied in the building, so it may be councils will legislate to prevent the demolition of buildings until that embodied energy has fallen below a certain level."

YOUR COMMENT ...

The 'iPod of smart meters' launches in Australia

A STYLISH, desirable energy monitor, that is being specified by overseas architects and designers, has launched on Australian shores.

The monitor, called wattson, provides a way for clients to see the fruits of an environmental retrofit by displaying the amount of energy a home is using at any given time, measured both in watts and dollars.

The idea is that if homeowners can see how much energy they are using, they will begin to use less.

A survey of current wattson

owners and customers found that the majority of households see an average annual saving of almost 20 per cent on their electricity bills.

Created by design collective, DIY KYOTO, the monitor has been dubbed "the closest we've come yet to an iPod of smart meters" by British newspaper, The Guardian.

DIY KYOTO was founded by three entrepreneurial Royal College of Art graduates - Greta Corke, Richard Woods and Jon Sawdon.

Smith set up the company to encourage and assist people in

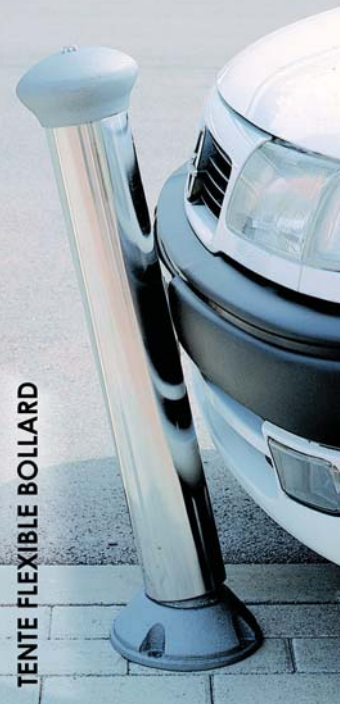
doing their bit for the environment and think about the amount of energy they consume on a daily basis.

They now act as consultants and experts within the design, energy and environmental sectors, as well as developing additional features for the wattson and continuing to grow their forward-thinking company with a variety of new high-tech, 'design-meets-green' products in development.

IMAGES, COMMENT ...

KE-ZU

CLICK THRU TO KE-ZU



TENTE FLEXIBLE BOLLARD

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

TO ADVERTISE
HERE CONTACT
HELEN ON
0413 172 443

opentenders

RESERVOIR MAJOR ACTIVITY CENTRE

Open tenders are sought from experienced consultants for the provision of consultancy services to prepare a Structure Plan for a Major Activity Centre as directed in Melbourne 2030.

Categories: Sports
Tender type: Open tender
Tender date: 18/02/10, 16:00
Authority: Darebin City Council
Area: Reservoir, VIC
Value: \$1,000,000
[More info ...](#)

WARRNAMBOOL ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Open tenders advertised for architectural and design services for the redevelopment of an existing entertainment centre.

Categories: Entertainment
Tender type: Submission
Tender date: 26/02/10, 14:00
Authority: Warrnambool City Council
Area: Warrnambool, VIC
Value: \$8,800,000
[More info ...](#)

HAWTHORN TOWN HALL ARTS PRECINCT

Expressions of interest for consultants advertised for the refurbishment of the Hawthorn Town Hall to become the premier arts and cultural facility for Boroondara City Council.

Categories: Public Buildings and Facilities, Social
Tender type: Submission
Tender date: 16/02/10, 16:00
Authority: Boroondara City Council
Area: Hawthorn, VIC
Value: \$16,000,000
[More info ...](#)

RIVERSIDE PROJECT (THE GATEWAY PRECINCT) - URBAN REDEVELOPMENT

Consultants invited to pre-qualify for the Riverside project, with an immediate start and also on future EPRA projects over time.

Categories: Civil Engineering, Commercial Premises, Entertainment, Residential
Tender type: Submission
Tender date: 11/02/10, 14:30
Authority: East Perth Redevelopment Authority, NS Projects
Area: East Perth, WA
Value: \$80,000,000
[More info ...](#)

Nakheel refutes 'false claims' that the World Islands are sinking



DUBAI'S PROPERTY industry may be shrinking but reports that its man-made islands are sinking are "wholly inaccurate", claims Nakheel.

Fears that The World islands may be sinking spread after NASA photographs showed changes to the view from space since construction paused on the project in November.

The UK's Daily Mail newspaper claimed that the images showed the islands "rapidly merging together" and "sinking".

According to Nasa's Earth Observatory website: "Little to no infrastructure development of The World is apparent in this astronaut

photograph."

However, Nakheel has refuted the claims that the islands, 70 per cent of which have already been sold, are being neglected.

"Speculative reports suggesting that The World islands are sinking are wholly inaccurate," Nakheel said in a statement.

"The suggestion also that some of the islands have slipped and spread into each other is also completely incorrect," the developer said.

A report by Reuters claimed that the load-bearing capacity of the islands' land mass is around twice that of mainland Dubai.

[IMAGES, COMMENT ...](#)



Archipod creates curious garden office pod

It may look like a cross between an alien airship and a coconut, but Archipod's garden office has a very practical agenda.

Responding to the changing way people work and advances in computer technology, the Pod is a "realistic alternative" to travelling to an office every day, the architects said.

Created mainly of FSC-certified timber, with heating that comes from an electric panel radiator, the Pod is green, insulated and prefabricated in sections. It measures approximately three metres in diameter and has a height of two and a half metres.

The Pod is made to order and starts at around \$21,000. This includes the insulated Pod, cedar shingles, door, window, glazed roof, foundations and full installation.

[MORE IMAGES ...](#)

THE ELVORON RESIDENTIAL ELEVATOR
A SIMPLE SOLUTION TO MULTI LEVEL LIVING



- + Hydraulic mechanism
- + Complies with AS 1735 Part 18
- + Quick and easy installation
- + Suitable for new and existing residences
- + Up to 6 stops and rated to 455kg
- + High quality standard finishes or customised to suit your needs



1300 859 267

visit www.prking.com.au for more info

P.R.KING & SONS PTY LTD

FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1922

BLD LIC No 22942