By Design

DESIGN TRENDS 2023

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Inside Cover: Hilit Einav

Editor's Note

Welcome to this edition of By Design Magazine focused on trends that are expected to shape the world of design in 2023. As we step into the third year of the new decade, the world is witnessing a wave of transformation driven by technology, sustainability, and changing consumer preferences. In this issue, we have brought together insights from industry experts, designers, and thought leaders to explore some of the most significant trends that are expected to impact the design landscape in 2023.

We start with a deep dive into the world of immersive technologies and how they are blurring the lines between physical and virtual experiences. We discuss the rise of extended reality, the impact of artificial intelligence on design, and the emergence of new tools that are redefining the way designers work.

Next, we explore the importance of sustainability in design and how it is becoming an increasingly crucial factor in consumer decision-making. From eco-friendly materials to circular design principles, we examine the various ways in which designers are incorporating sustainable practices into their work and the implications of these choices for the future.

We also delve into the changing role of design in shaping society, with a focus on the impact of design on human behavior, health, and well-being. We discuss the importance of inclusivity and diversity in design, the role of design in promoting mental health, and the impact of design on our physical environments.

Finally, we look at the future of design education and how it is evolving to prepare the next generation of designers for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. We explore new models of design education, the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, and the role of design in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.

We hope this issue provides you with valuable insights and inspiration as you navigate the ever-changing world of design. We are excited to be part of this dynamic industry and look forward to exploring new trends and ideas in the years to come.

Front Cover: Reece Keil

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2023 Global Trends

After emerging from COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns in 2022, the world faced a new source of instability - soaring energy prices for oil and gas caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The resulting inflation has led central banks to increase interest rates while governments scramble to curb it. This has affected national economies and the construction supply chain, prompting the market to reflect on project fundamentals and the cost of financing for new private sector developments.

Meanwhile, governments worldwide are investing heavily in infrastructure and publicly built assets to address critical issues. This includes the urgent development of renewable energy assets to enhance energy resilience and support national and global decarbonization goals. Additionally, there are efforts to improve public transport, rail infrastructure, and new aviation infrastructure to decrease dependence on oil-based passenger vehicles and diesel-driven logistics fleets.

Furthermore, there is a focus on addressing the shortcomings in the health sector that the pandemic and other major health crises have highlighted and exacerbated. Governments are investing in developing assets for new forms of care, including regional specialist acute triage and care facilities. They are also taking measures to tackle the critical shortage of safe, appropriate, and affordable housing in multiple nations, such as Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

To mitigate supply chain risks, there is a push to boost support for the establishment or expansion of facilities for advanced, local, and circular economy manufacturing. Additionally, there is an emphasis on addressing the impacts of climate change through infrastructure and retrofit projects aimed at adaptation and mitigation.

Australian Construction Trends for 2023

The construction industry is a critical driver of economic growth, and as we move into 2023, there are several trends expected to shape the future of construction businesses. From labour shortages and supply chain disruptions to digitization and climate change impacts, these trends will require the construction industry to adapt and evolve to stay competitive. Each of these trends presents unique challenges and opportunities for the construction sector, with potential impacts on cost, productivity, and sustainability. In this context, it is crucial for construction companies to stay informed about these trends and take proactive steps to navigate the changing landscape of the industry.

Designer: Torren Bell

Labour Shortages

The construction industry in Australia has been facing a significant labor shortage for some time now, a trend that is expected to continue. The issue is multifaceted and has various causes, including an aging workforce, a lack of interest among younger generations, and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the main contributing factors to the labor shortage is the aging workforce. Many industry professionals are nearing retirement age, and others have already left the workforce. The transfer of knowledge from experienced veterans to new hires takes time and is often a challenge. This situation creates a significant skills gap that the industry struggles to fill.

Another related problem is that many young people do not consider construction a viable career option. This perception is often due to a lack of awareness of the range of opportunities and benefits that the industry offers. This issue has led to a shortage of qualified candidates, making it challenging to fill open positions.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated the labor shortage in the construction industry. The public health crisis forced many planned builds to be put on hold or canceled altogether, which resulted in job losses for many construction workers. Additionally, many people reevaluated their work-life balance during the pandemic and left their roles in search of better opportunities.

According to Nick Grandy, a senior analyst of construction and real estate at RSM US, there are approximately 25% more empty construction positions than people coming on board to fill the needs in the industry. The labor shortage has caused many construction companies to struggle to meet deadlines, and some have even had to turn down projects due to a lack of manpower.

There are approximately **25% more empty construction positions** than people coming on board to fill the needs in the industry.

In conclusion, the labor shortage in the construction industry in Australia is a complex issue that requires a multi-faceted solution. Addressing the lack of interest among younger generations, improving the transfer of knowledge from experienced professionals to new hires, and raising awareness of the industry's opportunities and benefits are all critical steps to address this trend. It is crucial for the industry to find innovative ways to attract and retain skilled workers to meet the growing demand for construction projects in the country.

Designer: Adrian Sorensen

Supply Chain

The disruption in the supply chain is a significant trend that is expected to shape the construction industry in 2023. Over the past few years, the industry has faced a range of challenges due to conflicts, natural disasters, and shutdowns in manufacturing plants. The conflict in Ukraine, for example, has had a significant impact on the availability of long steel products, cement, and concrete products throughout Europe. Meanwhile, the shutdown in China has affected the manufacturing of key materials, including construction steel and fixtures in Asia. More recently, Indonesia's announcement of a halt to the export of bauxite alumina could potentially increase the price of aluminum throughout Asia-Pacific.

As the industry faces these challenges, builders and trades will need to ensure greater visibility and control over the supply chain. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of understanding where materials come from and how they are transported. Building resilience into supply chains will become a priority, with local procurement and circular economy approaches playing an increasingly important role. Reusing demolition materials and retaining as much of the pre-existing building fabric as possible will help ensure a sustainable and resilient supply chain.

In addition, new technologies such as blockchain and data analytics are expected to play a greater role in ensuring transparency and control in the supply chain. These technologies will allow builders to track the movement of materials and ensure that they are sourced sustainably and ethically. By leveraging these technologies, builders can reduce the risk of supply chain disruptions and build a more sustainable and resilient industry.

New technologies such as **blockchain and data analytics** are expected to play a greater role in ensuring transparency and control in the supply chain.

In conclusion, the disruption in the supply chain is a major trend that will continue to shape the construction industry in 2023. Builders and trades will need to prioritize visibility and control over their supply chains, while also embracing new technologies and circular economy approaches to build a more sustainable and resilient industry. By doing so, the industry can better prepare for and mitigate future disruptions, ensuring that it continues to meet the needs of communities across Australia.

Designer: Dick Clarke

Designer: Elise Sorge

Digitisation and AI

The construction industry is undergoing a significant transformation with the adoption of digitisation and artificial intelligence (AI). This trend is expected to shape the industry in 2023 and beyond. With the demand for streamlining processes, saving time, and ensuring accountability, cloud-based platforms for collaboration, project management, and tracking of materials have become a fundamental requirement for every construction business.

Clients, the financial sector, and regulators are pushing for the adoption of digitisation in the construction industry. This shift towards data-driven approaches has been crucial in project design and planning, development approvals, project coordination, and asset management. The use of AI and machine learning algorithms is also becoming increasingly popular in the construction industry. These technologies are capable of analyzing vast amounts of data, which can improve efficiency and accuracy in project management.

Builders will benefit greatly from digitisation as it provides a means of identifying defects or quality issues that need to be addressed. The industry must remain connected through data and insights throughout the entirety of a project's lifecycle to ensure that assets are delivered on time, on budget, and to the highest quality standards. This will also help to reduce the risk of errors and rework, which can be costly and time-consuming.

Another benefit of digitisation is the ability to track the progress of a project in real-time. This allows project managers to monitor progress, identify any potential delays or issues, and take corrective action. Digitisation can also improve communication between team members, enabling them to work collaboratively and efficiently.

In conclusion,

the adoption of digitisation and AI is a significant trend that will continue to shape the construction industry in 2023. Cloud-based platforms, data-driven approaches, and machine learning algorithms are essential tools that will help the industry meet the demands of clients, the financial sector, and regulators. Builders must embrace these technologies to ensure that projects are delivered on time, on budget, and to the highest quality standards. With digitisation, the industry can achieve greater efficiency, accuracy, and transparency, making it more sustainable and resilient for the future.

Climate Change

The impact of climate change is expected to shape the construction industry in 2023, with an increased focus on reducing carbon emissions and building sustainable infrastructure. Construction companies will need to acknowledge that climate risk has two dimensions - physical risk and carbon emissions. The physical risk relates to the damage that extreme weather conditions can cause to buildings and infrastructure, while the carbon emissions dimension relates to the impact of construction activities on the environment.

With an increased focus on sustainability, construction companies will need to adopt new approaches to reduce their carbon footprint. This may involve the use of sustainable building materials, such as timber or recycled materials, and incorporating energy-efficient designs into buildings. The industry will also need to develop strategies to mitigate climate risks, such as designing buildings that can withstand extreme weather conditions, including floods and bushfires.

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In addition to this, construction companies will need to consider the impact of climate change on their supply chains. As extreme weather events become more frequent, supply chains may be disrupted, leading to delays and increased costs. Companies will need to work with suppliers to ensure that they are resilient to climate risks and have contingency plans in place.

In conclusion, the construction industry is expected to face increased pressure in 2023 to address the physical and financial risks of climate change. Companies will need to adopt new approaches to reduce their carbon footprint, use sustainable building materials and designs, and develop strategies to manage and mitigate climate risks. By doing so, the industry can build sustainable infrastructure that is resilient to the impacts of climate change and help to mitigate its contribution to global warming.

Designer: Amani Salameh

Interest Rates

The construction industry in Australia is expected to face significant challenges in 2023 as interest rates continue to rise. The Reserve Bank of Australia has already raised interest rates twice in the last year, and economists predict that rates will continue to rise in response to inflation pressures.

The impact of rising interest rates on the construction industry is likely to be significant. Higher interest rates will make borrowing more expensive, which will increase the cost of construction projects. This could lead to delays in project delivery, as developers struggle to secure financing, and may result in some projects being cancelled altogether.

In addition to this, rising interest rates are likely to have an impact on property prices. Higher interest rates will make it more expensive for people to borrow money to purchase property, which could lead to a cooling of the property market. This, in turn, could impact demand for new construction projects, as developers may be hesitant to invest in new developments if they are unsure about the state of the property market.

The impact of rising interest rates on the construction industry will not be uniform across the sector. Large developers with established relationships with banks and financial institutions may be better able to weather the impact of rising interest rates. However, smaller developers and those without established relationships may struggle to secure financing, which could limit their ability to undertake new projects.

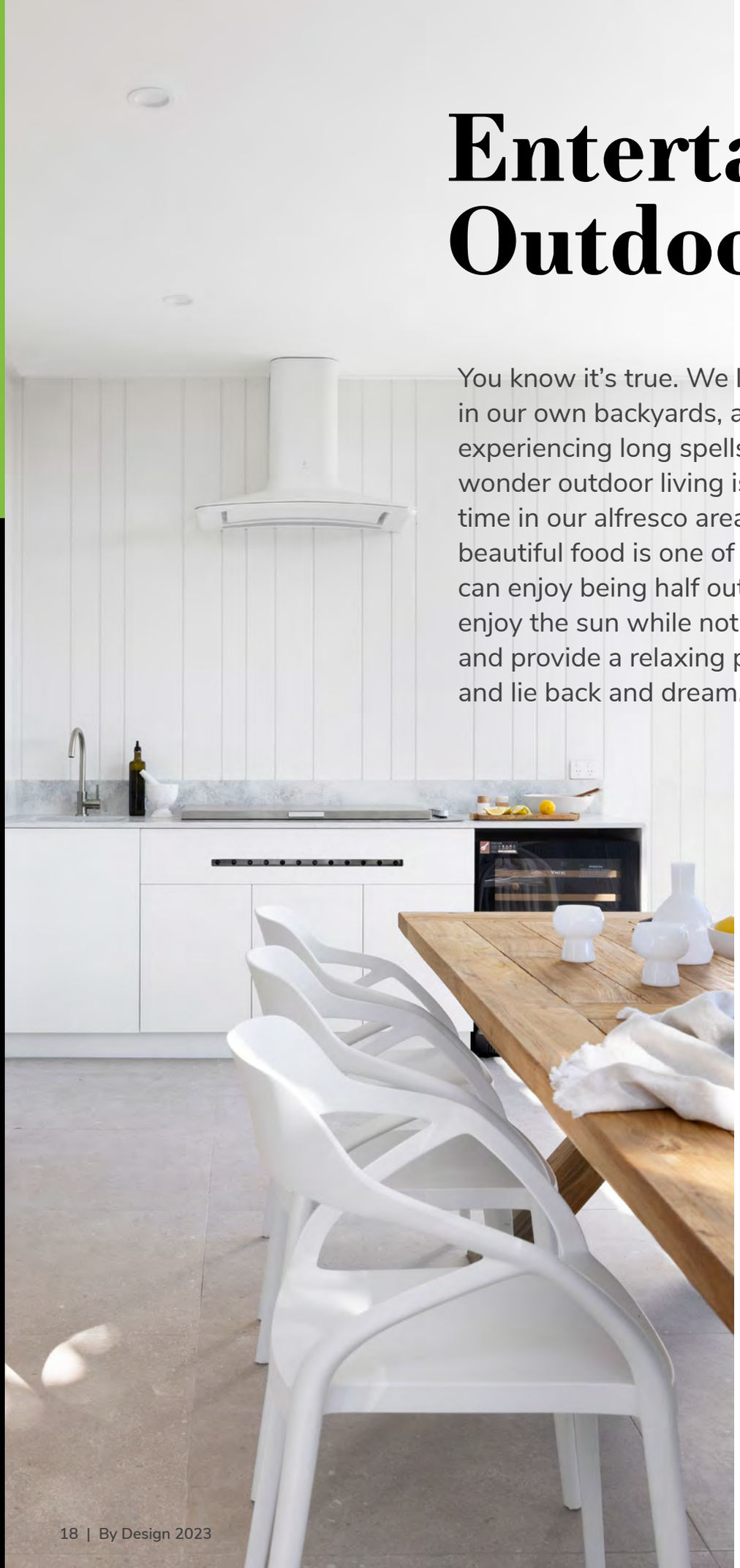
To mitigate the impact of rising interest rates, construction companies will need to adopt new approaches to project management and financing. This may involve exploring alternative financing options, such as crowdfunding or private equity, or working with financial institutions to secure long-term financing at fixed interest rates.

