

# Aistriú

Transitioning towards a  
Circular Economy for the  
Built Environment

DRIVE 

**T** OLLSCOIL TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA  
BHAILÉ ÁTHA CLIATH  
**DUBLIN**   
TECHNOLOGICAL  
UNIVERSITY DUBLIN

# Circularity is nearer than you think!

**CiTA**  
Construction IT Alliance

 **CIOB**  
THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BUILDING

 **GMT**  
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA NA GAILLIMHE-MAIGH EÓ  
GALWAY MAYO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

 **IGBC**  
IRISH GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

9<sup>th</sup> April 2021

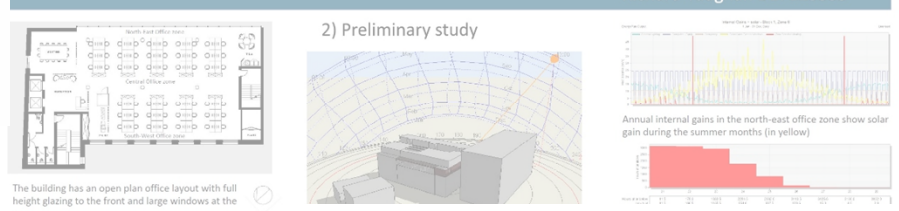
Joseph Little  
Patrick Daly

TU Dublin



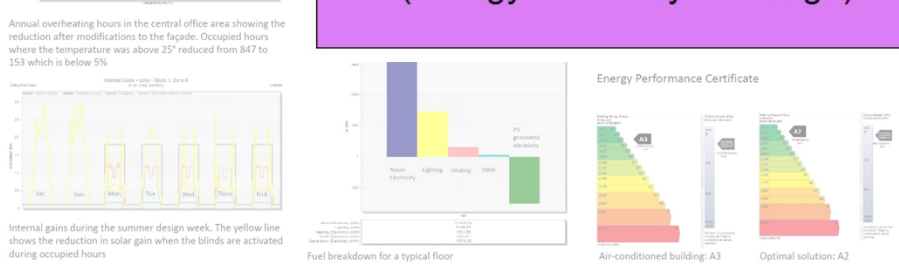
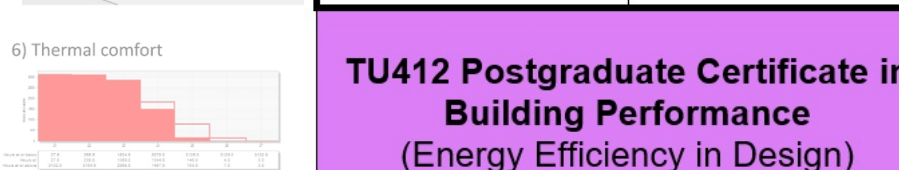
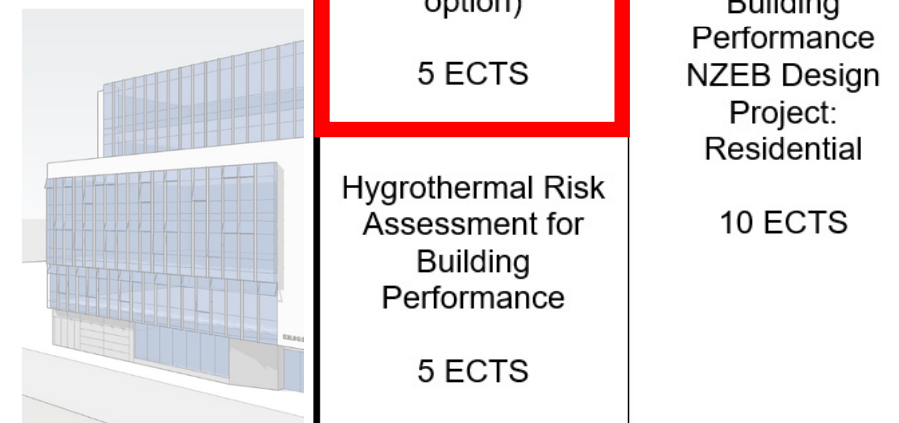
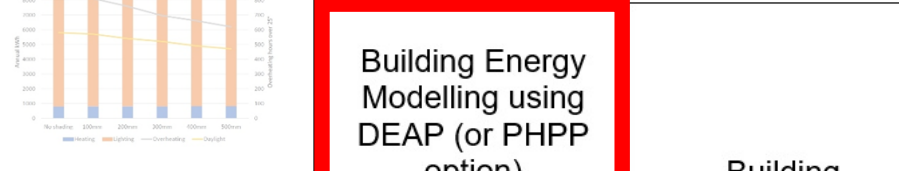


# The Optimal Solution



The building has an open plan office layout with full height glazing to the front and large windows at the rear.

A building depth of 15.5m means that it is still possible to achieve a natural ventilation solution.



# MSc in Building Performance (Energy Efficiency in Design)

| Semester 1   | Semester 2   | Semester 3   | Semester 4   | Semester 5  | Semester 6  |  |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| NZEB Policy & Technologies<br>5 ECTS   | Thermal Bridge Calculation for Building Performance<br>5 ECTS    | Building Environmental Assessment Methods<br>5 ECTS                              | Research Methods<br>5 ECTS                                   | Research Methods<br>5 ECTS                                      | Building Performance Research Dissertation & Project<br>20 ECTS |  |
| Building Energy Modelling using DEAP (or PHPP option)<br>5 ECTS                      | Building Performance NZEB Design Project: Residential<br>10 ECTS | Circularity & Life Cycle Assessment in the Built Environment<br>5 ECTS           | Building Performance NZEB Design project: Complex<br>15 ECTS | Research Studies in Building Performance<br>5 ECTS              |   |  |
| Hygrothermal Risk Assessment for Building Performance<br>5 ECTS                      |  | Building Energy Modelling using Dynamic Simulation & NEAP<br>5 ECTS              |  |   |   |  |
| TU412 Postgraduate Certificate in Building Performance (Energy Efficiency in Design) |  | TU413 Postgraduate Diploma in Building Performance (Energy Efficiency in Design) |  | TU414 MSc in Building Performance (Energy Efficiency in Design) |   |  |

