



Network

News

October 2007

Mike Wye & Associates – British Small Business Champions 2007

Mike Wye & Associates are delighted to announce that the Federation of Small Businesses has voted our business as winners of the Southern manufacturer's award for British Small Business Champions 2007. We pride ourselves on the quality of our service as well as our products, which is widely known by our loyal customers and we are honoured that the FSB judges have seen fit to present us with this award.

We feel that this is not only good for Devon but also for traditional building manufacturers in general. The award shows that although our materials are environmentally friendly and traditional, our production is very much of a modern age and of high quality.

For more details go to www.mikewye.co.uk or www.fsb.org.uk/data/default.asp?id=33&loc=bsbc

UK's Largest Straw Bale Building.

The main structure of the largest straw bale building in the UK is nearing completion near Stansted airport. Pioneers of straw bale building in the UK, amazonails of Todmorden, West Yorkshire, are now completing the straw bale walls of the 1,100 sq m (11,800 sq ft) auction room and offices. The design, with straw bales infilling a timber frame, is an advance on conventional timber-frame buildings and is quicker to build.

Workers from amazonails will have spent three weeks camping at the site building the straw bale walls when the main structure is completed this coming weekend, the cedar shingle roof being supported above the building on timber uprights while the walls were filled in. The construction process has also been used for training future straw bale constructors, this following an amazonails tradition in which people wanting to build their own straw bale home learn while they build, under instruction from experts from amazonails.

The building will provide new auction rooms and offices for Sworders Fine Art and Antique Auctioneers, of Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex. The building as a whole was designed by Robert Ward-Booth FRICS, a partner in G E Sworder & Sons. It incorporates solar heating, a bio-fuel boiler and water is harvested from the roof.

This new commercial building should help dispel many myths about building with straw when done correctly. There are no problems with obtaining planning permission; such buildings are at least as fire safe as conventional buildings; and they will endure as long as any well-maintained building using bricks and mortar. Furthermore, the heat insulation properties of straw bale walls are twice as good as the best alternative materials on the market.

The building is due to be structurally complete in October and it will be fitted out and occupied in the first quarter of next year.

For more information Tel: 0845 458 2173, Email: info@amazonails.org.uk or www.amazonails.org.uk

Slippery Slope – The Arrival Of Peak Oil

The Irish chapter of the Association for the Study of Peak Oil (Aspo) could hardly have wished for better. Last week, on the first day of Aspo's recent conference in Cork, the oil price obliged by striking a new all-time high. And in the following days it struck three more in a row.

This was no mere serendipity. The price has since drifted a little, but at the time of going to press remains around \$80 a barrel. That is an eightfold increase in less than a decade, and several analysts now forecast \$100 oil by the end of next year. All of which reflects not only the usual short-term vicissitudes of the oil market - hurricanes, Iran, trouble in the Niger Delta - but also the gnawing realisation that global oil production is approaching some fundamental geological limits.

For many years, the idea that global oil production will soon start to fall, with potentially catastrophic economic consequences, has languished on the fringes of the environmental debate, with nothing like the recognition of climate change, and shunned by the industry itself. But when the history is written, 2007 is likely to go down as the year the issue of peak oil production went mainstream. In Cork, the former US energy secretary, James Schlesinger, used his keynote speech to tell delegates that they were no longer a tiny minority crying in the wilderness: "You can declare victory . . . and prepare to take yes for an answer."

Although most senior oil executives continue to deny publicly what is becoming more obvious by the month, the industry-wide "omerta" is beginning to crack. Thierry Desmarest, chairman of Total, declared last year that production would peak in 2020, and urged governments to suppress demand to delay the witching hour. In Cork, the former Shell chairman, Lord Oxburgh, expects demand to outstrip supply within 20 years, and that the oil price may well hit \$150.

He warned: "We may be sleepwalking into a problem that is actually going to be very serious, and it may be too late to do anything about it by the time we are fully aware."

It is no surprise that most senior oil executives still refuse to accept their business may soon start to contract, but the evidence is becoming increasingly hard to ignore, as companies struggle to maintain production or adequately replace the oil they do produce with fresh reserves.

The international oil companies' difficulties should come as no surprise since they are largely excluded from the areas with the greatest remaining potential, such as the Middle East, and predominantly confined to the most mature regions, such as the North Sea, where British production peaked in 1999 and has already plunged by well over 40%. Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) country's oil production has been falling since 1997, and it is now widely agreed that output in the world, outside the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), will peak by about 2010.

