

FORWARD FEATURES 2010

MARCH

Green concrete

How can concrete be sustainable? Expert commentary on this subject, with technical details on methods, key ingredients and tips.

Ecobuild roundup

A review of Ecobuild 2010 to be written by *Sustainable Building* journalists, with boxes for innovative new products/designs/companies on show to be profiled. Priority will go to advertisers.

APRIL

Rain water harvesting

The benefits to designers and end users of recycling rainwater in homes, offices, retail and/or leisure buildings. What new solutions are emerging in this exciting area, what types of buildings can benefit most and where are the key areas for growth in the next 10 years?

Conservative design

What might a Conservative government mean for sustainable builders? A point of view article from a leading architect/engineer/surveyor/sustainability consultant/contractor.

MAY

Biomass prospects

Is there any future for bioenergy for buildings? Can these be used on a large scale or just at a domestic level? Which types show most promise? Algae? Wood pellets? Biofuel crops? Waste products? Others?

Green roofs

What developments have been made in the green roof arena? A look at the great failings, successes, spectacles and controversies of this area.

JUNE

Timber and carbon cutting

We all know that timber is a great sustainable building material, as its embodied carbon is negligible. However this article will look at the nuances of timber. Which types of timber are suited to which building designs, climates, construction methods and other conditions? How do different treatments affect the way the timber can be used, and its eco credentials?

Eco paint

Is eco paint just a load of green wash, or can it really make an impact? How does it work, and where is it going?

JULY

Solar photovoltaic panels

An in-depth assessment of current solar photovoltaic systems available, and a critique of past designs, along with expected payback periods and tips for architects.

Recycled materials

What sorts of recycled materials make reliable building blocks, and how can they be used? An overview of treatment processes and the potential for recycled products in construction.

AUGUST

Wind turbines

How is this method of microgeneration making progress in the UK? Are wind turbines really as problematic as their reputations suggest?

Sustainable ventilation and heating

Natural vs mechanical – which is more sustainable? And, perhaps more importantly, which is most coveted by designers and clients?

SEPTEMBER

Sustainable steel

Can steel be a sustainable building material? What can designers do to make the most out of this hardy tool?

Sustainable urban drainage systems

A look at the importance of sustainable urban drainage in the wider picture, and the top systems that can be implemented into any plans.

OCTOBER

Ground source/air source heat pumps

How this renewable technology is taking off in a big way. What are the space requirements, how can you recognise when it is the best solution, and when does it make the most and least sense?

Prefabricated pleasure

Prefabricated building designers and contractors seem to be gaining ground and clients, so what are they doing right? With a look at a case study to illustrate the prefab process.

NOVEMBER

Combined heat and power systems

Advances in combined heat and power technologies, where these are going, how they can be used and whether there is enough support for them through the Renewable Heat Incentive.

Better bricks

Former RIBA president Maxwell Hutchinson praised the humble brick as a sustainable and versatile material. A look at how this is the case, and why bricks shouldn't be dismissed.

DECEMBER

Improving insulation

Can adding insulation to an older house make it as efficient as a new build? A look at cavity wall and loft insulation and efficient windows and doors in the fight to green the UK's existing buildings.

Unusual materials - straw, clay, hemp, glass

The wacky materials we see on Grand Designs and the like are all very interesting, but are they any good in professional builds? A look at mud, straw, hemp, bottles and other unusual building materials.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The months given are an indication of when these feature ideas will appear, but may be changed if a more suitable issue is found and agreed.

All editorial contributions will be considered, with priority given to advertisers. All articles must be approved by an editor before publication.

Publication deadlines usually fall in the second week of each month.

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