# Multi Unit Residential Retrofit Project (MURR)

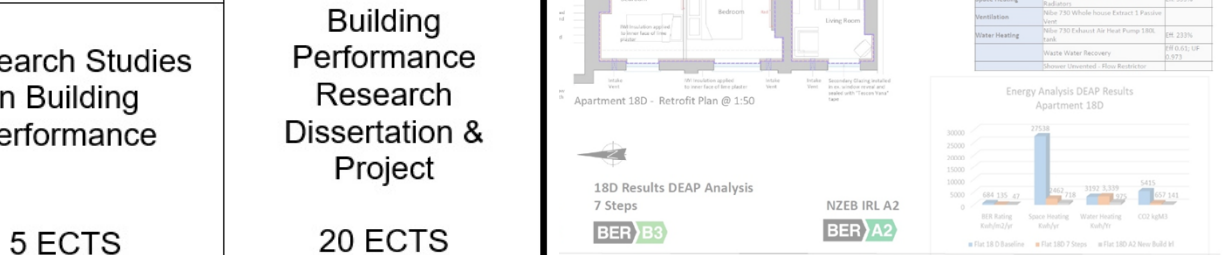
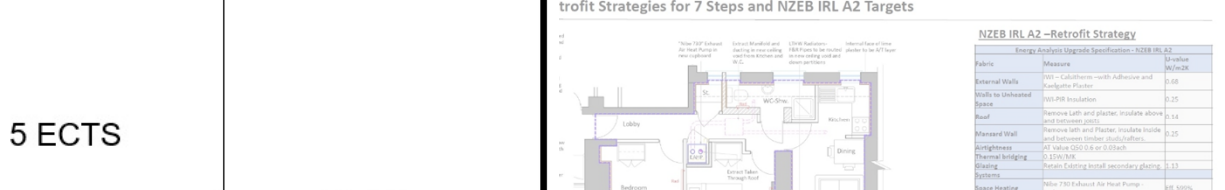
Block D, Iveagh Buildings, Bull Alley Street, Dublin 8

Technological University Dublin - ENEN 9202 DT9772 Postgraduate Diploma in Building Performance Energy Efficiency in Design  
 D 17125314 Gareth Mc Donnell BSc. (Hons) RIA ARCH. TECH. PG. Cert. B. P. (EED)

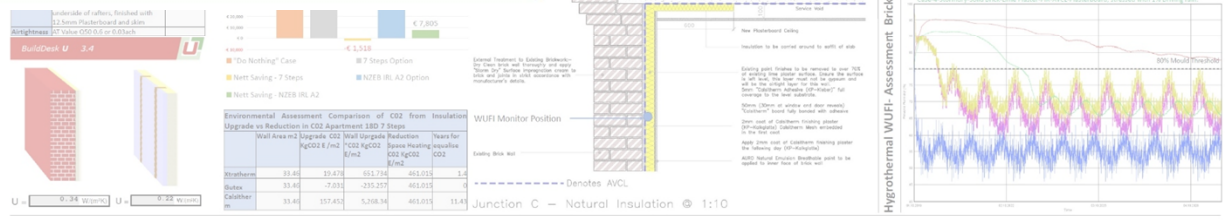
STAGE 1.1 Site Audit and Baseline Energy Assessment - Apartment 24D - 18D

STAGE 1.2 Research Paper Study

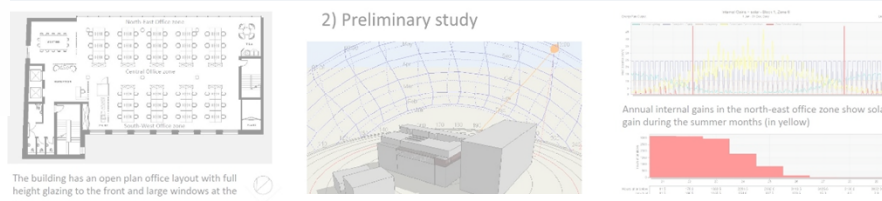
STAGE 1.3 Strategic Assessment



# Building Energy Modelling

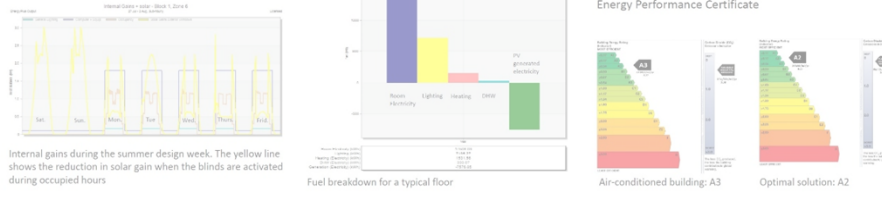
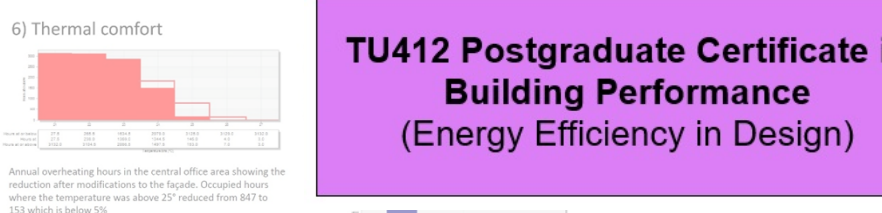
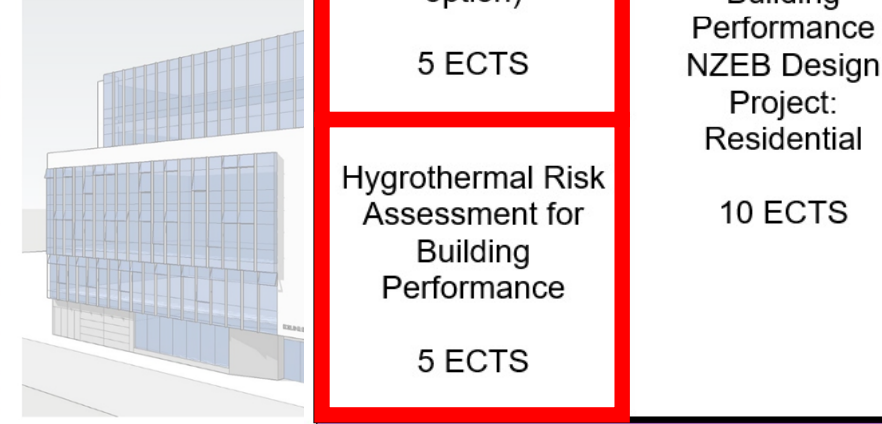
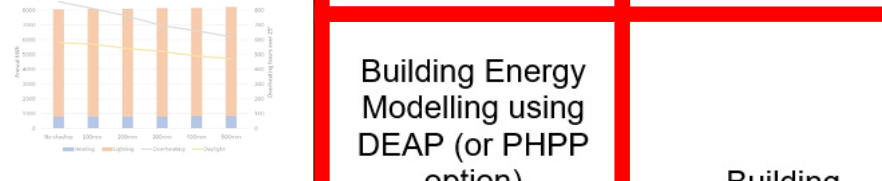


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The building has an open plan office layout with full height glazing to the front and large windows at the rear.