In conclusion,

rising interest rates are a significant challenge facing the construction industry in Australia in 2023. Developers will need to adapt to this new reality by exploring alternative financing options and working with financial institutions to secure financing at fixed interest rates. By doing so, the industry can continue to deliver new construction projects that meet the needs of communities across the country.

Designer: Helen Lloyd-Martin

Entertaining Outdoors



You know it's true. We love to eat, drink, and gather in our own backyards, and with most of the country experiencing long spells of warm weather, it's no wonder outdoor living is so popular. Spending time in our alfresco areas, with family, friends and beautiful food is one of our favourite past times. You can enjoy being half outside, half inside so you can enjoy the sun while not being scorched by its rays and provide a relaxing place to entertain, doze, read and lie back and dream.

Continuing the external cladding to connected inside spaces can blur the lines and increase the sense of space, making your home feel larger. By adding large sliding or stacking doors you'll also benefit from the increased light, views and breezes that an alfresco area brings.

The materials used in your outdoor entertaining area should complement your home's existing architectural style, and harmonise with the surrounding landscape. Outdoor rooms integrate the comfort and style of the inside of the house with the beauty of the great outdoors. An ideal place to entertain, a great alfresco area will encourage people to spend time together, whether it be around a cosy fireplace watching movies, or around the barbecue while the kids are in the pool.

It's human instinct for people to appreciate and be attracted to the charming beauty of nature. Textures and pieces made from natural materials exude tranquillity and ground the overall theme of a space. Weathertex natural timber cladding adds texture and warmth to any home. Australian made and owned Weathertex cladding is made to last, offering up to 25 years warranty not to rot, split or crack.

All Weathertex cladding profiles have a consistent 9.5mm thickness and matching accessories. Mixing our profiles is a simple way to transform a home design without breaking the bank.

You can mix and match vertical and horizontal Weathertex cladding, natural and painted products, you can even incorporate some gorgeous natural stone with beautiful landscaping to design a relaxed sanctuary.

With a climate like ours, we're lucky enough to spend almost as much time eating alfresco as we do indoors. A kitchen servery window can connect the inside to the outside and makes alfresco entertaining so much easier.

From the verandahs of traditional homes to the alfresco areas that are widespread in contemporary home design, outdoor entertaining is here to stay. Whether you're commencing a new build, or planning a major makeover, we've rounded up outdoor entertaining area ideas, tips and inspiration to help you create the ultimate outdoor entertaining area.

Check out these beautiful **Weathertex** homes for inspiration – you might find yourself surprised at what you can do with your outdoor space...

Design in a New Reality:

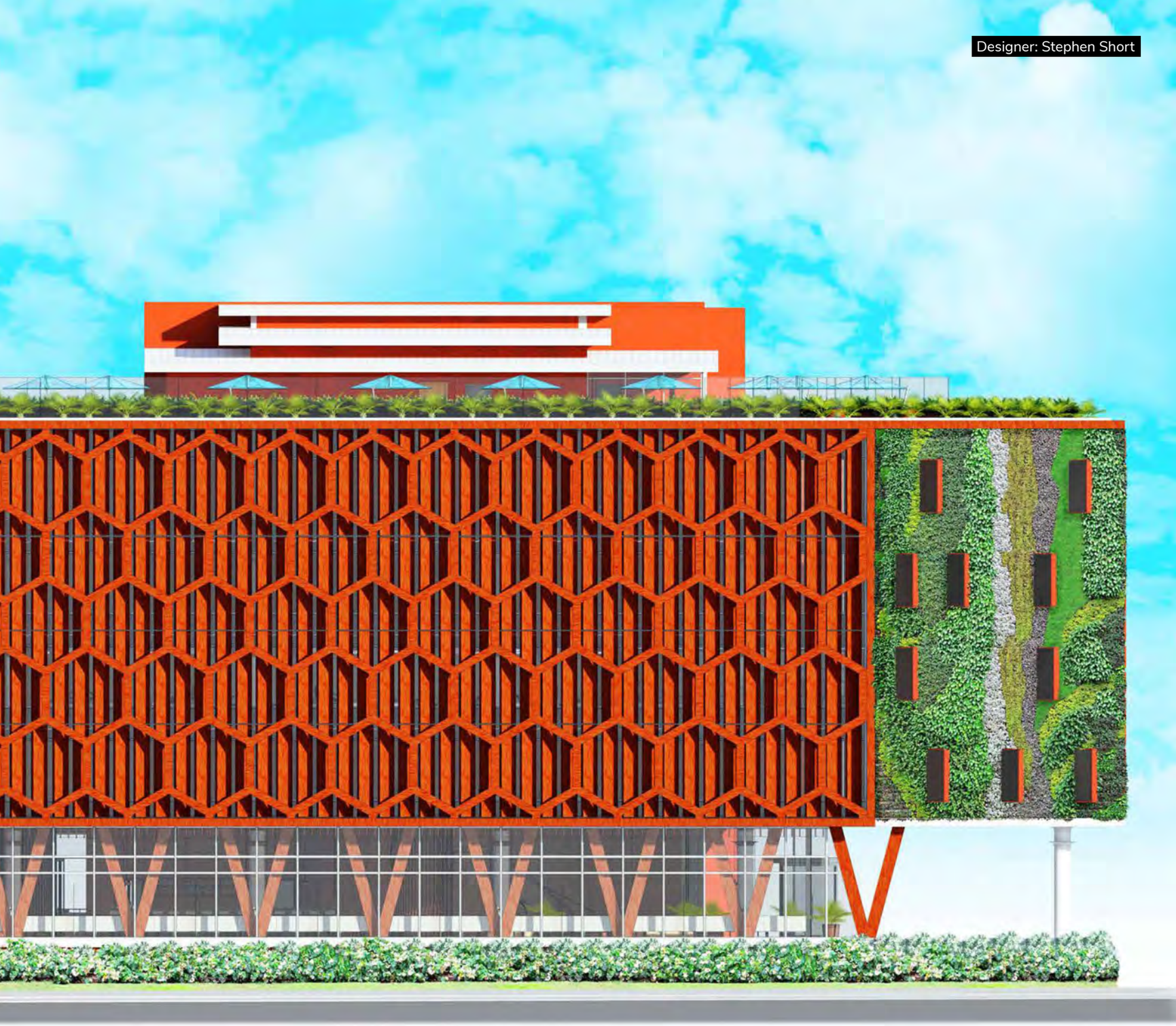
HOW XR AND AI ARE SHAPING THE FUTURE OF DESIGN

The rise of immersive technologies such as extended reality (XR) and artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming the design landscape in exciting and innovative ways.

XR encompasses a range of technologies such as virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and mixed reality (MR). By leveraging XR tools, designers can create immersive, interactive, and engaging experiences that blur the lines between physical and virtual worlds. From designing digital showrooms to creating interactive product demonstrations, XR technologies are opening up a whole new world of design possibilities.

One of the most significant benefits of XR technologies is their ability to enhance the user experience. By creating immersive experiences that allow users to explore products or environments in 3D, designers can provide a more engaging and interactive experience. For example, a furniture retailer might use AR to allow customers to see how a piece of furniture would look in their home before making a purchase.

AI is another technology that is transforming the design landscape. By automating repetitive tasks and analyzing data, AI tools can help designers create more efficient workflows and generate new ideas. AI can also help designers improve the user experience by analyzing user data and making recommendations based on user behavior. For example, a website might use AI to personalize the user experience by suggesting products or services based on a user's browsing history.



However, there are also challenges associated with using XR and AI technologies in design. One of the biggest challenges is the cost of implementing these technologies, which can be prohibitively expensive for small businesses. There is also a steep learning curve associated with using these tools, which means that designers need to invest time and resources in training and development.

Despite these challenges, the benefits of using XR and AI technologies in design are clear. They allow designers to create more immersive and engaging experiences, automate repetitive tasks, and improve the user experience. As these technologies continue to evolve, designers will need to develop new skills and competencies to stay ahead of the curve. This includes not only technical skills, but also an understanding of how these technologies can be used to create meaningful and impactful designs.

Ultimately, the rise of XR and AI technologies is transforming the design landscape in exciting and innovative ways, and designers who embrace these technologies will be well positioned to thrive in this new era of design.

Designing for a Sustainable Future:

HOW ECO-FRIENDLY MATERIALS AND CIRCULAR DESIGN PRINCIPLES ARE REVOLUTIONIZING THE INDUSTRY

Sustainability has become a crucial consideration for designers and consumers alike. As more people become aware of the impact of their purchases on the environment, the demand for sustainable products and practices continues to grow. In response, designers are taking a proactive approach to incorporating sustainable practices into their work. From eco-friendly materials to circular design principles, designers are exploring new ways to reduce waste, conserve resources, and create products that are both functional and sustainable.

One of the most important aspects of sustainable design is the use of eco-friendly materials. Designers are now opting for materials that are biodegradable, recyclable, or made from renewable resources. This includes materials such as bamboo, cork, and recycled plastics, as well as natural materials like wool and cotton. By choosing eco-friendly materials, designers can reduce the environmental impact of their products and promote sustainable practices throughout the entire supply chain.

Designer: James Cooper

Another critical concept in sustainable design is circular design principles. Unlike traditional linear design, where products are created, used, and then discarded, circular design aims to create products that are restorative and regenerative. This means designing products that can be reused, repurposed, or recycled, creating a closed loop of materials and reducing waste. By adopting circular design principles, designers can create products that are not only sustainable but also more cost-effective and efficient.

Sustainable design is also driving innovation in areas such as packaging, furniture, and fashion. From compostable packaging to modular furniture, designers are creating products that are not only functional but also environmentally friendly. Sustainable fashion is also on the rise, with designers exploring new ways to create clothing that is both stylish and sustainable. This includes using eco-friendly fabrics, reducing waste in the production process, and creating products that are designed to last.

However, there are also challenges associated with sustainable design, such as the cost of eco-friendly materials and the need for new infrastructure to support circular design principles. Nonetheless, sustainable design presents an opportunity for designers to create products that are not only functional but also environmentally conscious, addressing a growing consumer demand for sustainable options.

One of the most important aspects of sustainable design is the use of **eco-friendly materials.**

Sustainability is no longer a niche concern in design but an essential consideration for designers and consumers alike. By adopting sustainable practices, designers can reduce waste, conserve resources, and create products that are both functional and environmentally friendly. As sustainable design continues to evolve, designers will need to embrace new materials, processes, and business models that promote sustainability, ultimately helping to create a more sustainable future for all.

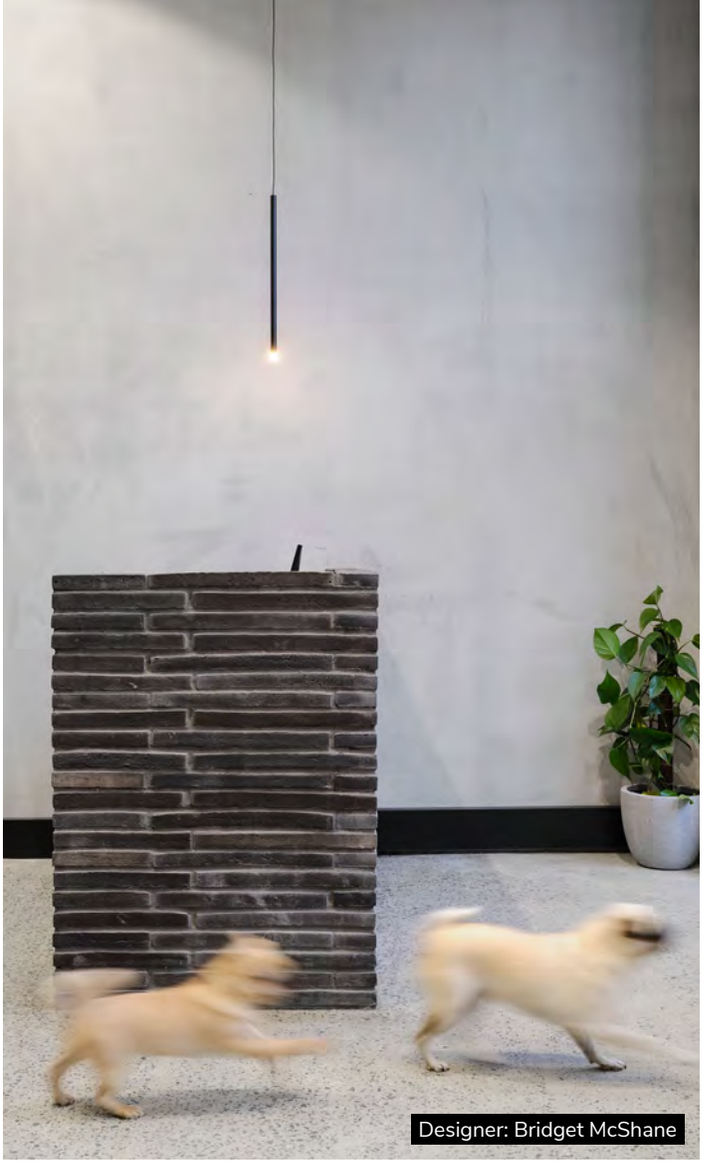
Designing for a Better World:

HOW INCLUSIVITY, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SUSTAINABILITY ARE TRANSFORMING THE ROLE OF DESIGN IN SOCIETY

Design has the power to shape society and its values, beliefs, and behaviors. As designers become increasingly aware of the social, cultural, and ethical implications of their work, they are using their skills to promote inclusivity, diversity, and social justice. Furthermore, they are also addressing pressing issues such as mental health and well-being, which are becoming more important in our fast-paced and demanding modern world.

Inclusivity and diversity in design are essential for ensuring that everyone's voices are heard, regardless of their race, gender, ethnicity, or ability. Designers are adopting inclusive practices, such as co-creation with marginalized communities, to ensure that their work is accessible and culturally sensitive. By prioritizing inclusivity and diversity, designers can create products and services that are more representative of the diverse needs and perspectives of society.