There are severe doubts about the size of Opec's reserves, buttressed last year by the leak of internal documents from the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC). The paperwork revealed that although Kuwait has for two decades been telling the world it has about 100bn barrels of proved reserves, KOC's internal assessment was just 24bn, apparently confirming the widely held suspicion that the reserves of many Opec countries were inflated in the early 1980s, when members were vying for larger shares in the new quota system. In 2005, the consultancy PFC Energy briefed US vice-president Dick Cheney that, on a more realistic reading of Opec's reserves, its production could peak in 2015.

Opec recently announced a production hike of 500,000 barrels a day, but some analysts doubt that the cartel has the capacity to deliver even this modest increase. With the International Energy Agency (IEA) forecasting demand to rise by 2m barrels a day to almost 88m barrels a day by the end of this year, the most important question in the oil market is whether Opec's current production ceiling is entirely voluntary. Even if Opec can raise its production, oil consumption in member countries, particularly Iran and Saudi Arabia, is growing so fast that exports may soon start to fall in any case.

Full Story at <http://society.guardian.co.uk/societyguardian/story/0,,2181830,00.html>

Red Tape And Cuts See Householders Give Up On Green Grants, MP Says

Householders have all but abandoned their efforts to go green by using renewable technologies such as solar power, because the government's tightening of the rules has made grants almost impossible to obtain. As a result, the government's much-criticised Low Carbon Buildings Programme (LCBP) will not run out of funding for 15 years, even though the money was supposed to be used up by mid-2008, according to a Labour MP.

As revealed by the Guardian, the troubled scheme's annual cash to subsidise the use of renewables was all gone halfway through the last financial year because the grants were so popular. The pot was topped up, but a new system of allocating a certain amount of money monthly led to further embarrassment when it was used up in the first few minutes of each month as homeowners frantically tried to get funds from the website of the then Department of Trade and Industry. In March the scheme was suspended.

But since its re-launch in May when the grant money available was drastically reduced to a maximum £2,500 a home from £15,000, and the rules under which money can be claimed were tightened up, many frustrated householders have simply given up on the scheme, Labour MP Lynne Jones says.

At this week's Labour Party conference the prime minister and other ministers renewed pledges to extend Britain's action on climate change, but the reality on the ground has yet to catch up, say critics. Representatives of the renewables industry met DBERR officials on Friday in an effort to get the £2,500 grant limit raised to £5,000, but their plea was rejected.

Full story at www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2007/oct/01/renewableenergy.greenpolitics

Consultation On Energy End-Use Efficiency And Energy Services Directive 2006/32/EC

As announced in the Energy White Paper, new policy measures may be needed on the implementation of the Energy Services Directive. This initial consultation seeks evidence and views on options for implementing the requirements of the Directive to enhance the cost effective improvement of energy end use efficiency.

The closing date for responses to this consultation is 26 October 2007.

Go to www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/energyservices/

Climate Is Right For Overhaul Of UK Energy Regulation

The Sustainable Development Commission calls for changes to Ofgem's role to tackle challenges of a sustainable future. Energy market regulation in the UK needs to be overhauled to meet the challenges of carbon reduction and renewables targets, according to Government advisory body the Sustainable Development Commission. In a report published today (19 September), the Commission argues that reducing greenhouse gas emissions, should be made central to Ofgem's remit in order to meet the needs of future consumers.

The report, Lost In Transmission - The role of Ofgem in a changing climate, highlights some of the ways in which Ofgem could play a long-term role in reducing carbon emissions from electricity and heat production.

The Sustainable Development Commission's recommendations include:

- Introducing a greenhouse gas incentive package into the Price Control Reviews for the distribution and transmission industries

- Providing consumers with better information through smarter metering and billing to help them make decisions about their energy consumption
- Changing the current market arrangements to make it easier for smaller, low-carbon generators and suppliers to compete in the market
- Increasing innovation spending on networks and addressing transmission issues in order to speed up the connection of renewable technologies and reduce losses from the system
- Re-thinking heat provision to move to low-carbon networks across towns and cities

The Sustainable Development Commission report, Lost In Transmission - The role of Ofgem in a changing climate, is available to download free from www.sd-commission.org.uk/publications.php?id=594

EFRA Committee Report Criticizes Ministers For Lack Of Green Incentives

The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee report, published on Thursday 13 September, called for more measures to increase the energy efficiency of homes and encourage the uptake of microgeneration technologies. EFRA's suggestions included bringing forward the 'Zero Carbon' standard from the current target of 2016, offering a stamp duty rebate to those who improve the energy efficiency of their homes and the adoption of a 'feed-in-tariff' similar to those used in Germany.