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**NZEB / regulatory skills & knowledge**

# Multi Unit Residential Retrofit Project (MURR)

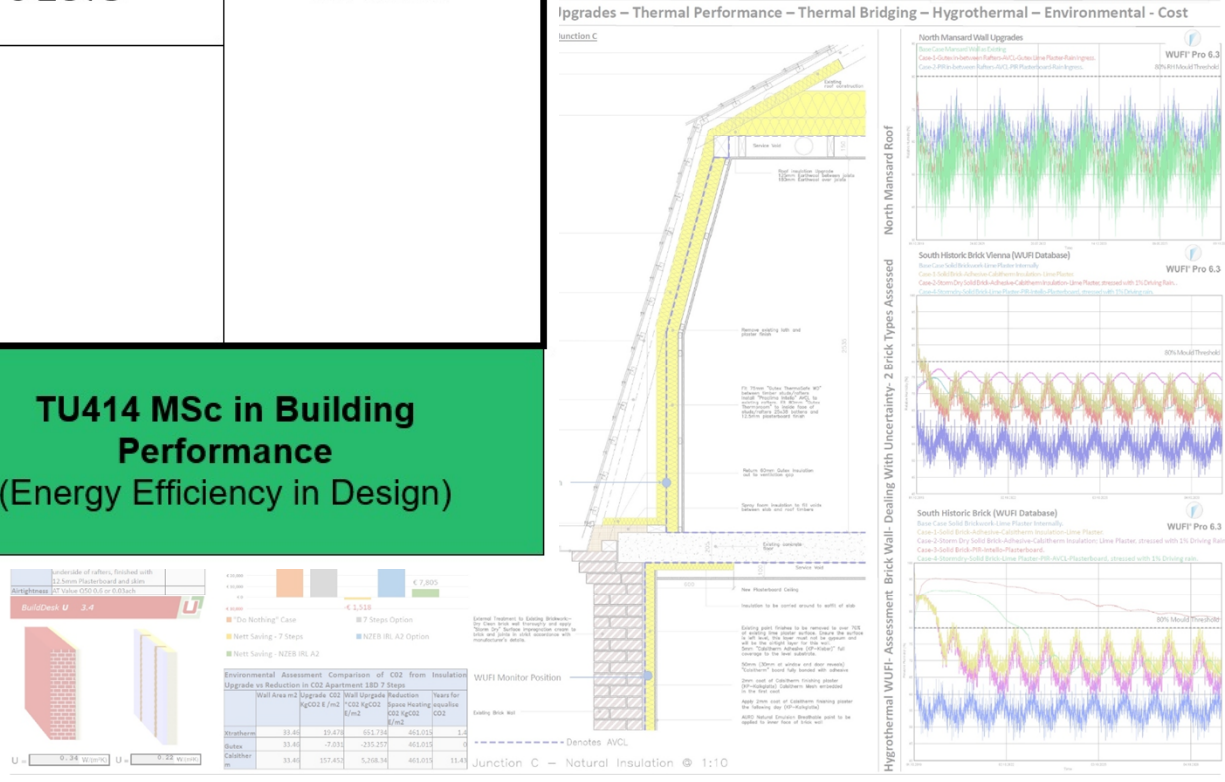
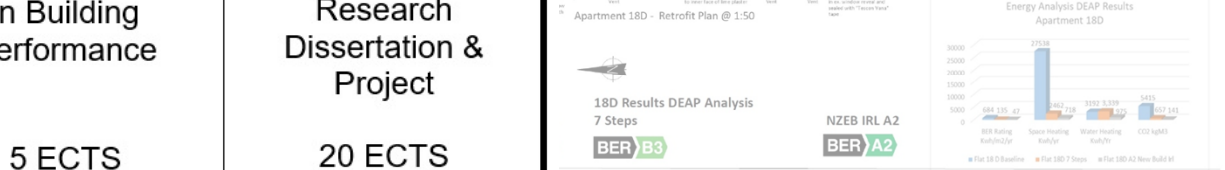
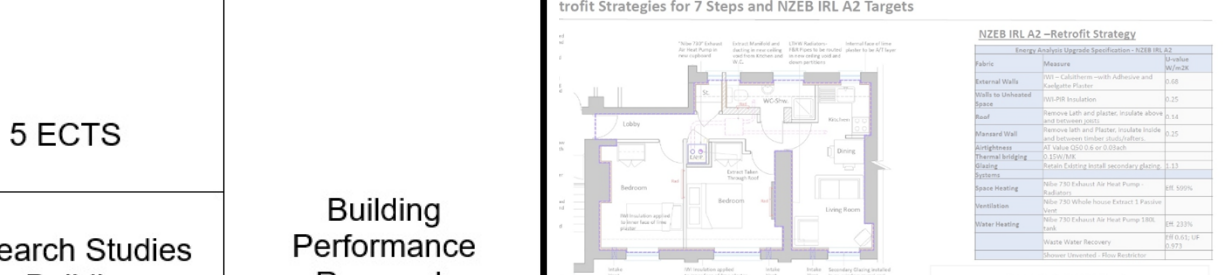
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STAGE 1.1 Site Audit and Baseline Energy Assessment - Apartment 24D - 18D

STAGE 1.2 Research Paper Study

STAGE 1.3 Strategic Assessment





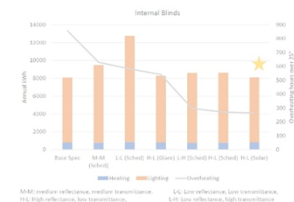
# The Optimal Solution

Dublin School of Architecture  
Postgraduate Diploma in Building Performance 019772  
Richard Vaughan D17125335

Kildress House is a recently completed, air-conditioned office building in Dublin city centre. While still achieving thermal comfort levels and maintaining suitable levels of daylighting within the open plan office areas. This study focuses on simple alterations to the facade such as shading, natural ventilation and high performance glazing to achieve a passive cooling solution. An optimal solution was then established that met the required parameters and had the lowest energy use.

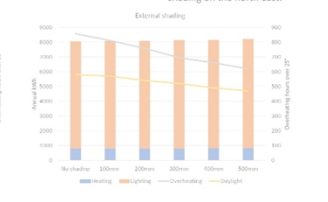
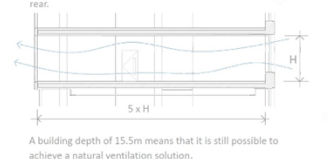
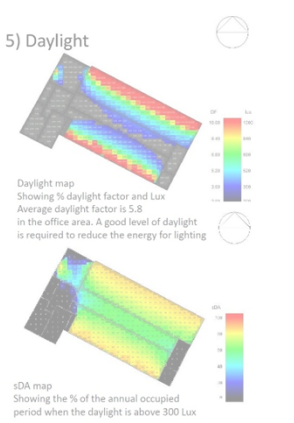
**3) Detailed Study**

- Internal blinds**
  - Internal blinds reduce glare and provide privacy
  - Have an impact on energy for lighting and thermal comfort.
  - High reflectance, low transmittance blinds are the most effective at reducing overheating
  - Blinds are most effective if operated based on solar radiation.
- External Shading**
  - Shading reduces internal daylight levels
  - Improves thermal comfort conditions
  - Increases energy use for both heating and lighting
  - Horizontal shading was measured on the south-west elevation and vertical shading on the north east.