The role of design in promoting mental health and well-being is also becoming increasingly significant. Designers are creating spaces and products that promote relaxation, reduce stress, and improve mental health outcomes. This includes designing workplaces that encourage movement and interaction, and products such as wearables that monitor mental and emotional health. By using design to promote mental health and well-being, designers are contributing to a healthier, happier, and more productive society.



Designer: Bridget McShane

Moreover, the impact of design on our physical environments cannot be ignored. Designers have a responsibility to create products and services that are sustainable and environmentally friendly, reducing their impact on the environment and promoting the use of renewable resources. By creating designs that minimize waste and energy consumption, designers can help to mitigate the effects of climate change and promote a more sustainable future.

In conclusion, the changing role of design in shaping society reflects the increasing awareness of designers of the social, cultural, and ethical implications of their work. By promoting inclusivity, diversity, and social justice, and addressing critical issues such as mental health and well-being, designers are contributing to a more equitable and sustainable society. By creating products and services that are sustainable and environmentally friendly, designers can help to mitigate the effects of climate change and promote a more sustainable future. Ultimately, the evolving role of design in shaping society represents an opportunity for designers to make a positive impact on the world, one that will be felt for generations to come.

The Australian Design Education Revolution:

EMBRACING INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Designer: Alan Cubbon

In Australia, the design industry is rapidly growing, with an increasing demand for skilled designers in a wide range of sectors, from architecture and interior design to graphic design and digital media. As the industry continues to evolve, so too must design education in order to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in a highly competitive market.

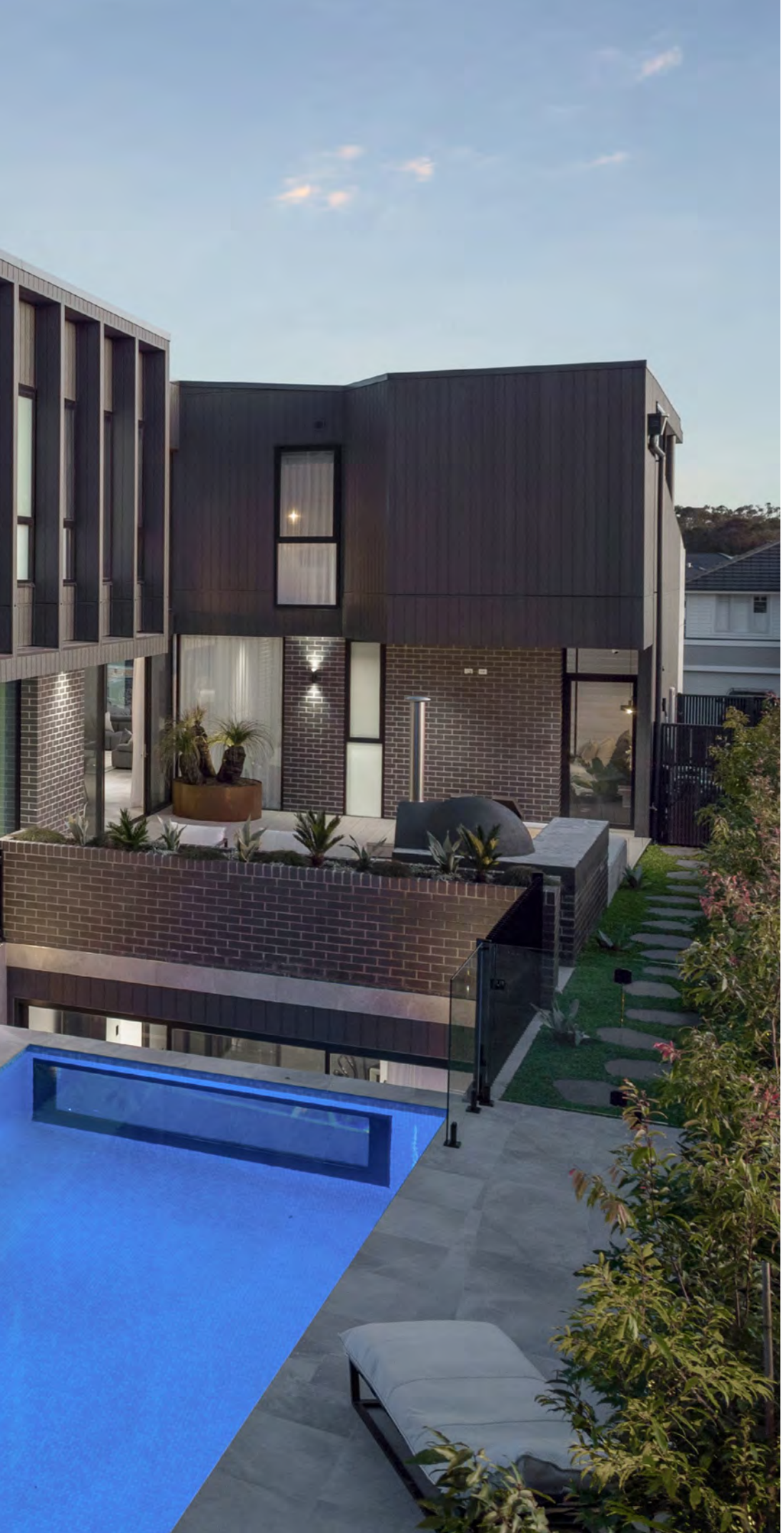
One example of innovative design education in Australia is the University of Technology Sydney's Bachelor of Creative Intelligence and Innovation, which brings together students from a diverse range of backgrounds to collaborate on real-world problems. This interdisciplinary approach to design education helps students develop the critical thinking and problem-solving skills needed to address complex challenges in today's society.

Another trend in design education is a growing emphasis on entrepreneurship and business skills. Many design schools are now offering courses in entrepreneurship and design thinking, recognizing the importance of these skills for designers looking to start their own businesses or work in startup environments.

In addition to these new models of design education, designers in Australia are also exploring new tools and technologies to enhance their skills and creativity. For example, virtual reality and 3D printing are becoming increasingly popular in design education, allowing students to create and prototype designs in new and exciting ways.

As the design industry continues to evolve, it is clear that design education must evolve with it. By embracing new models of education, interdisciplinary collaboration, and entrepreneurship, designers in Australia can prepare themselves for the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Industrial Revolution



One trend gaining momentum and popularity in recent years is the black and white home, especially in exterior applications. While a healthy majority of Weathertex customers continue looking to freshen and brighten their facades in white, there is a smaller but growing trend of people opting for drama with black or alternatively, using both colours in a delightful sense.

Black and white design style is classic, elegant, and versatile. It can be used in a variety of design settings to create a sense of calm or to make a space feel larger.

Black and white when combined, is all about embracing the bold and fashionable, and together with Weathertex wide range of sustainable weatherboards, architectural panels and wall shingles, this is totally achievable. The overall effect of this mix of colours in external applications is incredibly striking, the classic all white or bold black home with contrasting trims, roof and fascias.

Tiny Homes, Big Impact:

THE RISE OF SUSTAINABLE AND AFFORDABLE LIVING IN AUSTRALIA

Tiny homes are increasingly gaining popularity in Australia and around the world. A tiny home is defined as a small, compact, and self-sufficient dwelling that typically ranges from 10 to 40 square meters. They are designed to be both energy-efficient and eco-friendly, and offer a minimalist lifestyle that is both cost-effective and sustainable.

This trend towards tiny homes is driven by several factors, including rising housing costs, environmental concerns, and the desire for a simpler lifestyle. In this article, we will explore the reasons why tiny homes are becoming so popular in Australia, and how they contribute to a more sustainable built environment.

One of the main reasons why tiny homes are gaining popularity is due to the affordability and cost-effectiveness of this type of housing. In Australia, housing costs have risen dramatically in recent years, making it increasingly difficult for many people to buy or rent a home. Tiny homes provide a cost-effective solution, with prices starting at around $20,000 for a basic model, compared to the average cost of a traditional home which can be upwards of $500,000. By choosing a tiny home, individuals are able to live a debt-free lifestyle, reduce their housing costs, and save for other expenses such as travel or investments.

Another reason for the popularity of tiny homes is their **environmental sustainability**. Tiny homes are designed to be highly energy-efficient, using passive solar design and other green technologies to reduce energy usage.

Designer: Jennifer Binns

Another reason for the popularity of tiny homes is their environmental sustainability. Tiny homes are designed to be highly energy-efficient, using passive solar design and other green technologies to reduce energy usage. They also have smaller carbon footprints, producing less waste and using fewer resources than traditional homes. This is in line with growing concerns about the environmental impact of housing and the need for more sustainable solutions. By choosing a tiny home, individuals are able to make a positive impact on the environment and reduce their carbon footprint.

Tiny homes also provide a more minimalist lifestyle that is free from clutter and consumerism. In a world where people are increasingly burdened by material possessions and consumer debt, tiny homes offer an alternative lifestyle that values simplicity, frugality, and freedom. By choosing a tiny home, individuals are able to live a life that is unencumbered by material possessions and focused on what truly matters to them. This simplicity also has a number of health benefits, including reduced stress, increased focus, and a stronger sense of purpose.

Designer: Jennifer Binns

Tiny homes also provide a more **minimalist lifestyle** that is free from clutter and consumerism. In a world where people are increasingly burdened by material possessions and consumer debt, tiny homes offer an **alternative lifestyle** that values simplicity, frugality, and freedom.

Tiny homes can also contribute to a more sustainable built environment by reducing the demand for land and other resources. Traditional homes are becoming larger and more sprawling, consuming large amounts of land and resources, and contributing to urban sprawl and environmental degradation. Tiny homes, on the other hand, are designed to be compact and efficient, taking up less space and reducing the demand for resources. This can help to reduce the environmental impact of housing, protect natural resources, and promote more sustainable urban development.

In conclusion, tiny homes are becoming increasingly popular in Australia due to their affordability, environmental sustainability, and minimalist lifestyle. By choosing a tiny home, individuals are able to reduce their housing costs, make a positive impact on the environment, and live a life that is free from consumerism and material possessions. Tiny homes also contribute to a more sustainable built environment by reducing the demand for land and resources, and promoting more efficient and compact urban development. As the demand for tiny homes continues to grow, it is likely that this trend will continue to gain momentum, and we will see an increased focus on sustainable, affordable, and minimalist housing solutions in the years to come.

Designer: Jennifer Binns

Coastal and Hamptons Luxe

Coastal and Hamptons Luxe have been extremely popular, and in Australia we've seen a huge shift towards these two home designs in recent years and it's no surprise, as both of these styles depict Australia's laid back lifestyle perfectly!

Although both design styles are inspired by the beach lifestyle, there are subtle nuances between the two that speak to different tastes. Hamptons style marries elegance and luxury with understated nods towards the seaside theme, whereas coastal style is more relaxed, raw and bohemian, bringing elements of the outdoors in.

The first rule of a thriving Hamptons and Coastal Luxe interpretation is to keep your aesthetics light and airy. Inspired by a neutral palette of greys, whites and blues, both of these styles combine all the elements of seaside living, while keeping the overall look refined, timeless and functional.

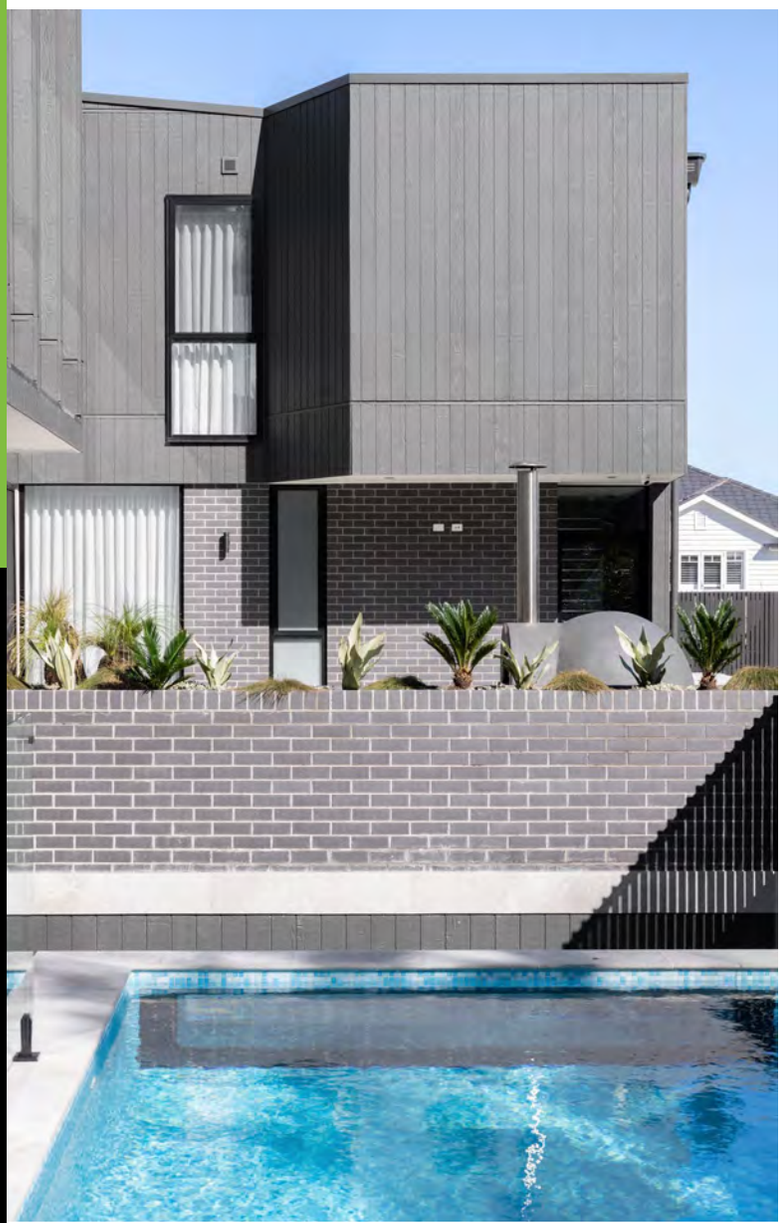
However, regardless of your preferred style, Weathertex cladding and Classic Shingles Plus are the perfect sustainable building material selection for both inside and out.