For more information go to www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/environment_food_and_rural_affairs.cfm

WWF Report Calls For Introduction Of New Tariff Structure

A new report from WWF-UK entitled 'Waste Not, Want Not - Energy Tariffs for Sustainability' was published on 14 September. The report, written by the Centre for Sustainable Energy, suggests a new tariff structure, Increasing Block Tariffs, should be introduced across all household energy suppliers. The tariff structure aims to discourage extravagant energy use and reward those of low energy consumption. The report explores different tariff structure options and the research suggests that a carbon saving of nearly 10 million tonnes annually, alongside a 7-8% reduction in demand for gas and electricity could be achieved.

Go to www.wwf.org.uk/filelibrary/pdf/energy_tariffs_report.pdf

Code Update On Zero Carbon Status

In the week that the stamp duty exemption for zero carbon homes comes into force, should anyone actually claim to have one, the government has revised the official technical guide to compliance with the Code for Sustainable Homes. The new 225-page guide replaces guidance issued in April when the code first went live. Issued by the DCLG, the new guide has been updated to clarify a number of areas, including the eligibility of different energy sources, following industry feedback. Key changes apply to:

- Calculations for energy efficiency of flats, with or without renewable energy
- Calculations of water use efficiency
- Use of off-site renewable energy sources - these will no longer be eligible unless they are directly connected to the development - plus additions to the list of on-site energy sources.

There were reports this week that the new guidance provides a formal definition of what constitutes a zero carbon home for stamp duty purposes. This is not actually correct, as the official definition will shortly be set out in draft regulations to be presented to Parliament by the Treasury. When this happens, all eyes will be on the thorny issue of connection to gas and electricity grids. The new guide to the code continues to allow zero carbon homes to be connected to the grid, as long as the home produces net zero carbon emissions over the year. In contrast, previous guidance from the Treasury perplexed house builders by not allowing grid connections for homes claiming stamp duty exemption.

The DCLG said this week that code guidance will be kept under review as new evidence emerges about costs and practicalities. The new guide is at www.planningportal.gov.uk/uploads/code_for_sustainable_homes_techguide.pdf

Source: RIBA Practice Bulletin - No. 416 4 October 2007

Carbon And Timetable Challenges Ahead

Reports suggest that Gordon Brown's plan for ten eco-towns across the country, each of 10,000 homes or more, will be given its own funding allocation in the forthcoming Comprehensive Spending Review, cementing its position as a major new housing development programme in its own right. The plan is to invite competitive bids for development of the ten sites before the end of the year, although it is anticipated that formal expressions of interest from local authorities could be invited as soon as the end of this month.

Brown's recent announcement doubling the programme from five to ten eco-towns has been prompted by strong interest from councils looking to capitalise on their status as potential housing growth areas. The emerging timetable has already been raising eyebrows, however, with the government's stated aim of announcing winning development teams just six months after launching the competition being criticised by some consultants as hopelessly ambitious for developments on this scale.

Meanwhile, at a more manageable scale of 450 new homes, English Partnerships this week launched the second of the government's Carbon Challenge competitions to build eco-communities. The site forms part of Peterborough's regeneration area on the south bank of the River Nene, which in turn is part of a one billion pound transformation of the city led by Opportunity Peterborough. Not to be confused with Brown's eco-towns, the Carbon Challenge competitions are the follow up to John Prescott's Design for Manufacture competition, but with the emphasis on zero energy community schemes rather than one-off houses. Five sites are expected to be announced by English Partnerships - the first to be announced was a 150-home site in Bristol.

For the time being, the Carbon Challenge sites will offer consultants the toughest test of designing for sustainability ever seen in the UK. As Jayne Lomas, EP's Carbon Challenge manager said this week: 'To date, only single prototype homes have been built to these standards. No major housing schemes in this country have been able to achieve anything near the performance required in the Carbon Challenge competition. For all those who want to get ahead of the game, this site is a golden opportunity to gain experience and a competitive edge.'