**4) The Optimal Solution**

| Shading       | Heat Gain | Glare | Thermal Comfort | Daylight Factor | Energy |
|---------------|-----------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| 1. 100mm 30%  | 0.265051  | 28.5  | 3.2             | 8737            |        |
| 2. 100mm 35%  | 0.221014  | 31    | 3.9             | 8517            |        |
| 3. 100mm 38%  | 0.242070  | 35    | 4.5             | 8568            |        |
| 4. 100mm 30%  | 0.265051  | 33    | 3.2             | 9389            |        |
| 5. 100mm 35%  | 0.221014  | 36    | 3.9             | 9421            |        |
| 6. 100mm 38%  | 0.242070  | 45    | 4.5             | 9411            |        |
| 7. 100mm 30%  | 0.265051  | 6.5   | 3.2             | 9796            |        |
| 8. 100mm 35%  | 0.221014  | 12    | 3.9             | 9678            |        |
| 9. 100mm 38%  | 0.242070  | 29.5  | 4.5             | 9873            |        |
| 10. 100mm 30% | 0.265051  | 21.8  | 3.8             | 9823            |        |
| 11. 100mm 35% | 0.221014  | 41.5  | 3.5             | 9711            |        |
| 12. 100mm 38% | 0.242070  | 174   | 4.1             | 9699            |        |
| 13. 100mm 30% | 0.265051  | 30.5  | 2.8             | 9539            |        |
| 14. 100mm 35% | 0.221014  | 38    | 3.5             | 9485            |        |
| 15. 100mm 38% | 0.242070  | 182.2 | 4.5             | 9582            |        |
| 16. 100mm 30% | 0.265051  | 1.5   | 2.8             | 9838            |        |
| 17. 100mm 35% | 0.221014  | 9     | 3.5             | 9712            |        |
| 18. 100mm 38% | 0.242070  | 103   | 4.5             | 9838            |        |
| 19. 100mm 30% | 0.265051  | 42    | 3.3             | 8790            |        |
| 20. 100mm 35% | 0.221014  | 43.3  | 4.0             | 8679            |        |
| 21. 100mm 38% | 0.242070  | 352   | 4.3             | 8679            |        |
| 22. 100mm 30% | 0.265051  | 17    | 3.1             | 9520            |        |
| 23. 100mm 35% | 0.221014  | 154   | 4.0             | 9504            |        |
| 24. 100mm 38% | 0.242070  | 205   | 4.3             | 9546            |        |
| 25. 100mm 30% | 0.265051  | 36    | 3.1             | 9689            |        |
| 26. 100mm 35% | 0.221014  | 100   | 4.0             | 9879            |        |
| 27. 100mm 38% | 0.242070  | 347   | 4.3             | 9879            |        |



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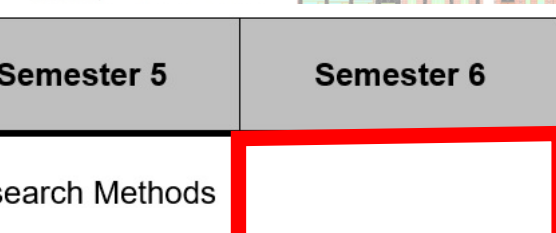
## Integrated technical design projects

# Multi Unit Residential Retrofit Project (MURR)

Block D, Iveagh Buildings, Bull Alley Street, Dublin 8  
Technological University Dublin - ENEN 9202 DT9772 Postgraduate Diploma in Building Performance Energy Efficiency in Design  
D 17125314 Gareth Mc Donnell BSc. (Hons) RIA ARCH. TECH. PG. Cert. B.P. (EED)

**STAGE 1.1 Site Audit and Baseline Energy Assessment - Apartment 24D - 18D**

Research Question  
The aim of this study is to examine the issue of low energy retrofit of a Multi-Unit Residential Building. It will investigate the impacts of providing a low energy retrofit on an historic building. This investigation is carried out under a number of headings; Baseline Energy Study; Strategic Study; Energy Analysis of two upgrades scenarios; Façade Study; Cost Study and HPI Study



**STAGE 1.2 Research Paper Study**

Main Findings of the Research Study

- WU is an important measure for enhancing the thermal performance of Historic Buildings.
- The studies have indicated that thermal performance of historic walls can be dramatically increased.
- Do not use IRB or other vapour closed insulations - Hygrothermal Risk.
- Aerogel gives good results and due to its thickness and thermal conductivity it reduces the impact on the space.
- All insulation types improve environmental performance, natural type insulations perform better and can increase performance by 75% over the original wall.
- Mineral wool and wood fibre (WFI and EPS) insulations are the most cost effective while increasing the energy efficiency of the wall.
- Most of the air-tightness on the exterior may degrade over time and do not comply with the construction product regulations.
- Secondary glazing can give excellent thermal performance whilst minimising the impact on the historic fabric and complying with the construction regulations.
- Internal or Exhaust Air Heat Pump or MHRV; reduce visual impact, some loss of historic fabric.

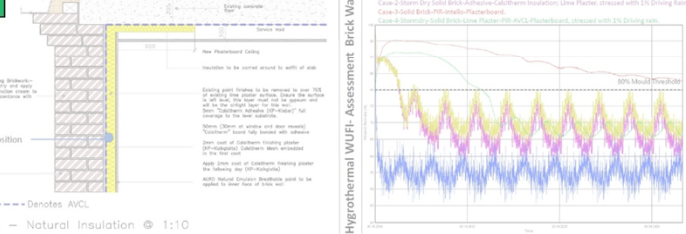
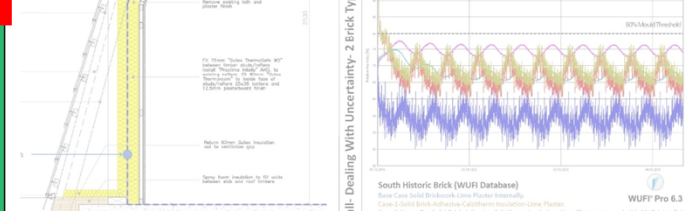
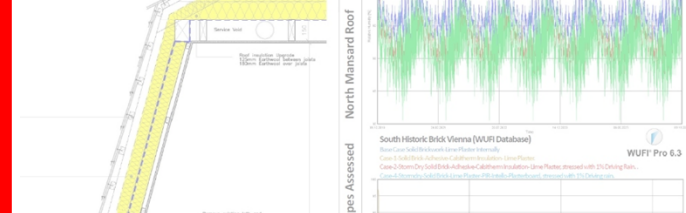


**STAGE 1.3 Strategic Assessment**

Client's Requirements-Targets  
Rent Pressure Zone - PRZ Regulations.  
Increase rental income = BER Rating improved by 7 Steps

TGD L 2019 - New Build NZEB IRL  
BER G C2  
BER A2

Strategic Study Summary: Based on Principles of ISEN 16883: 2017 "Changing as much as necessary but as little as possible."