Internally, these styles have a light and bright colour palette with a touch of a 'beachy nautical inspired vibe' sophistication. Be sure to incorporate Weathertex Selflok weatherboards and Weathergroove panelling into your design to create texture and depth on your walls and ceilings.

When it comes to kerb appeal, the Hamptons style evokes grandeur with it's perfectly smooth weatherboards and Classic Shingles Plus on gables. Bring your own touch of individuality by selecting the many available Weathertex smooth textured cladding to your façade.

Design your Coastal or Hamptons Luxe home with Weathertex and you're sure to be transported to a place of serenity and style. Here's some inspirations from some of our amazing customers.

After adding depth and texture to your internal walls by using Weathertex cladding, it's time to find furnishings to bring your internal space together. Wicker and timber (both raw or painted white) are wonderful furniture choices. Rattan is also commonly used decoratively for chairs, coffee tables and pendant lights to achieve the optimum Hamptons and Coastal style.



Classic all white homes create the perfect backdrop for beautiful landscaping and complements any type of architectural style from modern, to coastal Hampton's, right through country cottage.

There is nothing more classic, chic, or timeless than a black and white interior. The high contrast, 'opposites attract' combination has long been favoured by interior designers and architects who find inspiration in the artistic purity and inherent glamour of a colour palette reduced to its essential elements.

Black home exteriors are a trend that keeps gaining popularity. All black is a big statement, it creates sophistication and it's unapologetically bold and fashionable. The architectural details pop and absorbs its surroundings, rather than deflects them, allowing the home to rest comfortably into its setting. However, remember to consider darker coloured paints draw attention to itself, whether positive or negative, they also have a lower Light Reflective Value (LRV) that may impact the thermal efficiency of the building.

So it's no surprise that the most popular choice of colour is white. Whether it is the interior of your home or over Weathertex cladding facade, white provides the ultimate in the way of versatility and workability, while effectively portraying a strong sense of elegance with a crisp, fresh feel and look.

Using varying textures on furniture, textiles, and **Weathertex cladding is essential** for creating a layered, dimensional space. Life is not always so simple as black and white, except when selecting your cladding material. Here's some amazing and delightful Weathertex designs for some inspiration.

A better choice for you and the planet.

CLADDING | PANELS | WEATHERBOARDS

BUILDING DESIGNERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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Designer: Alex Urena Design Studio, photography: Shaw Photography

3 key trends

ARISING FROM THE NCC2022 CHANGES

After the recent changes to the National Construction Code (NCC) 2022, there are three key considerations for designing new homes. These are energy efficiency, accessibility, and condensation.

"The level of change that is about to impact designers and builders is extraordinary. As a manufacturer, we have a responsibility to help designers and builders transition these changes into their business with ease," stated Samantha Anderson, National Marketing Manager, Architectural Window Systems (AWS).

Samantha continued, "A common concern with designers and builders, is keeping up to date with product innovation and finding a solution that meets the new requirements, whilst still being stylish and affordable. Especially with interest rates raising, there is less in the budget up front."

With this in mind, it's a key opportunity to focus on solutions within each of these key areas.

1. Energy Efficiency

The NCC 2022 requires all new Australian homes and apartments to meet a minimum energy efficiency rating of 7 stars under the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS).

Lifting the rating will not only improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions but also make homes more comfortable. Windows and doors will play an essential part in ensuring homes are 7-star rated.

“We’re in a great position to showcase the innovations we have designed and developed over the past 10-15 years. AWS was ahead of its time when it released its thermally broken range, ThermalHEARTTM into the market.

This has been followed up recently with the release of ComfortEDGETM, a double glazed, embedded range,” said Samantha.

“Our motivation comes from wanting to do better in the industry and providing solutions for designers, builders and homeowners, that meet increasing compliance requirements whilst remaining affordable.”

The trend to date, has been for large expanses of glazing, however, there is a concern that windows and doors will revert back to being smaller to manage the new energy efficiency compliance requirements. This isn’t ideal for homeowners who want natural light and a connection to their outdoors.

The good news is, with product innovation, there will still be plenty of scope to design homes with lots of natural light, whilst meeting the new 7-star requirements.

2. Accessibility

One of the most significant changes to the NCC 2022 is the new liveable housing provisions. These liveable housing provisions will help provide more housing options for older Australians and people with physical disabilities.

“There have already been great innovations in this space, enhancing the safety and accessibility of different spaces. One such example is the FlowTHRU™ Drain, an integrated flush threshold drainage system,” acknowledged Samantha.

Incorporating this drain allows for a compliant and safe way to achieve a seamless, aesthetic and level transition between internal and external spaces, whilst still providing the functional benefits of effective drainage. The FlowTHRU™ Drain incorporates a stainless-steel grate featuring an Anti-Slip surface. This helps reduce the risk of trips and falls, especially where water is involved.

3. Condensation

The NCC 2022 also targets condensation management. Research reveals moisture trapped within buildings has been linked to compromised structural systems, loss of inbuilt fabric durability, and significant chronic diseases like asthma and other allergy and immunology conditions from decreased indoor environmental quality (IEQ).

These changes include providing an escape path for water vapour, a new minimum vapour permeance and requirements for a door undercut if wet areas are not naturally ventilated.

Samantha said, “Whilst these changes focus on insulation, sarking and ventilation, it does open up a conversation around products that can assist with condensation. Especially when condensation on window frames and glazing are highly visible.”

Condensation can often be mitigated by using double glazing and thermally broken window frames to keep the surface temperature above indoor dew point.

Opening windows for ventilation also helps reduce indoor moisture levels. Unfortunately for many valid reasons such as security, noise and cold drafts, windows are not often opened, leading to a build-up of indoor air pollution and high moisture levels contributing to condensation issues. This can be assisted by incorporating products like the AWS Trickle Vent into the window, providing outdoor air all day, every day, even when windows remain closed.

The future

This is only the beginning. Change in construction, compliance requirements, energy efficiency, sustainability, it’s only going to continue to get more stringent. This is a great opportunity to design and build better homes.

Biophilia:

THE GROWING TREND OF CONNECTING WITH NATURE

In recent years, there has been a growing trend of people seeking to reconnect with nature and the natural world. This trend, known as biophilia, refers to the inherent human tendency to connect with and feel a deep affinity for nature. This connection is thought to stem from our evolutionary history, where our ancestors lived in close proximity to nature and relied on it for survival.

Today, biophilia is being increasingly recognized as a critical aspect of modern life, as it can play a crucial role in promoting mental and physical well-being, and in fostering a deeper connection with the environment.

One of the key ways in which biophilia is manifesting itself in modern society is through the increasing popularity of eco-friendly and sustainable living. People are seeking to live in harmony with nature, and to reduce their impact on the environment. This can take the form of things like using green energy sources, reducing waste and consumption, and participating in activities like recycling and composting. By taking these steps, people are not only improving their own well-being, but also helping to preserve the planet for future generations.

Another manifestation of biophilia is the growing popularity of nature-based activities and hobbies. From hiking and camping, to gardening and bird watching, people are seeking ways to get out into nature and experience the natural world for themselves. These activities not only provide a sense of connection with nature, but also offer a number of physical and mental health benefits. Studies have shown that exposure to nature can have a calming effect on individuals and can reduce stress and anxiety levels.

Biophilia is also being integrated into the design and architecture of our built environment. Architects and designers are increasingly incorporating green spaces and natural materials into their designs, and are using biophilic design principles to create spaces that promote health and well-being. From green roofs and walls, to living rooms and garden spaces, biophilic design is transforming our built environment and helping to create a more sustainable and harmonious relationship between people and nature.

The trend of biophilia is a growing phenomenon in modern society, as people seek to reconnect with nature and the natural world.

In conclusion, the trend of biophilia is a growing phenomenon in modern society, as people seek to reconnect with nature and the natural world. This trend is manifesting itself in a number of ways, from the increasing popularity of eco-friendly and sustainable living, to the growing popularity of nature-based activities and hobbies. By promoting biophilia in our communities and cities, we can help to create a more sustainable and harmonious relationship between people and the environment, and ensure a brighter future for generations to come.

Designer: Simon and Peter Downes

The Durable and Sustainable Solution:

AN OVERVIEW OF WEATHERTEX'S POPULAR NATURAL WEATHERBOARD RANGE

Weathertex is a leading manufacturer of eco-friendly and sustainable building products in Australia. The company is known for its innovative and high-quality products, which are designed to withstand the harsh weather conditions of the country. One of the most popular product ranges offered by Weathertex is the Natural Weatherboard.

The Natural Weatherboard is a unique cladding solution that is made from sustainably sourced, premium-grade Australian hardwood. It is the perfect choice for those who are looking for a natural, eco-friendly and long-lasting solution for their building exteriors. This product range is available in a range of textures and finishes, including smooth, rough-sawn, and primed.

Key feature of the Natural Weatherboard is its **low maintenance** requirements.


Weathertex 75mm Natural

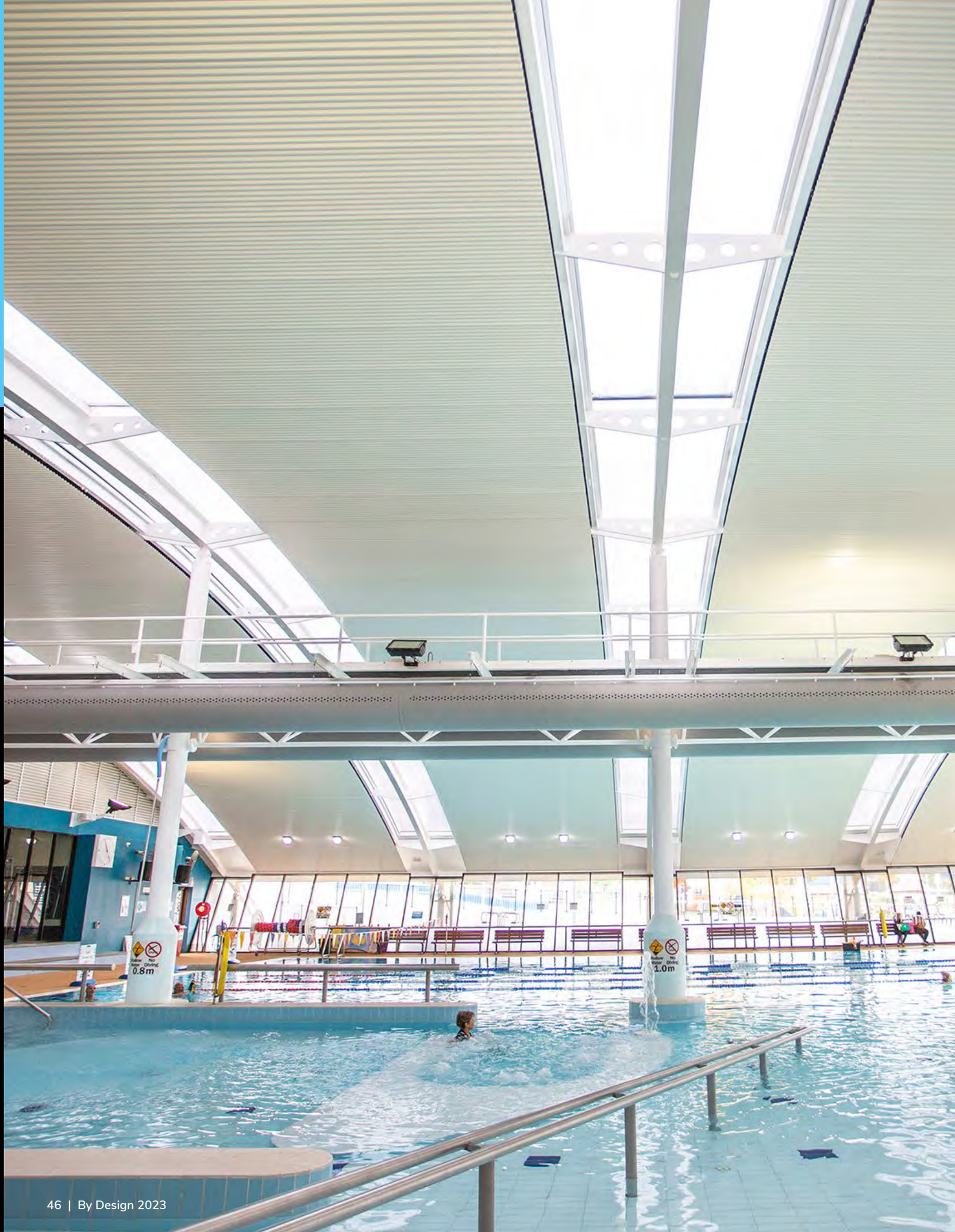
One of the key advantages of the Natural Weatherboard is its durability. The hardwood used in this product range is known for its strength and resistance to decay and rot, making it an ideal choice for buildings in areas that are prone to harsh weather conditions. Furthermore, the hardwood is treated with Weathertex's proprietary preservative, which helps to protect the wood from insect damage and fungal decay.

Another key feature of the Natural Weatherboard is its low maintenance requirements. Unlike other building materials that require regular painting and sealing, the Natural Weatherboard is designed to weather and age naturally over time. This not only saves homeowners time and money on maintenance, but also gives their buildings a unique and attractive appearance.

Designer: Reece Keil

In terms of sustainability, the Natural Weatherboard is a great choice. The hardwood used in this product range is sourced from responsibly managed forests, and the production process is designed to minimize waste and emissions. Additionally, the hardwood used in the Natural Weatherboard is a renewable resource, making it a sustainable option for those who are looking to reduce their carbon footprint.

In conclusion, the Natural Weatherboard product range from Weathertex is a popular and highly recommended option for those who are looking for a durable, low-maintenance and eco-friendly cladding solution for their building exteriors. With its range of textures and finishes, and its commitment to sustainability, the Natural Weatherboard is the perfect choice for those who want a cladding solution that not only looks great but also helps to protect the environment.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Permalite®

GIVES COASTAL DWELLERS THE PERFECT WAVE

The holy grail of building materials is one that can deliver aesthetic appeal and inspire creative design, while offering the functional benefits of longevity and low maintenance qualities, even in the most demanding environments.

For the owners of a new residential build in the coastal town of Middleton, South Australia, it was PERMALITE WAVELINE® cladding from Lysaght that helped meet all areas of this brief. It was also an apt product choice given the nearby swells of Middleton Beach, and because the building incorporated a cresting wave-inspired roof and wall design that dominates the home's appearance.