More information: www.englishpartnerships.co.uk/carbonchallenge.htm

Source: RIBA Practice Bulletin - No. 416 4 October 2007

Events

Do Something Worthwhile – Grow A Roof!

A one-day conference on Small-Scale & DIY Green Roofs and Rooftop Gardens, Saturday 13th October 2007, Sheffield

Have you ever wondered how to grow a green roof? How to turn a garden shed into a natural habitat for wildlife, put a green roof on a house extension or decrease the ecological footprint of a new development? Groundwork Sheffield has teamed up with The Green Roof Centre to answer these questions and many more at a unique one-day conference exploring low-input, sustainable approaches to the design, build and management of small scale green roofs.

The event is for landscape architects, garden designers, architects, urban planners, developers, ecologists, conservationists, educationalists, self-build and DIY enthusiasts, home gardeners and anyone with an interest in ecological ideas or sustainable features.

For full programme information and booking details go to: www.thegreenroofcentre.co.uk or call Anna Cooper, Groundwork Sheffield on 0114 263 6425 or email anna.cooper@groundwork.org.uk

Building For The Environment - Planning, Design And Construction - Meeting The New Regulations

Friday 26th and Saturday 27th October 9.30am- 4.30pm Hillcrest School, 230 Rye Road, Hastings, TN35 5DN

A Conference for everyone involved in all aspects of construction and development- including policy makers, planners, designers, specifiers, suppliers, builders and trades-people. New policies and standards are rapidly affecting everyone working in the built environment, with increasing pressure to make care of the environment a legal requirement.

This conference will help you understand the new and emerging regulations, give you a competitive edge in the field of sustainable development, and help make the local construction industry more effective in meeting 21st century challenges.

Throughout the conference there will be displays and demonstrations of environmental materials and construction methods.

Free to attend (£10 per day to include Lunch), CPD Accreditation Available

For more information tel. 01424 451986 email cbiggs@hastings.gov.uk

Strategies For Low/Zero Carbon Construction

The Genesis Centre, Somerset College of Arts and Technology, Taunton, Somerset, Wednesday 17 October 2007
Cost: £165 (lunch included)

A seminar examining some possible options for achieving low/zero carbon buildings and posing the question "Is zero carbon, by 2016, a realistic target? The material for this seminar is delivered in a manner designed to provoke response and encourage debate. Who should attend? – Anyone involved in the commissioning, design and delivery of buildings.

Subject areas covered: Carbon reduction in context, Drivers for emission reductions – Global, national and regional, Intelligent design – reducing need, reducing costs, Renewable energy – appropriate solutions for specific circumstances, Materials – part of the solution?

For booking details, please contact Gillian Hawkey tel: 01823252934 email gillian.hawkey@somerset.ac.uk

Sustainable Solutions – The Wood Futures Conference - Royal Festival Hall Thursday, November 8, 2007.

The focus of Wood Futures – Sustainable Solutions is the challenge and opportunity presented to the timber industry by rising environmental awareness and the UK and international drive to sustainable development and construction.

Timber and wood products have the potential to play a pivotal role in a global market increasingly shaped by environmental imperatives. But there are also obstacles to overcome if the industry is to make the most of the opportunities. It has to:

- understand the demands and concerns of the 'green' consumer;
- back products with truly comprehensive environmental performance data and cast iron guarantees on sustainable sourcing
- and deal with both the real problems of illegal logging and deforestation and widespread misconceptions and misinformation about timber's environmental credentials.

Speakers will cover all these issues and more for our target audience which includes importers, distributors, saw millers, timber industry manufacturers and joiners, merchants, buyers, plus specifiers and end users of timber and wood products.

Following the conference, delegates are invited to join the TTJ and event sponsors for a drinks reception at the London Eye. This is an opportunity to discuss points raised during the day, whilst enjoying a glass of wine and a spectacular view of the capital.

For more information call Natasha Denney on 020 8269 7833, or e-mail ndenney@wilmington.co.uk

Courses

FTSE 100 Companies Join Up With CarbonSense And Schumacher College To Launch New Climate Change Courses For Business Professionals

Key players from businesses that lead on climate change (including BT's Head of Climate Change, Donna Young and Katherine Symonds, Climate Change Manager at Tesco), are joining up with CarbonSense climate change consultancy to teach on a new series of climate change courses.