### The Optimal Solution

Dublin School of Architecture  
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2) Preliminary study

Annual internal gains in the north-east office zone show solar gain during the summer months (in yellow)

3) Detailed Study

- Internal blinds**
  - Internal blinds reduce glare and provide privacy
  - Have an impact on energy for lighting and thermal comfort.
  - High reflectance, low transmittance blinds are the most effective at reducing overheating
  - Blinds are most effective if operated based on solar radiation.
- External Shading**
  - Shading reduces internal daylight levels
  - Improves thermal comfort conditions
  - Increases energy use for both heating and lighting
  - Horizontal shading was measured on the south-west elevation and vertical shading on the north east.

4) The Optimal Solution

| Shading | Heat Gain | Glare | Thermal Comfort | Daylight Factor | Energy |      |
|---------|-----------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|------|
| 1       | 100000    | 10%   | 0.262051        | 28.5            | 3.2    | 8737 |
| 2       | 100000    | 10%   | 0.321001        | 31              | 3.9    | 8517 |
| 3       | 100000    | 10%   | 0.421070        | 35              | 4.5    | 8558 |
| 4       | 100000    | 10%   | 0.262051        | 13              | 3.2    | 9389 |
| 5       | 100000    | 10%   | 0.321001        | 16              | 3.9    | 9421 |
| 6       | 100000    | 10%   | 0.421070        | 18              | 4.5    | 9433 |
| 7       | 100000    | 10%   | 0.262051        | 6.5             | 3.2    | 9796 |
| 8       | 100000    | 10%   | 0.321001        | 12              | 3.9    | 9678 |
| 9       | 100000    | 10%   | 0.421070        | 15              | 4.5    | 9671 |
| 10      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.262051        | 12              | 3.9    | 9678 |
| 11      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.321001        | 15              | 4.5    | 9713 |
| 12      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.421070        | 17              | 4.5    | 9696 |
| 13      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.262051        | 18              | 3.9    | 9485 |
| 14      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.321001        | 21.5            | 3.8    | 9427 |
| 15      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.421070        | 23.2            | 4.5    | 9582 |
| 16      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.262051        | 1.5             | 2.8    | 9853 |
| 17      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.321001        | 9               | 3.5    | 9471 |
| 18      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.421070        | 10              | 4.5    | 9518 |
| 19      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.321001        | 10              | 3.9    | 8790 |
| 20      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.366077        | 13.3            | 4.0    | 8679 |
| 21      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.421070        | 15              | 4.5    | 8679 |
| 22      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.321001        | 17              | 3.9    | 9550 |
| 23      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.366077        | 15.4            | 4.0    | 9504 |
| 24      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.421070        | 17              | 4.5    | 9546 |
| 25      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.321001        | 16              | 3.9    | 9689 |
| 26      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.366077        | 18              | 4.0    | 9679 |
| 27      | 100000    | 10%   | 0.421070        | 19.7            | 4.5    | 9679 |

5) Daylight

Daylight map showing % daylight factor and Lux. Average daylight factor is 5.8 in the office area. A good level of daylight is required to reduce the energy for lighting.

sDA map showing the % of the annual occupied period when the daylight is above 300 Lux

6) Thermal comfort

Annual overheating hours in the central office area showing the reduction after modifications to the facade. Occupied hours where the temperature was above 25° reduced from 847 to 153 which is below 5%

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Energy Performance Certificate

Fuel breakdown for a typical floor

Air-conditioned building: A3

Optimal solution: A2

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## Multi Unit Residential Retrofit Project (MURR)

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TGD L 2019 - New Build NZEB IRL  
BER G C2  
BER A2

Strategic Study Summary: Based on Principles of ISEN 16883: 2017 "Changing as much as necessary but as little as possible."

Issues Considered:  
Planning/Conservation Loss of Heritage; Safe and Robust Retrofit Solution; Technical/Design/Visual Impacts

Strategy:  
Internal Wall Insulation Breathable - Calitherm-Spatial Impact; Secondary Glazing; Minimal Impact; Roof Insulation - Loss of Historic Fabric; Exhaust Air Heat Pump; Low Visual Impact externally; Loss of Historic Fabric Internally.

retrofit Strategies for 7 Steps and NZEB IRL A2 Targets

NZEB IRL A2 - Retrofit Strategy

Energy Analysis DEAP Results

18D Results DEAP Analysis 7 Steps  
BER B3

Upgrades - Thermal Performance - Thermal Bridging - Hygrothermal - Environmental - Cost

North Mansard Wall Upgrade

South Historic Brick Vienna (WUFI Database)

South Historic Brick (WUFI Database)

Hygrothermal WUFI - Assessment - Brick Wall - Doubling With Uncertainty - 2 Brick Types Assessed

Environmental Assessment Comparison of CO2 from Insulation Upgrade vs Reduction in CO2 Apartment 18D 7 Steps