Aside from offering the flexibility to be rolled into the desired radius in six metre lengths, an even more important feature of the PERMALITE WAVELINE® cladding is its aluminium substrate. All PERMALITE® roofing and walling products are shaped from aluminium that meets AS/NZS 1734:1997 standards. The 5251/5052 grade aluminium used in the manufacture of WAVELINE® is high strength marine quality, which offers exceptional resistance to corrosion in marine or industrial environments, hence its suitability for harsh coastal locations.

Lysaght Business Development Manager, Tony Wood, said that WAVELINE® was an ideal choice of material for the Middleton project.

"In choosing WAVELINE®, the builder and creative designer Shane Hendriks from ABC Advanced Building Constructions PL, saw an opportunity to take a different approach to satisfy the customer's design brief while still falling within the project budget," Tony said

"Increasingly architects and builders are understanding what's possible with PERMALITE® aluminium building products – they're achieving the look they want while also benefiting from generous warranty periods which provide owners – particularly those by the ocean – with added peace of mind."

WAVELINE® is available in mill finish, standard finish or in a choice of seven paint finishes meaning there's plenty

of options to suit almost any architectural style.

ABC Advanced Building Constructions Director, Shane Hendriks, said specifying WAVELINE® cladding for the project was an easy decision.

“For any projects within one kilometre of the ocean, we’ve been recommending and using products from the PERMALITE® range for a number of years,” Shane said.

“As far as I’m concerned, PERMALITE® products are the only ones I trust in these coastal environments with the added benefit of meeting NCC (National Construction Code) requirements.

> “While it’s a bit more expensive than alternative steel products, I can comfortably tell my clients that the warranty will stand because it is backed by Lysaght’s parent company, BlueScope. It’s a case of pay a little extra now because it will save you peeling the roof off and redoing it in 15 years’ time,” Shane explained.

Versatility

Along with its suitability for use in marine environments for both residential and commercial structures the durability of PERMALITE® also makes it an ideal building product solution for applications that may be challenging for other building materials including indoor swimming pools, chemical storage, fertiliser storage, intense industrial locations and even structures built over water.

PERMALITE® range overview

As well as the WAVELINE® profile, which is inspired by Australia’s iconic corrugated roofing style, the PERMALITE® range also includes several other profile options including ALSULATE-125®, ALSPAN®, LT7® and V-RIB®, giving extra choice depending on aesthetic and construction requirements.

V-RIB®

Suitable for both wall and roof cladding, PERMALITE V-RIB® provides a generous 915mm cover and a strong symmetrical look. A double capillary drain in the rib also ensures weather security. V-RIB® is available in 0.70mm, 0.90mm and 1.2mm thickness.

LT7®

With its strength, water carrying capacity, ease of installation, eave closing features and ability to be reversed to provide a bold wall effect, PERMALITE LT7® is extremely versatile. It’s also available in a choice of 0.70mm, 0.90mm and 1.2mm thickness.

ALSPAN®

As the name suggests, ALSPAN® was created to offer builders and homeowners wide spanning capabilities. Its distinctive ribs and wide pans also give it high water carrying capacity along with aesthetic appeal. Available in 0.70mm and 0.90mm thicknesses, ALSPAN® and is a good option for roofs that will be accessed by foot traffic as part of regular building maintenance.

WAVELINE®

As featured in the Middleton home, WAVELINE® cladding can be used as both walling and roof cladding and offers 990mm cover. Its pleasing traditional corrugated appearance also means that it's ideal for both traditional and contemporary projects.

Colours and finishes to suit

PERMALITE® cladding is available in a variety of finishes and standard colours.

Where a prepainted finish is required, there is a range of popular colours available developed using the coil coating expertise of Lysaght's parent company and supplier - BlueScope.

Alternatively, the option of an unpainted Mill Finish provides a smooth, lustrous appearance that dulls through the weathering process, enhancing the material's natural corrosion resistance. The Stucco Embossed Finish is a modified Mill Finish that reduces reflectiveness in applications or locations where this may be needed.

ALSULATE-125®

ALSULATE-125® combines the corrosion resistance of aluminium with the exceptional insulation qualities of a sandwich panel. Its clever sandwich design offers both insulative and structural advantages to deliver outstanding watertightness and durability combined with stunning looks. A variety of flashings and ridge covers are available to cap off the roof design.

Gutters and accessories

A full selection of aluminium gutters, custom flashings and accessories are available to complement the PERMALITE® range.

Peace of mind

PERMALITE® aluminium products are backed by generous BlueScope warranties of up to 40 years. Warranties are project specific and subject to terms and conditions, so please contact your Lysaght representative for additional details.

The PERMALITE® range is manufactured exclusively by Lysaght and available nationally.

For more information about the PERMALITE® aluminium product range visit **www.permalite.com.au**

permalite

THE SMART CHOICE FOR THE HARSHEST CONDITIONS

In aggressive environments such as water frontages, industrial facilities or any application where corrosion becomes a major concern, PERMALITE® aluminium building products from Lysaght are the stand-out choice for long term performance and peace of mind.

PERMALITE® aluminium roofing, walling, structural and extrusions are:

- **Shaped from marine grade aluminium**
- **Ideal for aggressive and corrosive environments**
- **Lighter weight**
- **Available in a choice of profiles and colours**
- **Backed by generous warranties of up to 40 years***

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*Conditions apply – contact Lysaght for details.

LYSAGHT | A division of BlueScope

INSPIRATION TO BUILD BETTER

Ensuring Building Safety and Performance:

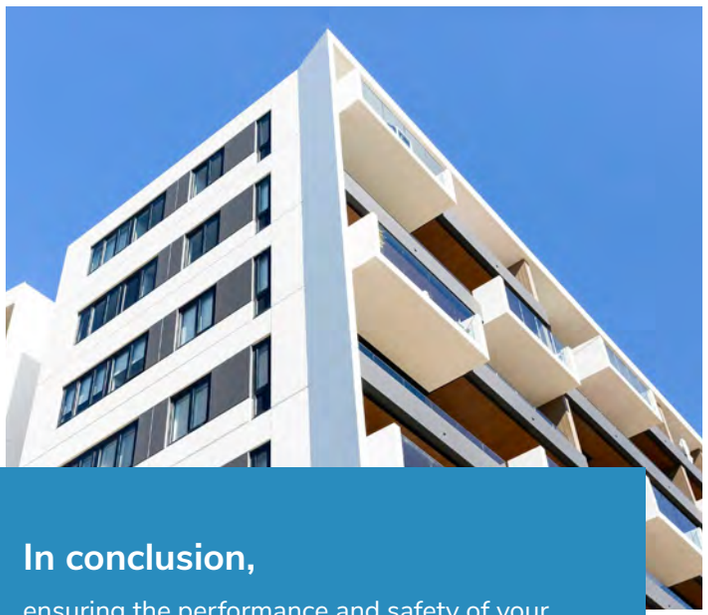
OF AAMA 501.2 FACADE TESTING

The facade of a building is an essential component that provides structural support, insulation, and aesthetic appeal. It is important to ensure that the facade is designed and installed to meet the highest standards of performance and safety. Australia has a relatively thorough set of standards that cover all elements of façade performance including testing of prototypes. One area that Australia falls short is on-site verification of building facades. This is where AAMA 501.2 comes in.

The AAMA 501.2 test evaluates the quality of the installation of exterior wall systems, for their resistance to water penetration. The test involves subjecting the façade to a controlled amount water using specialized and calibrated test equipment. Using such a method helps to identify defects that may be present in the façade. These defects might include workmanship errors, installation errors due to façade complexity, and design shortcomings. Catching these defects early, before construction is complete, means that they can be rectified before damage is caused to the building internals. The earlier these defects are caught the easier – and cheaper – it is to fix them.

One of the primary reasons why it is important to have a facade tested to AAMA 501.2 is to provide confidence that the building is safe and secure. A faulty facade can compromise the structural integrity of the building, leading to potential safety hazards for occupants and passersby. Additionally, uncontrolled water in a facade can lead to mold and mildew which in-turn can have significant health impacts on the occupants of the building.

A facade that has been tested to AAMA 501.2 will have undergone a thorough evaluation of its integrity and its installation quality. This testing provides confidence that the facade is installed properly and minimizes the risk of warranty claims. By testing the facade, any weak points or potential failures can be identified and addressed before they become major issues.



In conclusion,

ensuring the performance and safety of your building facade is a crucial step in the success of your building. By having your facade tested to the AAMA 501.2 standard, you can demonstrate your commitment to quality, safety, and sustainability, while also providing a safer and healthier building. Don't hesitate to invest in facade testing, as it can ultimately save you money and improve the value of your property.

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Charred Timber

THE TRENDING BUILDING MATERIAL FOR ECO-FRIENDLY AND DURABLE HOMES

In recent years, there has been a growing trend in the construction of homes clad in charred timber, also known as Shou Sugi Ban. This traditional Japanese technique of preserving wood by charring it has been gaining popularity in the Western world due to its unique aesthetic, durability, and fire resistance. In this article, we will explore the reasons for its growing popularity and the benefits of using charred timber as a building material.

Aesthetic appeal:

One of the most striking features of homes clad in charred timber is their unique aesthetic. The process of charring the wood creates a deep, rich black finish that is not only visually appealing but also weather-resistant. The natural texture of the wood is highlighted by the charring process, and this texture is further emphasized by the contrasting color of the charred wood and the lighter color of the surrounding materials.

Durability:

Another advantage of using charred timber as a building material is its durability. The charring process seals the wood, making it resistant to rot, insects, and water damage. This means that homes clad in charred timber have a longer lifespan than those constructed using traditional wood materials. Furthermore, the high carbon content of charred wood makes it more resistant to fire, providing an added layer of protection for the home and its occupants.

One of the most striking features of homes clad in charred timber is their **unique aesthetic**.

Sustainability:

Charred timber is also a sustainable building material, as it is made from locally sourced wood and the charring process is non-toxic. Additionally, the process of charring the wood requires less energy than other forms of wood preservation, making it a more environmentally friendly option.

Fire resistance:

One of the most significant benefits of homes clad in charred timber is their fire resistance. The high carbon content of the wood, combined with the sealing effect of the charring process, makes it extremely resistant to fire. This means that homes clad in charred timber have a much lower risk of being destroyed by fire, providing peace of mind to homeowners and insurance providers alike.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the popularity of homes clad in charred timber is growing rapidly due to its unique aesthetic appeal, durability, sustainability, and fire resistance. These benefits, combined with the growing demand for eco-friendly and sustainable building materials, make charred timber an excellent choice for those looking to build or renovate their homes. Whether you are building a new home or remodeling an existing one, incorporating charred timber into your design is a trend that is here to stay.

Brutalist Concrete Structures

A TREND THAT DEFIES TIME

Brutalist architecture, with its raw and rugged concrete structures, is making a comeback in the world of design and construction. This distinctive style, which was popular in the mid-20th century, is a stark contrast to the sleek and polished buildings that have dominated the skyline in recent years.

Brutalism, which takes its name from the French word “béton brut” meaning raw concrete, was first introduced in the 1950s by Swiss architect Le Corbusier. He believed that architecture should be functional and honest, and that buildings should showcase the materials used in their construction. This philosophy was reflected in his use of rough concrete surfaces, functional geometric forms, and large open spaces.

The trend of brutalist concrete structures has been making a comeback in recent years, and architects and designers are once again embracing the raw beauty of concrete. This trend is particularly evident in the design of public buildings, such as museums, libraries, and cultural centers, where the focus is on creating spaces that are welcoming, functional, and accessible to all.

One of the key features of brutalist architecture is the use of raw concrete surfaces, which are left unpolished and unadorned. This gives the buildings a rugged and organic look, and makes them stand out in a world of sleek and polished structures. The rough texture of concrete also creates a sense of permanence and stability, which is especially important in public buildings.

Another key aspect of brutalist architecture is the use of simple and functional geometric forms. This is seen in the clean lines and sharp angles of buildings, which give them a strong and imposing presence. The use of large open spaces, such as atriums and courtyards, also adds to the sense of spaciousness and freedom that is often associated with brutalist structures.

While some may argue that brutalist concrete structures are harsh and uninviting, many people are drawn to their raw beauty and functional simplicity. This trend is a reflection of a growing appreciation for the honesty and simplicity of mid-century design, and a desire to create spaces that are both functional and aesthetically pleasing.

In conclusion, the trend of brutalist concrete structures is a testament to the timeless appeal of raw materials and functional design. This style of architecture is making a comeback in a world that is increasingly focused on sustainability, functionality, and accessibility, and it is sure to continue to inspire architects and designers for years to come.

Sensory Architecture

THE NEW PARADIGM FOR AUSTRALIAN BUILDINGS

Sensory architecture is a growing trend in the field of architecture, which is focused on the design of buildings that stimulate and engage the senses. It is an approach that is gaining traction in Australia, as architects seek to create spaces that offer a more immersive and multi-sensory experience for their occupants.

The concept of sensory architecture is rooted in the idea that our senses play a critical role in how we experience the built environment. While most buildings are designed primarily for visual appeal, sensory architecture takes a more holistic approach, considering how a building feels, sounds, and even smells. By designing buildings that stimulate all the senses, architects aim to create spaces that are not just functional, but also uplifting and enjoyable to inhabit.

Sensory architecture can be applied to a wide range of building types, from homes and offices to public spaces like museums and parks. In residential architecture, for example, sensory design might include the use of natural materials like wood and stone, which create a tactile and visually appealing environment. It might also involve the use of natural light and ventilation, which can create a more pleasant and comfortable living space.

In commercial architecture, sensory design can be used to create a more engaging and memorable experience for customers. This might involve the use of dynamic lighting and sound systems, which can create a sense of energy and excitement. It might also involve the use of scent, which can be used to create a particular mood or atmosphere.