Guest tutors also include Jules Peck, Director of the Quality of Life Group, which currently advises the UK Conservative Party on environmental policy issues and Craig Sams who founded Whole Earth Foods and Green and Blacks Organic Chocolate.

The courses are being welcomed by business executives, according to Antony Turner MD of CarbonSense, who will be tutoring on the series. The courses will involve taking a critical look at key issues such as carbon trading, agriculture and food, how to go beyond carbon neutrality, and the roles of private finance, technology and democratic processes in reducing carbon emissions.

The courses will each take place over four days in October. They will focus on:

- Business Responses to Climate Change
- Engaging with the Politics of Climate Change
- Developing Low Carbon Food Policies.

Each course will take place on a weekend, to ensure their accessibility to senior business professionals.

Please www.schumachercollege.org.uk and www.carbonsense.org

Introduction To Renewable Energy (3 Days), University Of Wales

Give an overview of renewable energy technology and outline the basic principles of solar electricity, solar water heating, small-scale wind power, micro hydro-power, bio-energy, heat pumps and their applications for homes, businesses and farms.

Aimed at those in the business, non-profit, public and academic sectors who wish to get a comprehensive introduction to renewable energy technologies, as well as those wishing to installing renewable energy systems in both urban or rural settings. The emphasis is on how things work and what it is practicable to do. At the end of the course participants should be able to do initial designs for renewable energy systems.

Dates: 26, 27, 28 October 2007 & 2, 3 & 4 November 2007

See www.greendragonenergy.co.uk/pdf/Intro_to_Renewable_Energy_Course.pdf for further information.

Introduction To Renewable Energy (2 Days), Sustainability Centre In Hampshire

This two-day courses are designed to familiarise planners and those in other professions with the range of renewable energy technologies currently available: solar electricity, solar water heating, wind power, micro-hydro, biomass and heat pumps. Similar to the Introduction to Renewable Energy (3 days) course but shorter and not as detailed.

Dates: 23 - 24 October 2007

See www.greendragonenergy.co.uk/pdf/Renewable_Energy_2_day_course.pdf for further information.

Wind & Solar Electricity Course, Low Impact Living Initiative, Near Milton Keynes

This weekend course at the Low Impact Living Initiative is an ideal introduction to the basic principles and technology of solar and wind electrical systems – both grid-connected and stand-alone. The course includes some practical sessions.

Dates: 19-21 October 2007

See www.greendragonenergy.co.uk/pdf/LILI_Wind_Solar_Course.pdf for further information.

Designing For Sustainability: Systems, Ethics And Beauty

February 4 - 22, 2008

Participants on this course will explore the whole range of ways that design can contribute to a more sustainable society, which they can then apply to their particular field of interest or expertise. They will study how nature's design process can influence human-made design, what constitutes form and function, how beauty relates to sustainable design and how co-design processes can lead to innovative solutions.

The final week will provide an introduction to cradle-to- cradle design, a methodology for intelligent product design which takes into account the entire life-cycle of the product.

www.schumachercollege.org.uk/ShortCourses/courses-detail/designing-sustainability.html

Situations Vacant

Technical Product – Sales Specialist

Ecological Building Systems are leading distributors of Sustainable Building Products and are seeking to fill the above position. Our product range includes the Award Winning Thermo Hemp Natural Insulation and the Pro Clima Intelligent Airtight System. Due to ongoing success, the company is now offering the opportunity to join a well trained and professional sales team and play a key role in further growing the business in this very receptive market.

The main area of responsibility will be to increase awareness of the brand and to support the Product Range nationwide. Candidate's should have a good technical knowledge, be highly motivated and have excellent communication skills. Full training in the Product Range will be provided. This important position offers the ideal candidate an excellent salary and generous company benefits.

Please e-mail your C.V. to clairequirke@maccannandbyrne.ie

Publications

Green Guide to the Architect's Job Book – Second edition – Sandy Halliday

Publication date: August 2007 Paperback with 88 pages, price: £15.00 Code: 55696, ISBN: 978 1 85946 186 0

Green Guide to the Architect's Job Book, Second Edition is a highly readable process map through the complexities of design and construction to aid the successful delivery of long-term sustainability in our built environment. Totally up-to-date and compatible with the Architect's Job Book, the Green Guide nonetheless stands alone as a straightforward, practical aide-memoire based on hard-won experience in the real world for architects and, importantly, project managers and clients, many of whom are actively seeking sustainable buildings.