WUFI Monitor Position

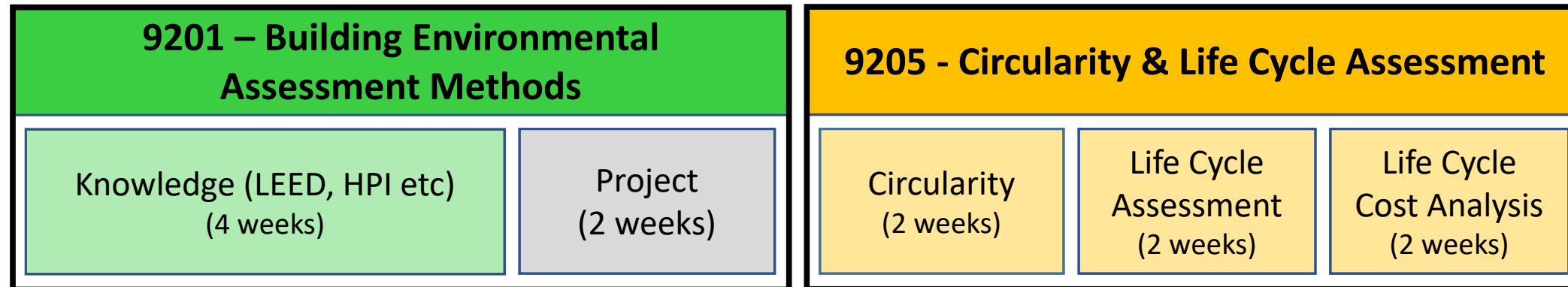
Junction C - Natural Insulation @ 1:10

CPDs



## The environmental sustainability-focused modules in Year 2

The taught modules are 6 weeks in duration, ~20 hours commitment per week



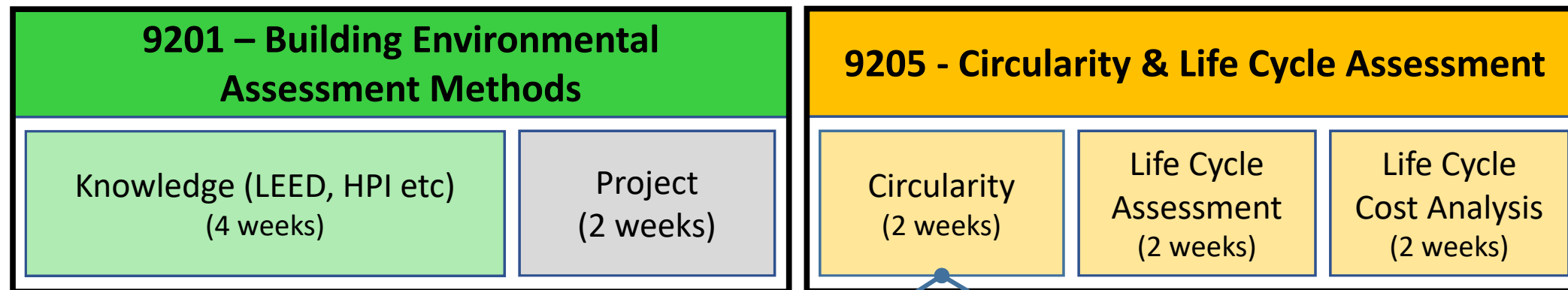
## ENEN9205 - Circularity & Life Cycle Assessment in the Built Environment

### On Completion of this module, the learner will be able to

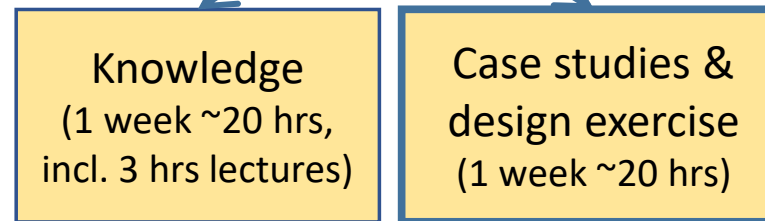
- 1 Discuss key concepts in circularity with reference to a range of key research papers
- 2 Discern a range of ways in which building designers can positively impact on the resource flows
- 3 Illustrate improved circularity in a building project they are familiar with through design or specification
- 4 Differentiate between the use and value of Life-cycle assessment (LCA) and life-cycle cost assessment (LCCA)
- 5 Use an LCA tool to help quantify & improve the circularity of a system.
- 6 Develop a project investment return
- 7 Assess the cost optimality of fabric interventions, services installations and renewable technologies in an nZEB residential project using standards-based methodologies.

## The environmental sustainability-focused modules in Year 2

The taught modules are 6 weeks in duration, ~20 hours commitment per week



Focusing on concept, then in built environment, in buildings, then *design for disassembly*, & measuring circularity



Focusing on (a) circularity-focused case studies, (b) suppliers of circular materials and (c) a small technical design exercise.