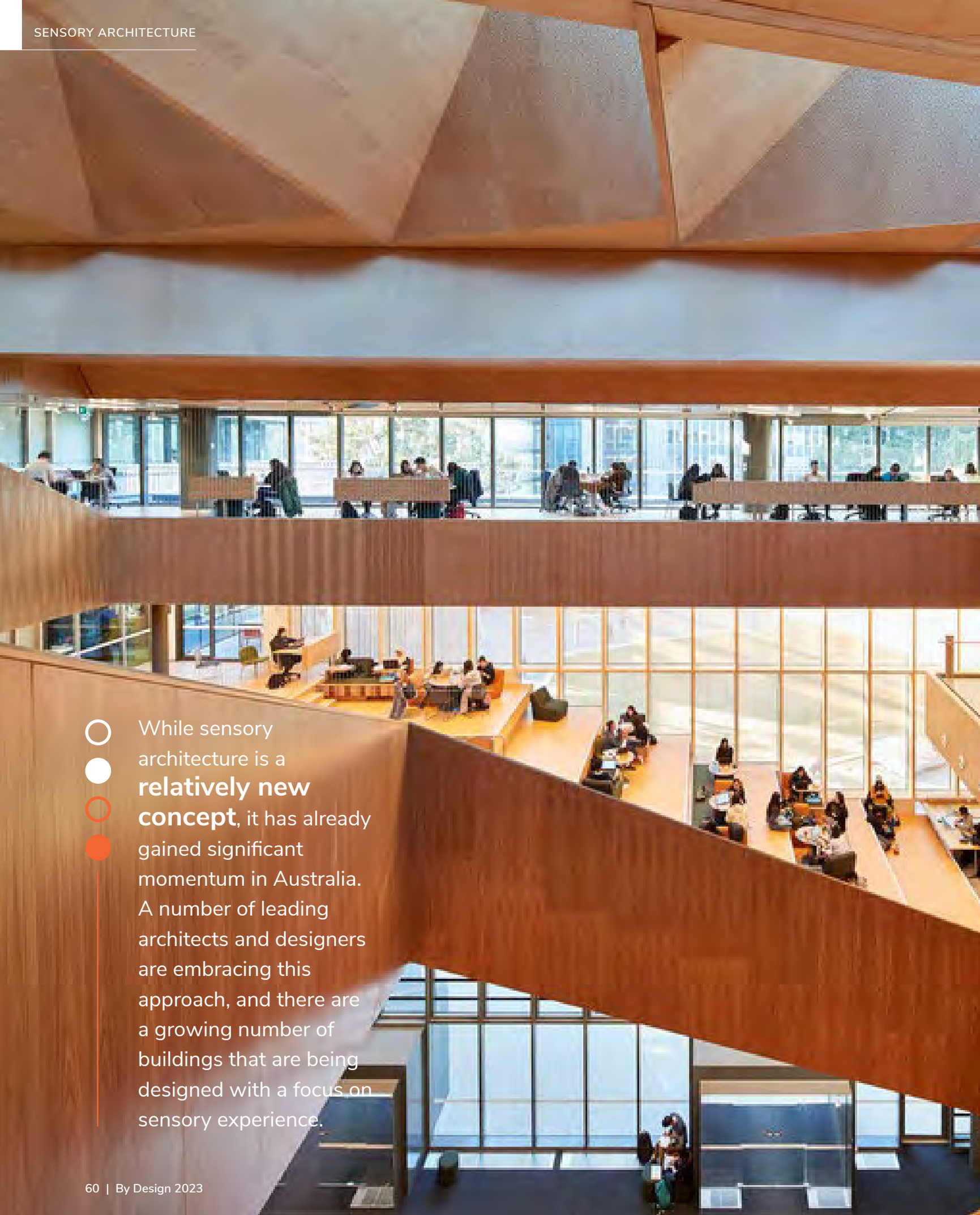
One of the key benefits of sensory architecture is its ability to create a more positive and uplifting environment for people. By engaging multiple senses, sensory architecture can help to reduce stress, increase energy levels, and improve overall well-being. This is particularly important in public spaces like museums and parks, where people are often seeking a break from the stresses of daily life.

Another benefit of sensory architecture is its potential to improve accessibility for people with disabilities. By designing buildings that engage multiple senses, architects can create a more inclusive environment that accommodates a wider range of needs. For example, the use of dynamic lighting and sound systems can be beneficial for people with visual or hearing impairments.

Sensory architecture can also have a positive impact on the environment. By using natural materials and incorporating sustainable design principles, architects can create buildings that are more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly. This is particularly important in a country like Australia, where the need to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change is increasingly urgent.

In commercial architecture, **sensory design** can be used to create a more engaging and memorable experience for customers.

Designer: Chris McCabe



While sensory architecture is a **relatively new concept**, it has already gained significant momentum in Australia. A number of leading architects and designers are embracing this approach, and there are a growing number of buildings that are being designed with a focus on sensory experience.

Designer: John Wardle Architects

One such building is the UTS Central project, which is currently under construction in Sydney. Designed by FJMT, the building is intended to be a “vertical campus” that brings together a range of academic and research facilities. The design of the building is focused on creating a multi-sensory experience for its occupants, with features like a large atrium that allows natural light to flood the interior, and a range of public spaces that are designed to stimulate the senses.

Another example of sensory architecture in Australia is the Monash University Learning and Teaching Building in Melbourne. Designed by John Wardle Architects, the building is intended to be a “living laboratory” for the study of teaching and learning. The design of the building incorporates a range of sensory elements, including a textured concrete façade, a series of light-filled atriums, and a “sound garden” that allows visitors to experience different types of audio stimuli.

As the concept of sensory architecture continues to gain momentum in Australia, it is likely that we will see more and more buildings that are designed to engage the senses in new and innovative ways. Whether in the realm of residential architecture or commercial design , there is significant potential for sensory architecture to transform the way we experience the built environment.

However, there are also some challenges to consider when it comes to implementing sensory architecture. One of the biggest challenges is cost, as incorporating sensory elements into a building can add significant expense to the construction process. There is also a need for greater awareness and education around the benefits of sensory design, in order to ensure that it becomes a more widespread and accepted approach.

Despite these challenges, the potential benefits of sensory architecture make it a trend worth watching in the Australian market. By designing buildings that engage multiple senses and create a more positive and uplifting environment, architects can create spaces that are not just functional, but also truly inspiring to inhabit.

In the years to come, it will be interesting to see how the concept of sensory architecture evolves in Australia and beyond. With its potential to improve well-being, accessibility, and sustainability, it is clear that sensory architecture is much more than just a passing trend – it is a new paradigm for the way we design and experience the built environment.

The Future of Residential Buildings

SUSTAINABLE, SMART AND ADAPTABLE

In 2050, the world's population is predicted to reach nine billion, with three-quarters of people living in urban areas. As such, residential buildings, or the places people call home, will look vastly different from what they look like today. The buildings of the future will need to be sustainable, energy-efficient, and technologically advanced, while also being flexible and adaptable to cater to the complex needs of individuals.

The future of residential buildings will be heavily influenced by technology, and people of 2050 will be quite different from those of today. Most individuals will have grown up with the internet and will likely be living much longer than current predictions. Therefore, future buildings will need to offer the right level of reactivity and be filled with dynamic feedback loops that cater to the complex needs of individuals. The buildings must provide a high level of community integration, and their designs must prioritize flexibility of space for individuals to feel safe and comfortable.

To achieve these goals, buildings will be fitted with smart sensors linked to machine-learning algorithms that will allow for a high level of artificial intelligence. These sensors will enable effortless enjoyment while maintaining sustainability at the heart of every decision. Such an approach will make the buildings of the future more than just physical spaces but will create living organisms that work symbiotically with individuals.

In addition to smart sensors, the buildings of the future will be constructed using new building materials that are self-healing/cleaning, fully recyclable, and adaptable to many different elements or uses. Kinetic materials and advanced energy systems, be they solar, wind, or waste, will enable the building to self-generate its own energy needs. This approach will be closely linked to onsite food production, water purification, and CO_2 capture for conversion.

The buildings of the future will be constructed using new building materials that are self-healing/cleaning, fully recyclable, and adaptable to many different elements or uses.

Although this all sounds like science fiction, the timeline is only thirty years away, so construction industry stakeholders must begin taking bold decisions and embracing new technologies to build the future. Government regulations will also play a significant role in shaping the construction industry, with the UK government recently announcing that it will upgrade existing gas boilers with new heat pump technology and ban the sale of new gas boilers from 2035.

However, the construction industry remains one of the most fragmented sectors, lagging behind other industries such as aerospace and automotive. Therefore, industry stakeholders must adopt a collaborative approach to meet the challenges ahead. Communication with clients will be crucial to ensuring that sustainable and beautiful buildings are delivered, with protection for people, nature, and the planet at the forefront of every decision. The entire supply chain must collaborate to source, manufacture, and maintain the right building material elements.

In conclusion, the buildings of the future must be sustainable, smart, and adaptable. They must cater to the complex needs of individuals, provide a high level of community integration, and prioritize flexibility of space. New technologies such as smart sensors and machine learning algorithms will play a significant role in creating living organisms that work symbiotically with individuals. Such buildings will be constructed using new building materials that are self-healing/cleaning, fully recyclable, and adaptable to many different elements or uses. To achieve these goals, industry stakeholders must take bold decisions and adopt a collaborative approach to meet the challenges ahead.

Sustainable design is a critical issue in Australia, as the country faces a growing population and an increasing demand for energy, resources, and space. In order to create sustainable buildings that are environmentally friendly and energy-efficient, designers and builders must adopt a new design philosophy that prioritises sustainability.

Sustainable Design in Australia:

A PATH TO A GREENER FUTURE

Designer: Michael Drage

One of the key principles of sustainable architecture in Australia is the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, to reduce the building's dependence on fossil fuels. This can be achieved through the use of solar panels, wind turbines, and other alternative energy technologies. Additionally, buildings can be designed to take advantage of natural light and ventilation, reducing the need for artificial lighting and heating.

Another important aspect of sustainable architecture in Australia is the use of sustainable materials. This involves selecting building materials that have a low environmental impact and are recyclable, such as bamboo, recycled glass, and low-VOC (volatile organic compound) materials. Using these materials helps to reduce the building's carbon footprint and contributes to a healthier indoor environment.

> Buildings can be designed to take advantage of natural light and ventilation, reducing the need for artificial lighting and heating.

Water conservation is also a critical aspect of sustainable architecture in Australia. This can be achieved through the use of rainwater harvesting systems, low-flow plumbing fixtures, and other water-saving technologies. These measures help to reduce the building's water usage and protect this precious resource.

Finally, sustainable architecture in Australia must take into account the local climate and natural environment. For example, buildings in coastal regions should be designed to withstand strong winds and salt exposure, while buildings in the outback should be designed to minimize their impact on the fragile desert environment.

In conclusion, sustainable architecture in Australia is a critical issue that requires a multi-disciplinary approach to ensure that our buildings are environmentally friendly, energy-efficient, and sustainable. By adopting a design philosophy that prioritizes sustainability, architects and builders can help to create a more sustainable future for all Australians.

Designer: Michael Drage

The Rise of Prefabricated Architecture in Australia:

A SOLUTION TO THE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CRISIS

Prefabricated architecture is a rapidly growing trend in Australia and is quickly gaining popularity as a solution to the country's housing shortage and affordability crisis. Prefabricated, or prefab, homes are built off-site and then assembled on-site, reducing the time and cost involved in traditional building methods. In this article, we will explore the reasons behind the rise of prefabricated architecture in Australia and why it has become a popular option for many Australians.

C.D. Smith Construction

One of the main reasons for the growth of prefabricated architecture in Australia is the increasing demand for affordable housing. With the rising cost of building traditional homes, many people are looking for alternative solutions that can provide them with a comfortable and affordable place to live. Prefabricated homes offer a cost-effective alternative, as the bulk of the construction work is done off-site, reducing the need for expensive on-site labour and cutting down on construction time.

Another factor contributing to the growth of prefabricated architecture in Australia is the shortage of skilled labour. The construction industry in Australia is facing a shortage of skilled workers, leading to a backlog of projects and rising costs. With prefabricated homes, much of the construction work is done in a controlled factory environment, reducing the reliance on skilled labour and making it easier to complete projects on time and on budget.

One of the main reasons for the growth of prefabricated architecture in Australia is the increasing demand for affordable housing.

In addition to cost and labour savings, prefabricated homes also offer several other benefits. They are often more environmentally friendly than traditional homes, as the off-site construction process reduces waste and allows for greater control over materials and energy usage. Prefabricated homes also offer greater design flexibility, allowing homeowners to customize their homes to their specific needs and tastes.

The rise of prefabricated architecture in Australia is also being driven by advancements in technology. New materials and construction methods have made it possible to build high-quality, energy-efficient homes that are both durable and attractive. Additionally, advances in transportation and logistics have made it easier to transport prefabricated homes to remote or difficult-to-reach locations, making them a viable option for people living in rural or regional areas.

In conclusion, the trend and rise of prefabricated architecture in Australia is a response to the country's growing demand for affordable and sustainable housing solutions. With its many benefits, including cost savings, reduced reliance on skilled labour, and greater design flexibility, it is no wonder that prefabricated homes are becoming an increasingly popular option for many Australians. As the trend continues to grow, it is likely that we will see more and more innovative and sustainable prefabricated homes being built in the years to come.

Contract Departure Schedules:

WHAT ARE THEY AND WHAT SHOULD THEY COVER?

Departure Schedules Explained

The success of a project is largely tied to the content of the related contract. Often, when large principals or head contractors are involved, the proposed contracts are heavily weighted in favour of the principal/head contractor and border on unfair. It is critical that contractors or suppliers carefully review the proposed contract during the tender phase and negotiate any terms to protect their position and minimise potential risk.

Draft changes to the contract are usually proposed to the other party by way of a Contract Departure Schedule, which identifies the relevant clause and proposes amendments to the clause for the other party's consideration.