Increasingly required by regulation, sustainable design today is neither a luxury issue nor an optional extra. The Green Guide acknowledges the importance of the procurement process in meeting this new agenda and serves as an invaluable guide to architects, clients and other members of the design team. Following the Work Stage structure of the RIBA's Outline Plan of Work, the book explains the 'cradle-to-cradle' sustainable design principles to adopt at the very start of every new project and takes the reader through to handover and beyond. As well as devoting special attention to the discussion that occurs before any formal appointment, the Green Guide also embraces refurbishment and demolition. Finally, a references section lists additional valuable sources of further practical guidance.

Copies are available to purchase from: RIBA Bookshops Mail Order, 15 Bonhill Street, London EC2P 2EA. Tel. 020 256 7222 or visit www.ribabookshops.com

Go Green In A Fortnight With The Pocket Green Guides

Three new Pocket Green Guides have been published – one each for England, Scotland and Wales

Here in the UK we are using up the world's resources too quickly. And climate change is one of the symptoms of the way we are living beyond the planet's means. But we can all do our bit to conserve resources and combat climate change. If we all consume more wisely, save energy and cut down on our waste we can produce less carbon dioxide, reduce our impact and tread more lightly on the Earth.

This is where the Pocket Green Guides come in. They provide bite-sized information that will help people and their families start making a difference today. They offer a concise explanation of the issues and show how each one of us

can be part of the solution. They're full of advice for greener living and the directories in each edition list a range of companies and organisations that offer goods and services for a more planet-friendly lifestyle.

A key element of the Pocket Green Guides is a 14-day plan that will help each one of us go green in a fortnight and so help us do our bit to conserve the planet and combat climate change. The full text is available from our website and may be reproduced online and in print free of charge (but please credit the Green Guides and www.greenguide.co.uk).

The Pocket Green Guide for Scotland and the Pocket Green Guide for Wales have been published in collaboration with WWF Scotland (www.wwfscotland.org.uk) and WWF Cymru (www.wwf.org.uk/cymru) respectively.

Free downloads and free copies!

The PDFs of each of the Pocket Green Guides are free to download from the Green Guide website at www.greenguide.co.uk. Print copies are available free of charge for organisations, businesses, charities, schools and local councils to distribute. There is no cover price. We will not normally send out individual copies and encourage those who want their own copy to download a PDF – and to avoid printing the PDF if possible.

New Regional editions of the Green Guides

This Autumn publication of new editions of the regional Green Guides will commence, starting with the Green Guide for London in November. This is the seventh edition of this popular and comprehensive eco-directory and it will contain more than 4,000 planet-friendly listings, hundreds of eco-living tips, dozens of case studies, articles and a Green Glossary.

The first edition of the Green Guide appeared in 1993 as the Green Guide for West London. The Green Guide for Scotland is published in December, the Green Guide for the South West in January 2008 and six other regional editions will be published by March 2008.

For more information about the Green Guide and the Pocket Green Guides, please contact Gavin Markham on 01945 461 452 or email gavin.markham@greenguide.co.uk

For more information about WWF Scotland please contact Claire Munro, Press Officer, on 01350 728200 or email cmunro@wwfscotland.org.uk

For more information about WWF Cymru please contact Ruth Bates, Communications Manager, on 02920 455 001 or email rbates@wwf.org.uk

Advances In Passive Cooling By Mat Santamouris

This book offers the latest knowledge and techniques on passive cooling. It is essential reading for building professionals to understand and employ relevant new strategies, with chapters on comfort, urban microclimate, solar control, ventilation, ground cooling and evaporative and radiative cooling.

Advances in Passive Cooling is part of the BEST series, edited by Mat Santamouris. The aim of the series is to present the most current, high quality theoretical and application oriented material in the field of solar energy and energy efficient buildings. Leading international experts cover the strategies and technologies that form the basis of high-performance, sustainable buildings, crucial to enhancing our built and urban environment.

<http://shop.earthscan.co.uk/ProductDetails/mcs/productID/762>

Designers, Visionaries And Other Stories: A Collection Of Sustainable Design Essays, Edited By Jonathan Chapman And Nick Gant

This compelling manifesto for change unpacks the complex and crucial debates surrounding sustainable design. A rich resource of future visions, critical propositions, creative ideas and design strategies, it includes contributions from: John Thackara, Jonathan Chapman, Nick Gant, Alastair Fuad-Luke, Stuart Walker, Ezio Manzini, John Wood and Kate Fletcher.