Patrick Daly

Sarah O'Dwyer

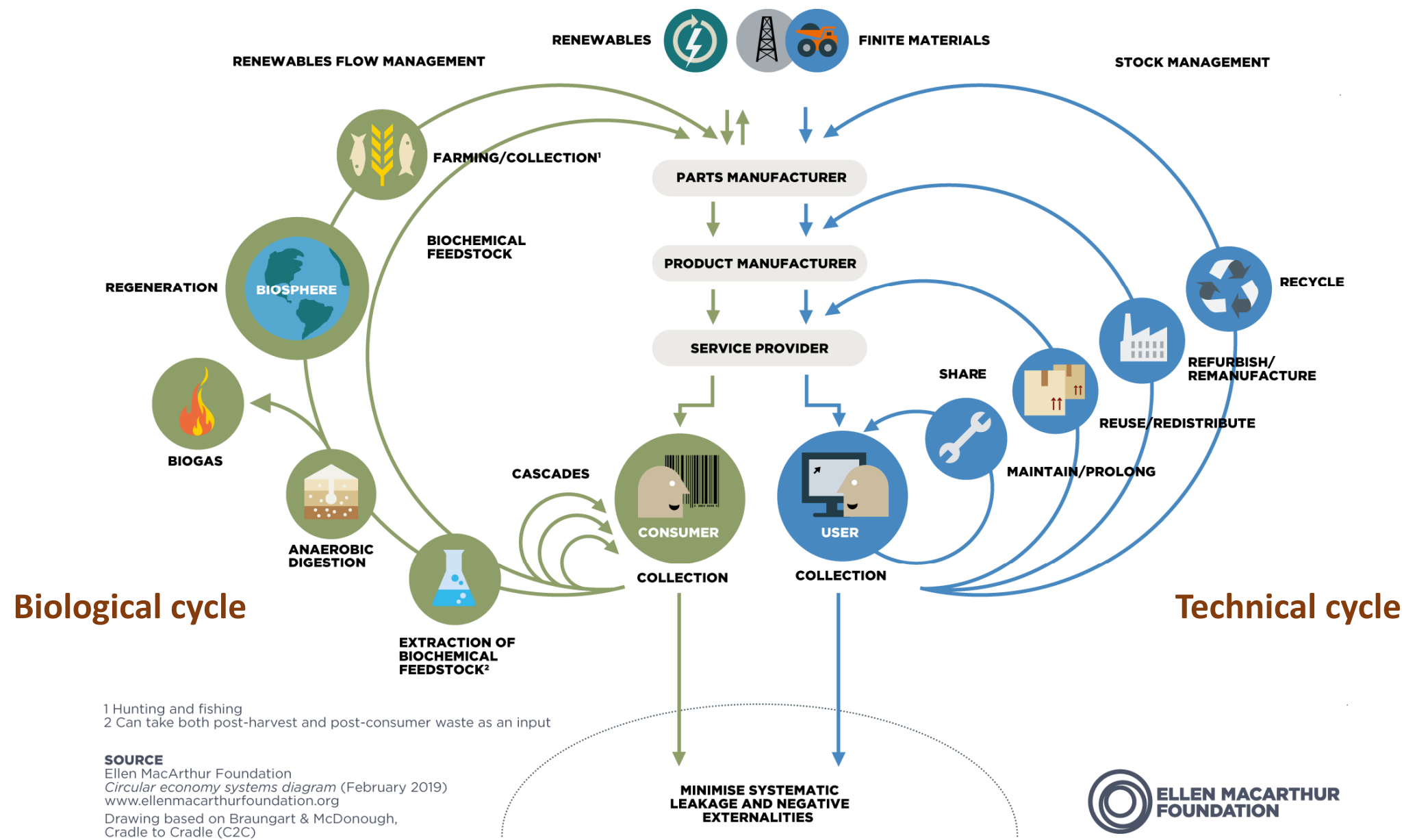


Joseph Little

Daniel Coyle

# ENEN9205 - Circularity & Life Cycle Assessment in the Built Environment

## Learning circular design skills



## The impact of approaches to jointing

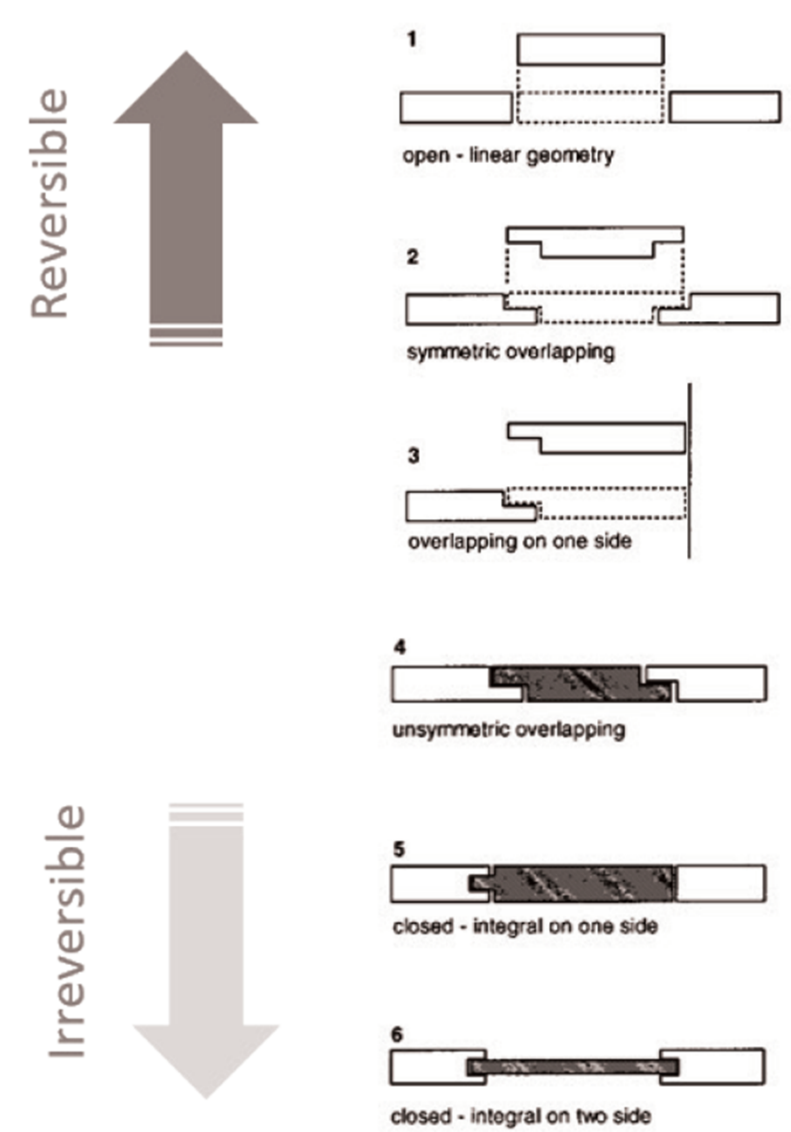


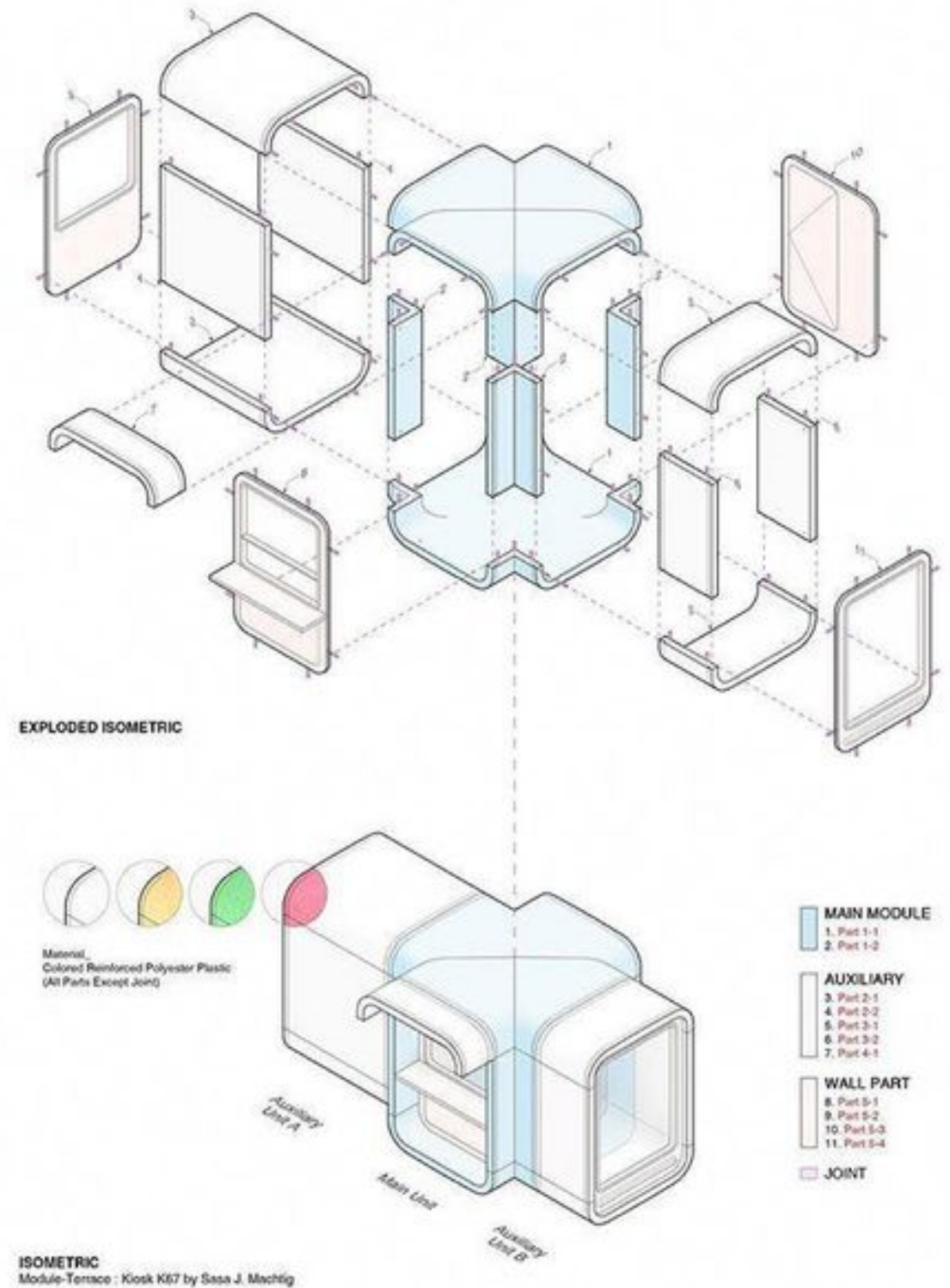
Figure 52 overview of principles geometries of product edge