Key Items raised in a departure schedule

In terms of risk management, the following items are key considerations and are matters typically raised in a Contract Departure Schedule:

1. **PROPORTIONATE LIABILITY** – does proportionate liability apply under the Contract? Legislation in some states prohibits contracts from excluding the operation of proportionate liability.
2. **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY** – are there any limits to liability and carve outs to the limitation of liability provisions that may still pose a risk?
3. **DISCLAIMER FOR CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS** – is there a disclaimer for consequential loss? If so, are there any carve outs that may still pose a risk?
4. **LIQUIDATED DAMAGES** – are there liquidated damages or general damages for delay? Are such damages capped? Generally, liquidated damages should be quantified and capped at the time of contract to give certainty to you about your potential liability and avoid future disputes.
5. **DEFECTS LIABILITY PERIOD** – what is the defect liability period? Are there any extension provisions and what does the extension apply to?
6. **SECURITY** – what is the proposed form and amount of security? What, if any, are the preconditions to the return of security?
7. **PAYMENT** – are there any preconditions to payment? What are the time frames for payment? Does the contract seek to amend or limit the operation of the relevant state or territory security of payment legislation?
8. **VARIATIONS** – does the contract allow variations and what are the pre-conditions for a valid claim?
9. **EXCUSABLE/QUALIFYING CAUSES OF DELAY** – is there an ability to claim for extensions of time and claim delay damages? What is the procedure for making a claim? Are the timeframes proposed fair and reasonable? What are the circumstances that allow a right to claim for an extension of time? Are there rights to claim delay damages for excusable/qualifying causes of delay? Are those claims capped?
10. **SITE ISSUES** – does the contract contain any warranties about the site and its condition? What does it say about liability for latent defects?
11. **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY** – what does the contract say about ownership of IP and licensing? Who owns the IP and when and how can it be used, modified, revoked, transferred, or assigned?
12. **HEALTH, SAFETY, AND ENVIRONMENT** – who is the principal contractor for the purposes of Work Health and Safety legislation? If a contractor is not assuming possession of the site, then it should not assume the role of principal contractor. This can vary from project to project.
13. **TITLE, RISK AND PPSR SECURITIES** – when does title in the works performed or goods supplied pass? When does risk in the works/goods pass? Registering a PPSR security interest over goods supplied can offer protection if a head contractor/principal goes into administration or liquidation.
14. **FORCE MAJEURE** – what constitutes a force majeure event and what happens following an event?
15. **SUSPENSION** – does the contract allow claims following suspension of works/supply of goods?
16. **TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE** – does the contract allow claims following termination i.e. for works performed to the date of termination plus committed purchases?

These are by no means the only aspects worthy of consideration. It is important the entire contract is carefully read and understood.

Construction and commercial contracts can be lengthy, complicated, ambiguous, and unfairly sided in favour of large contractors and the above are just some of the key issues that can arise. Keystone are specialists in construction and commercial law and can expertly review and prepare departure schedules to help contractors navigate the tender phase with confidence knowing their interests are protected to the fullest extent possible.

Building the Future:

THE RISE OF 3D-PRINTED ARCHITECTURE IN AUSTRALIA

The field of architecture has been rapidly evolving in recent years, and one of the most exciting new trends is the use of 3D printing in construction. This innovative technology is transforming the way architects and builders create buildings, allowing them to achieve new levels of precision, efficiency, and creativity. In this article, we will take a closer look at the features and benefits of 3D-printed architecture and discuss why it is becoming an increasingly popular option for architects and builders in Australia.

One of the key features of 3D-printed architecture is its precision. Traditional construction methods, such as manual labour or prefabricated materials, can often result in inaccuracies and inconsistencies that can be costly and time-consuming to correct. With 3D printing, architects can create precise, detailed models of their designs that are then translated into actual building components with incredible accuracy. This not only saves time and reduces waste, but it also ensures that the final product meets the exact specifications of the design, resulting in a more consistent and high-quality finished product.

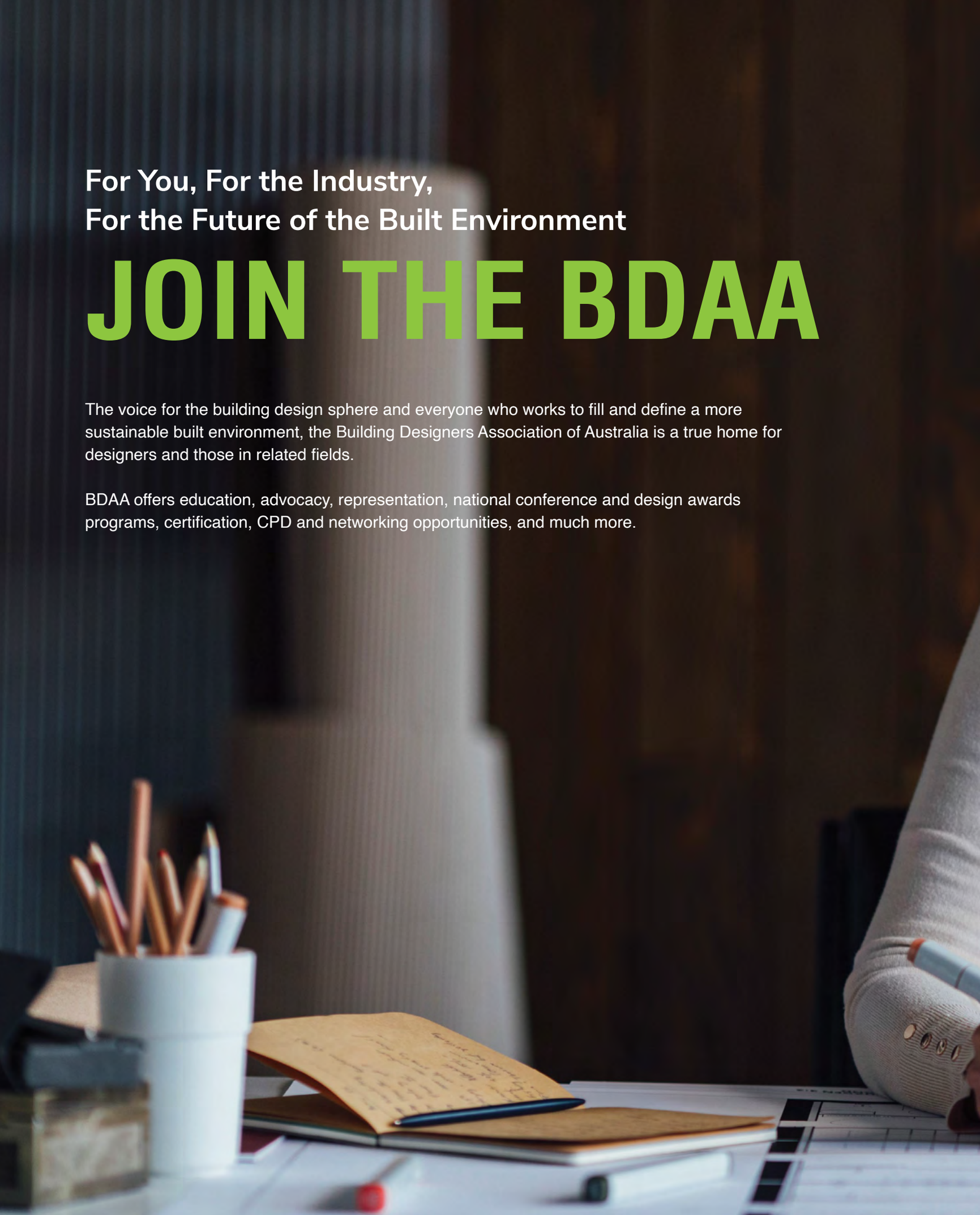
Another major benefit of 3D-printed architecture is its efficiency. In traditional construction, much of the time and energy is spent on manual labour, such as cutting and fitting pieces together. With 3D printing, however, the entire process is automated, allowing architects and builders to complete projects much faster. This can result in significant time and cost savings, especially for larger and more complex projects. Additionally, 3D printing reduces the amount of waste generated during construction, as excess materials can be recycled or reused, helping to minimize the environmental impact of building projects.

The flexibility of 3D-printed architecture is also a major advantage. With traditional building methods, making changes to a design after construction has started can be a time-consuming and expensive process. With 3D printing, however, architects can easily make changes to their designs and quickly print out new components to replace any that no longer fit. This allows for much greater flexibility and adaptability during the construction process, and it means that architects can make changes to their designs as needed without adding significant time or cost to the project.

One of the most exciting aspects of 3D-printed architecture is its creative potential. With this technology, architects are no longer limited by traditional building methods and materials. They can create designs that are far more complex and intricate than anything that could be achieved with traditional building techniques, and they can even experiment with new and unconventional building materials, such as bio-based materials or recycled plastics. This opens up a world of new possibilities for architects and builders, allowing them to create truly unique and innovative structures.

The future of 3D-printed architecture is bright, and experts believe that it will become an increasingly popular option for architects and builders in Australia. According to recent research, the global market for 3D printing in construction is expected to grow significantly over the next decade, reaching a value of more than $5 billion by 2030. This growth is being driven by a number of factors, including increasing demand for faster, more efficient, and more sustainable construction methods, as well as a growing interest in the creative potential of 3D printing.

In conclusion, 3D-printed architecture is a powerful and transformative technology that is changing the way we build and design buildings. With its precision, efficiency, flexibility, and creative potential, it is no wonder that it is becoming an increasingly popular option for architects and builders in Australia and around the world. Whether you are a seasoned architect or a newcomer to the field, it is clear that 3D printing will play a major role in the future of architecture and construction, and it is an exciting time to be part of this rapidly evolving industry.



For You, For the Industry, For the Future of the Built Environment

JOIN THE BDAA

The voice for the building design sphere and everyone who works to fill and define a more sustainable built environment, the Building Designers Association of Australia is a true home for designers and those in related fields.

BDAA offers education, advocacy, representation, national conference and design awards programs, certification, CPD and networking opportunities, and much more.


bdaa
BUILDING DESIGNERS
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Join the BDAA today for a brighter, more sustainable tomorrow.

Smart Buildings of the Future:

MAKING OUR LIVES EASIER

Smart buildings are becoming more and more popular in our modern world, and the future of these buildings looks even brighter. Smart buildings use sensors, automated systems, and connectivity to provide enhanced comfort, safety, and efficiency. They can help reduce energy consumption, optimize space, and enable people to interact with the buildings they occupy. In the future, smart buildings will be an integral part of our daily lives, helping to make our lives easier.

The smart buildings of the future will provide a more personalized experience for their occupants. They will use sensors to detect their occupants' presence and adapt the environment to their preferences automatically. For example, they will automatically adjust the temperature, lighting, and air quality to provide maximum comfort. The buildings will use machine learning algorithms to analyze data on the occupants' habits, preferences, and behaviors to provide a tailored experience. The building systems will also communicate with other devices such as wearables and smartphones to provide a more integrated experience.

Another critical aspect of the smart buildings of the future will be their ability to communicate with their occupants. The buildings will use digital assistants and voice commands to interact with their occupants. They will also use augmented and virtual reality to provide an immersive experience. For example, the buildings could use virtual reality to simulate different environments to provide a more immersive experience. They could also use augmented reality to overlay digital information on the real world, such as instructions on how to use the building's systems or directions to different areas of the building.

The smart buildings of the future will also be more energy-efficient. They will use sensors and automated systems to optimize energy consumption. For example, the buildings will use sensors to detect the number of occupants in a room and adjust the lighting and temperature to match their preferences automatically. The buildings will also use machine learning algorithms to analyze energy consumption data to optimize energy usage. The buildings will also use renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and geothermal energy to provide power.

Another critical aspect of the smart buildings of the future will be their ability to communicate with their occupants. The buildings will use digital assistants and voice commands to interact with their occupants.

The smart buildings of the future will also provide enhanced safety and security. They will use sensors and automated systems to monitor the building's systems and detect any potential hazards. For example, the buildings will use sensors to detect smoke and fire and activate sprinkler systems and alarms automatically. The buildings will also use video cameras and facial recognition technology to detect unauthorized access and alert security personnel.

Finally, the smart buildings of the future will be more interconnected. They will use the internet of things (IoT) to communicate with other buildings and devices. For example, the buildings could use IoT to share energy consumption data to optimize energy usage across a city. They could also use IoT to communicate with other buildings in a smart city to optimize traffic flow and parking.

In conclusion, the smart buildings of the future will provide a more personalized experience for their occupants, use digital assistants and voice commands to interact with their occupants, be more energy-efficient, provide enhanced safety and security, and be more interconnected. They will help make our lives easier and more comfortable by providing an immersive experience that adapts to our preferences and habits. They will also be more sustainable and help reduce energy consumption, making them an essential part of a smart city's infrastructure. While some of these technologies may sound like science fiction, they are already being implemented in many buildings worldwide, making the smart buildings of the future a very realistic vision.

The Rise of Building Design:

A GROWING INDUSTRY IN AUSTRALIA

Building design is a rapidly growing industry in Australia, as more and more people are recognizing the benefits of working with building designers for their construction projects. Building designers are professionals who specialize in designing and overseeing the construction of buildings. They offer a range of services, from conceptual design and planning to project management and construction supervision, to ensure that the building process is as efficient and cost-effective as possible.

One of the main reasons for the growth of the building design industry in Australia is the increasing demand for custom-designed homes. Building designers work closely with their clients to create unique and personalized design solutions that reflect their personal style and taste. This level of customization is particularly appealing to homeowners who want their homes to be a true reflection of their individuality.

In addition to custom homes, building designers are also in demand for their expertise in creating functional and efficient designs. Building designers have the necessary training and experience to create design plans that meet local building codes and regulations, as well as their clients' needs and requirements. They can also help clients save money by finding cost-effective solutions for their building projects and ensuring that the construction process is as streamlined as possible.

The growth of the building design industry in Australia has also been driven by advances in technology. Building designers are now able to use computer-aided design (CAD) software to create highly detailed and accurate designs, which makes the design process faster and more efficient. In addition, building designers can use virtual reality technology to give their clients a 3D representation of their proposed design, allowing them to see exactly what their building will look like before construction begins.

The growth of the building design industry in Australia has also been driven by advances in technology. Building designers are now able to use computer-aided design (CAD) software to create highly detailed and accurate designs, which makes the design process faster and more efficient.

The growth of the building design industry in Australia can also be attributed to the increasing awareness of the importance of sustainability and energy efficiency in construction. Building designers are trained to create designs that are sustainable and energy-efficient, using materials and techniques that are environmentally friendly and reduce energy costs for homeowners.

In conclusion, the building design industry in Australia is a rapidly growing and dynamic field, offering a range of services that are in high demand. Building designers offer a combination of technical expertise, creativity, and personalized attention, making them an increasingly popular choice for homeowners and businesses looking to construct new buildings. With the growth of technology and the increasing focus on sustainability, the building design industry is poised for continued growth in the years to come.