<http://shop.earthscan.co.uk/ProductDetails/mcs/productID/766>

Renewable Electricity And The Grid: The Challenge Of Variability, Edited By Godfrey Boyle

The energy available from wind, waves, tides and the sun varies in ways that may not match variations in energy demand. This book examines the significance of the issue of variability of renewable electricity supplies and presents technical and operational solutions to the problem of reconciling the differing patterns of supply and demand. It features leading experts in the field, who aim to explain and quantify the impacts of variability in renewable energy.

<http://shop.earthscan.co.uk/ProductDetails/mcs/productID/761>

Enhancing Urban Safety And Security: Global Report On Human Settlements 2007

The UN Human Settlements Programme's Global Report is the most authoritative source of information on the conditions and trends in the world's cities. This year's is the first in-depth examination of the most challenging threats to the safety and security of urban dwellers today, focusing on three key aspects: crime and violence; security of tenure and protection against forced eviction; and natural and human-made disasters.

The report adopts a human security perspective, concerned with the safety and security of people rather than of states, and highlights issues that can be addressed through appropriate urban policy, planning, design and governance. This is

an essential tool and reference for researchers, academics, public authorities and civil society organizations around the world.

<http://shop.earthscan.co.uk/ProductDetails/mcs/productID/803>

Technology Transfer For The Ozone Layer: Lessons For Climate Change By Stephen O. Andersen, K. Madhava Sarma And Kristen N. Taddonio

The Montreal Protocol, the most successful global environmental agreement so far, stimulated the development and worldwide transfer of technologies to protect the ozone layer. Technology transfer is the crux of the 230 international environmental treaties and is essential to fighting climate change, but while debate rages about obstacles to technology transfer, UNTIL NOW there has been no comprehensive assessment of what actually works to remove the obstacles.

In this vitally important book, the authors assess over 1000 technology transfer projects funded under the Montreal Protocol's Multilateral Fund and the Global Environment Facility, and identify lessons that can be applied to technology transfer for climate change.

<http://shop.earthscan.co.uk/ProductDetails/mcs/productID/805>

Theory And Practice Of Strategic Environmental Assessment – Towards A More Systematic Approach By Thomas B. Fischer

This essential new text for all students, professionals and academics in SEA, EIA and follow-up worldwide, is the only textbook to comprehensively cover all aspects of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). It examines the state of the art in theory and method, explains jargon and provides extra readings, boxed examples and case studies from across the world, and as such, it is indispensable for students and practitioners worldwide.

<http://shop.earthscan.co.uk/ProductDetails/mcs/productID/789>

Old And Scarce Building Books

Many modern-day industry and trade associations have members interested in the historical roots of their business sector. 450 independent antiquarian and second-hand booksellers across Britain have banded together at Industrial and Trade History (www.IATHistory.com) to display on one website half-a-million historical, old, scarce and out-of-print books in various aspects of industry, trade, science and technology.

This large and changing collection contains many old titles of interest to Association for Environment Conscious Building members including old and collectable books on: building, construction, environment

By acting as a central clearing house of information on old books as they come up for sale in Britain, Industrial and Trade History (www.IATHistory.com) helps British businesses and private individuals find old and historical books relating to their own company's industry, business area or trade.

www.IATHistory.com does this in four ways:

- a. Firstly by helping you to find old and historical books in your own business area by providing clickable subject-area links searching quickly through all the half-a-million old and out-of-print books now available.
- b. Secondly, by identifying a small and changing selection of particularly scarce old titles which have become available. Each of these volumes is so hard to find that an extensive search through 75 million old books for sale around the world failed to locate more than a couple of other copies in equally nice condition - in most cases no other copy at all. In other words, they appear for sale so rarely that you may never have another opportunity to acquire a copy.
- c. Thirdly, by having an email alert service which gives you advance information whenever they've been able to locate more particularly scarce or interesting old books relating to early industry, trade, science or technology. Subscribe and you'll be one of the first to hear of new opportunities as they crop up. At the same time you can tell them of individual industries or trades that are of particular interest to you and they'll keep their eyes open for early and historical books in those areas.
- d. Finally, by providing free downloadable reference lists of technical, industrial and trade book titles produced by Victorian and Edwardian publishers to give you an idea of what old books relating to your own industry, trade or business area can potentially be found on the antiquarian and used book market.

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