# ENEN9205 - Circularity & Life Cycle Assessment in the Built Environment

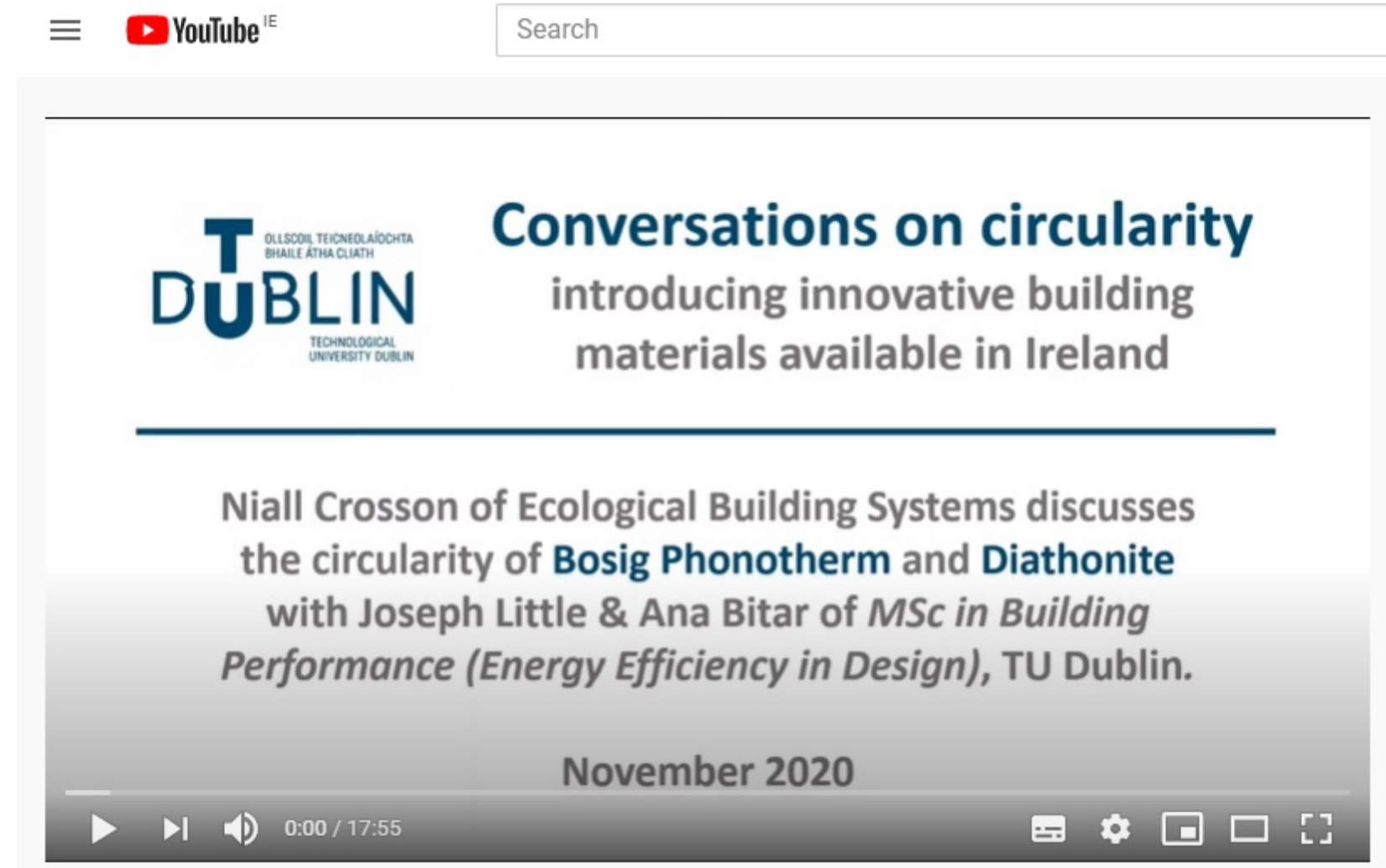
## Learning circular design skills



When Slovenian architect Saša Mächtig designed the K67 kiosk in 1966 he probably couldn't have imagined how ubiquitous it would become.



## Manufacturers and importers interviewed

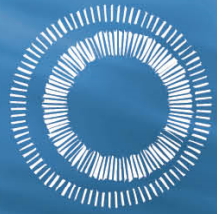


1. What is your product and in how many ways is it circular?
2. How did you manage to create a building product out of a waste material that can be certified as compliant under the Irish Building Control Regulations?
3. Do you reference a particular standard or quality assurance process to show it complies with a certain standard?
4. Was it difficult to achieve this? What were the obstructions?
5. Can your product compete with conventional products in terms of required performance and cost?
6. How are you convincing specifiers and client bodies to use your building product? Is their interest increasing?

## Manufacturers and importers interviewed

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Ecocel</b>                        | Recycled newspaper as insulation<br>( <a href="https://www.ecocel.ie/">https://www.ecocel.ie/</a> )  |
| <b>Ecological Building Systems</b>   | Bosig Phonotherm 200 insulation board is made entirely from upcycled polyurethane<br>( <a href="https://www.ecologicalbuildingsystems.com/">https://www.ecologicalbuildingsystems.com/</a> ) |
| <b>AM</b>                            | Acoustic and structural boards made from Tetrapak waste ( <a href="http://www.acousticmaterials.ie/">http://www.acousticmaterials.ie/</a> )  |
| <b>Ovvo</b>                          | Fixing system that facilitates demountability<br>( <a href="https://ovvotech.com/">https://ovvotech.com/</a> )   |
| <b>Integrated Material Solutions</b> | Creating certified aggregate from construction waste ( <a href="https://www.imsirl.ie/">https://www.imsirl.ie/</a> )   |

1. What is your product and in how many ways is it circular?
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# Aistriú

Transitioning towards a  
Circular Economy for the  
Built Environment

DRIVE 

**T** OLLSCOIL TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA  
BHAILÉ ÁTHA CLIATH  
**DUBLIN**   
TECHNOLOGICAL  
UNIVERSITY DUBLIN

# Thank you for listening

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**CiTA**  
Construction IT Alliance

**CIOB**  
THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BUILDING

**GMIT**  
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA NA GAILLIMHE-MAIGH EÓ  
GALWAY MAYO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

**IGBC**  
IRISH GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

9<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Joseph Little  
Patrick Daly

TU Dublin