Designer: Reece Keil

Hampton Hues & Coastal Chic

In recent years, Australia has experienced a surge in popularity for Coastal and Hamptons Luxe home designs, reflecting the country's relaxed lifestyle. These two styles offer unique perspectives on beach-inspired living, with Hamptons style incorporating luxury and elegance, while Coastal style incorporates a more raw, bohemian feel.

The key to creating a successful interpretation of either style is to maintain a light, airy aesthetic. Neutral colors such as grey, white, and blue serve as the foundation, while incorporating elements of seaside living to achieve a refined, timeless look.

For both interior and exterior design, Weathertex cladding and Classic Shingles Plus are the ideal sustainable building materials. Inside the home, a light and bright color palette with a touch of sophistication can be achieved with Weathertex Selflok weatherboards and Weathergroove panelling for added texture and depth.

The Hamptons style exudes grandeur through smooth weatherboards and Classic Shingles Plus on gables, while still allowing for personal touches with the many available Weathertex smooth textured cladding options.

Designing your Coastal or Hamptons Luxe home with Weathertex is the perfect way to bring a sense of serenity and style to your living space. Take inspiration from some of our amazing customers and let Weathertex help you bring your dream home to life.

Building a Sustainable Future:

THE GROWTH OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN AUSTRALIA'S BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The circular economy is a concept that has gained significant traction in recent years, particularly in the built environment sector in Australia. The circular economy refers to an economic model that aims to eliminate waste and keep resources in use for as long as possible, with the ultimate goal of reducing the dependence on finite resources and mitigating the negative impacts of resource extraction, production, and consumption. The built environment is one of the sectors that has the potential to significantly contribute to the circular economy, as it is responsible for a significant portion of the world's resource consumption and waste generation.

In Australia, the built environment sector has been making progress towards a more circular economy. One of the most significant developments in this direction has been the increased focus on sustainable building practices and the use of environmentally friendly materials. For example, there has been a growing trend towards the use of recycled materials, such as recycled steel and concrete, in construction projects. This not only reduces the demand for virgin materials, but it also helps to divert waste from landfills, which is a key goal of the circular economy.

Another trend in the built environment sector in Australia that is contributing to the circular economy is the increasing use of renewable energy sources. Solar panels, wind turbines, and other renewable energy technologies are being incorporated into new buildings and retrofitted into existing structures, reducing the reliance on non-renewable energy sources and helping to mitigate the environmental impact of energy production. This trend is expected to continue as the cost of renewable energy technologies continues to decrease, making them more accessible to a wider range of consumers.

Another area where the circular economy is gaining traction in the built environment sector in Australia is in the area of waste management. The use of waste-to-energy technologies, such as anaerobic digestion and incineration, is becoming more widespread, providing an alternative to traditional waste disposal methods and reducing the amount of waste that is sent to landfills. This not only reduces the environmental impact of waste disposal, but it also helps to create new sources of energy, which contributes to the circular economy.

The growth of the building design industry in Australia has also been driven by advances in technology. Building designers are now able to use computer-aided design (CAD) software to create highly detailed and accurate designs, which makes the design process faster and more efficient.

In addition to these trends, there is also a growing focus on the reuse and repurposing of existing buildings in the built environment sector in Australia. This is particularly important in cities, where land is becoming increasingly scarce and expensive. By repurposing existing buildings, it is possible to reduce the demand for new construction, which can have significant environmental impacts, and to extend the life of existing structures. This not only helps to conserve resources, but it also contributes to the circular economy by keeping materials and resources in use for as long as possible.

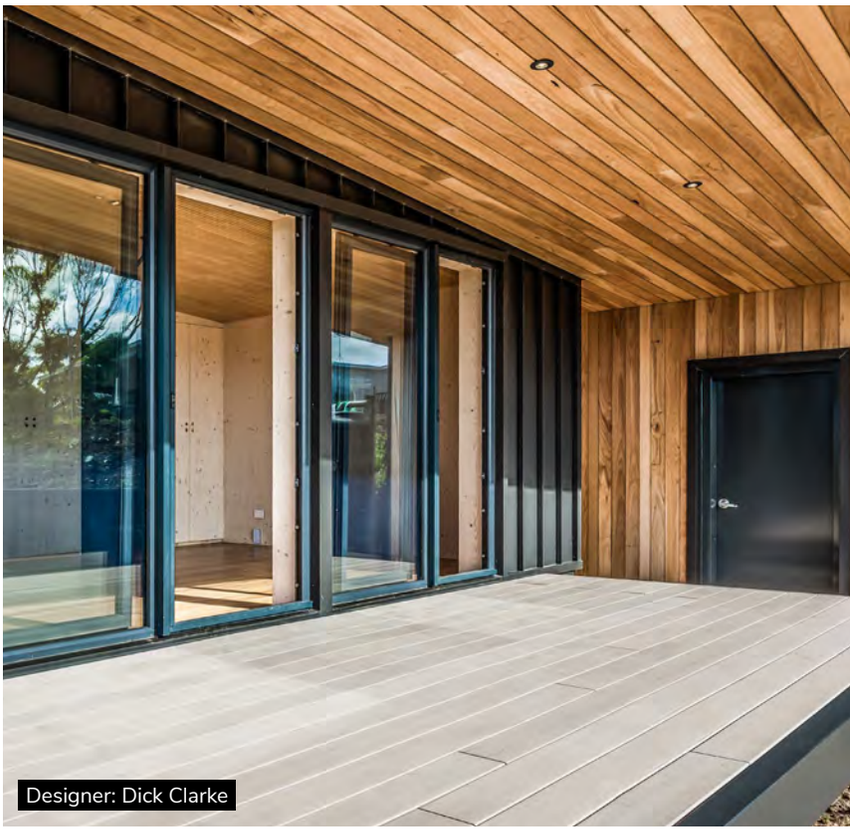
Designer: Dick Clarke

Designer: Dick Clarke

Finally, it is worth mentioning the role that government policy and regulations are playing in promoting the circular economy in the built environment sector in Australia. The Australian government has set ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the use of renewable energy sources, and it has introduced a number of policies and initiatives aimed at promoting the circular economy. For example, the government has established a National Waste Policy, which sets out a framework for reducing waste and promoting the circular economy, and it has introduced a number of financial incentives to encourage the use of sustainable building practices and the use of recycled materials in construction.

In conclusion, the circular economy is becoming an increasingly important concept in the built environment sector in Australia, as the sector seeks to reduce its environmental impact and conserve resources. A number of trends and developments, including the increased use of recycled materials, the incorporation of renewable energy technologies, the focus on waste management, the reuse and repurposing of existing buildings, and government policy and regulations, are all contributing to the growth of the circular economy in this sector. With continued progress in these areas, it is likely that the built environment sector will continue to play a significant role in the transition towards a more sustainable and circular economy. However, there is still much work to be done to fully realize the potential of the circular economy in the built environment sector in Australia. It will require collaboration between governments, businesses, and communities to develop and implement solutions that promote the use of sustainable materials and practices, reduce waste, and conserve resources.

One of the key challenges in achieving a circular economy in the built environment sector is changing the way we think about resource use and waste.



Designer: Dick Clarke

One of the key challenges in achieving a circular economy in the built environment sector is changing the way we think about resource use and waste. The traditional linear model of take-make-use-dispose needs to be replaced by a more circular model, where materials and resources are kept in use for as long as possible, waste is reduced or eliminated, and the negative impacts of resource extraction and consumption are minimized.

In order to achieve this, it will be necessary to invest in research and development to find new and innovative ways to conserve resources and reduce waste. This will involve developing new materials and technologies, as well as improving existing ones, to make them more environmentally friendly and sustainable. It will also require education and awareness-raising efforts to encourage individuals and businesses to adopt more sustainable practices and to support the transition to a circular economy.

Ultimately, the trend towards a circular economy in the built environment sector in Australia is a positive one, and it is essential that we continue to make progress in this direction if we are to achieve a more sustainable and resilient future. By working together, we can create a built environment that supports the health and well-being of both people and the planet, and that helps to conserve resources for future generations.

Rising Demand for Energy Assessors in Australia:

A TREND TOWARDS ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Energy assessors are professionals who evaluate the energy efficiency of buildings and homes. With the increasing concern for energy conservation and reducing carbon footprint, the demand for energy assessors has been on the rise in Australia.

In recent years, the Australian government has implemented various initiatives to promote energy efficiency in buildings. One of the most notable initiatives is the mandatory requirement for all new homes and commercial buildings to undergo an energy assessment before construction. This has created a significant demand for energy assessors in the country.

> Energy assessors use various tools and techniques to evaluate the energy efficiency of a building. They take into account factors such as insulation, lighting, heating, and cooling systems, as well as the overall design of the building.

Energy assessors use various tools and techniques to evaluate the energy efficiency of a building. They take into account factors such as insulation, lighting, heating, and cooling systems, as well as the overall design of the building. Based on their evaluation, they provide recommendations for improving the energy efficiency of the building, which can help reduce energy costs and increase the comfort of the occupants.

The trend of energy assessors in Australia is not limited to new construction projects. Many homeowners are also opting for energy assessments of their existing homes to identify areas for improvement and reduce their energy bills. This has created additional demand for energy assessors in the residential sector.

In addition, the Australian government has introduced various incentives and subsidies for homeowners who undertake energy-efficient upgrades. This has further fueled the demand for energy assessors, as homeowners seek their expertise in identifying energy-saving opportunities and accessing government incentives.

The demand for energy assessors is expected to continue growing in the coming years, as more and more people become aware of the benefits of energy efficiency and the impact it has on the environment. This presents a great opportunity for professionals looking to enter the field of energy assessment.

In conclusion, the trend of energy assessors in Australia is a clear indication of the increasing importance placed on energy efficiency and sustainability. With the government implementing various initiatives and incentives, and with homeowners becoming more conscious of their energy consumption, the demand for energy assessors is expected to continue growing in the future.

USE AN ABSA ACCREDITED

THERMAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSOR

and Energise Tomorrow Through Today's Sustainable Building Designs

Why Choose an ABSA Accredited Thermal Performance Assessor

The Leader in the Energy Assessor Accreditation Industry since 2006, ABSA is a part of the BDAA which is a nationally based not-for-profit member organisation that provides information, accreditation, support and advocacy for professionals to promote and foster building sustainability in Australia.

As one of its functions, ABSA accredits HERS assessors (also called Residential Building Thermal Performance assessors) under the Federal Government's Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS) protocols. ABSA aims to provide all its members with a high level of professionalism and support. Why do we count accreditation as one of our chief functions and missions? Because the Australian government cares about accreditation. Homeowners care about accreditation. And, above all, our assessors care about accreditation.

As of 11 November 2019 all NatHERS Accredited Assessors must hold a Certificate IV in Home Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (Thermal Performance Assessment) (CPP41119). As the nation and world have come to realise that sustainability and thermal conservation are essential to the survival of the built environment, both designers and homeowners are insisting on more sustainable, ecoefficient designs. In order to expedite the accreditation process, ABSA has set out the steps that will need to be fulfilled in order to gain accreditation.

ABSA Accredited Assessors are recognised as the best in the industry undertaking regular auditing and continuous formal and informal training ensuring that the ABSA accredited assessors are held in the highest regard.

SUSTAINING THE FUTURE

Let's work together to sustain and energise the future!

Emerging in a Digital World -

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS AGAINST CYBERCRIME

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there's been a significant increase in our reliance on technology. While the internet and modern technologies open immense possibilities for businesses, it also increases our vulnerability to cybercrime – as more staff continue to work remotely, do you know how secure your systems are?

With cybercrime up 600% since COVID-19, it's never been more important to invest in risk management practices to protect your business against cyber liabilities.

What is Cybercrime?

Cybercrime is criminal activity that targets or uses a computer, computer network or networked device.

It's most often committed by cybercriminals or hackers with the intent to make money, or with malicious political or personal agendas.

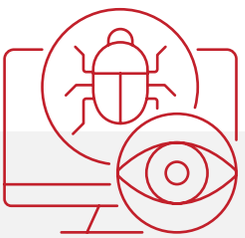
Yet, these types of attacks have far broader consequences for businesses than a solely financial one.

Most businesses who have been subject to cybercrime also suffered from loss of system access, compromised emails, reputation damage, corrupted files and a significant investment of time and energy – the average time of interruption after suffering a breach is 20 days.

Types of Cybercrime

There are many types and severities of cybercrime, however, the most common impacting Australian businesses are:

- Social Engineering
- Phishing
- Malware
- Ransomware
- Cyber Extortion
- Identity Theft
- Social Media Fraud
- Cryptojacking, and
- Telephone Phreaking



How to Protect Your Business

To avoid becoming the next statistic, there are 5 simple ways you can protect your business and reduce the risk of a cyber attack:

1. Enable multi factor authentication
2. Keep software up to date
3. Use anti-virus software
4. Backup your data
5. Staff training and awareness

Unless you specifically have cyber insurance, it's unlikely you're insured against the risks of cybercrimes.

A Cyber Liability insurance policy is typically recommended to form part of your overall risk management strategy.

This policy goes beyond traditional liability insurances, to address the risks involved with internet exposure and provide you with maximum protection for your business.

**This information is of a general nature and does not take personal circumstance into consideration.*

3 Common Mistakes Designers Make With Insurance (And How You Can Avoid Them)

If you want to avoid making a mistake with your Professional Indemnity Insurance, you should...

Preferred insurance broker for bdaa BUILDING DESIGNERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

1

Immediately notify your insurer of any issue that arises.

The insurer has solicitors that handle these issues so you don't need to get your own lawyer first.

2

Always read the exclusions on your insurance policy.

Familiarise yourself with your policy, so you understand what you are and aren't covered for.

3

Speak to a reputable broker before taking out insurance.

Don't buy insurance online without speaking with a reputable insurance broker. Anything you buy online is at your own risk and you have no recourse against the provider if the cover is not suitable for your needs!

webberinsurance.com.au/bdaa

SCAN ME!

Get tailored advice & a quote from an award-winning broker.

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- Reece Keil
- RSM Australia
- Sarach Ranaweera
- SDG Align
- Simon and Peter Downes
- TecLED Lighting
- Tristan Morphett
- Weathertex.com.au

Designer: Peter Gulikov

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