

[Hui, S. C. M., 2007. Internet resources on sustainable buildings, *HKIA Journal*, 1st Quarter 2007, pp. 60-61.]

Internet Resources on Sustainable Buildings

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Sustainable buildings can be defined as “those buildings that have minimum adverse impacts on the built and natural environment, in terms of the buildings themselves, their immediate surroundings and the broader regional and global setting” (Hasegawa, 2003). At present, there are many schools of thought on sustainable architecture or green building. In general, it is believed that cradle-to-cradle design will enable an ecologically intelligent approach to architecture (McDonough and Braungart, 2003) and life-cycle thinking is a key to the sustainable construction concept (Kohler and Moffatt, 2003).

Although the general principles of sustainable building are not too hard to understand, there are many aspects and issues about the sustainable building practices that need to be studied and evaluated carefully. When people try to study the related concepts and practical applications, they often find it difficult to locate good information sources, practical examples and key references. In order to promote sustainable design and planning of buildings, efforts have been made to develop the following Internet Websites to provide useful information and resources to all the interested persons (including developers, building designers, researchers, students, etc.). This R&D work is an extension of the Web-based learning environment developed by Hui and Cheung (1999) and a side-product from the research on building energy efficiency and sustainable architecture.

At present, there are three Websites established at the University of Hong Kong (HKU).

- Case Studies on Sustainable Buildings
http://www.hku.hk/mech/sbe/case_study/index/top.htm

A knowledge base of case studies and resources is established to illustrate the sustainable design strategies and features in realistic building projects all over the world. The database of case studies can be searched by project names, locations, design strategies and design features.

- Web Links on Sustainable Buildings
http://www.hku.hk/mech/sbe/web_links/index.html

Key information is collected from various sources and organised in a systematic way for efficient study and exploration of the subjects.

- References on Sustainable Buildings

<http://www.hku.hk/mech/sbe/refs/index.html>

Selected references including books, reports, audio/visual materials and journals are listed. Most of the materials can be found in the HKU Libraries. To facilitate retrieval, links are provided to the library catalogue system for further information and study.

It is hoped that by disseminating the Internet resources, more people could learn about the sustainable building concepts and a better understanding of the sustainable design strategies can be achieved at all levels of the society. Comments, suggestions and requests for corrections are welcomed.

References

Hasegawa, T., 2003. *Environmentally Sustainable Buildings: Challenges and Policies*, OECD, Paris.

Hui, S. C. M. and Cheung, K. P., 1999. Developing a web-based learning environment for building energy efficiency and solar design in Hong Kong, *Solar Energy*, 67 (1-3): 151-159.

Kohler, N. and Moffatt, S., 2003. Life-cycle analysis of the built environment, *Industry and Environment*, 26 (2-3): 17-21.

McDonough, W. and Braungart, M., 2003. Towards a sustainable architecture for the 21st century: the promise of cradle-to-cradle design, *Industry and Environment*, 26 (2-3): 13-16.

Introduction

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Search by: -

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- >> [Africa](#)
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- >> [Europe](#)
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- >> [Building Form](#)
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- >> [Building Envelope](#)
- >> [Natural Ventilation](#)
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- >> [Services, Equipment and Controls](#)
- >> [Water Cooling](#)
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- >> [Sunspaces](#)
- >> [Atrium](#)
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- >> [Trombe Walls](#)
- >> [Active \(Double-Facade\) Curtain Walls](#)
- >> [Light-Redirecting Device](#)
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- >> [Shading Devices](#)
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Associated Websites: -

- * [Web Links on Sustainable Buildings](#)
- * [References on Sustainable Buildings](#)

Web Links on Sustainable Buildings

[Index]

- * [Homepage](#)
- [Associations](#)
- [Basic Concepts](#)
- [Companies](#)
- [Conferences](#)
- [Design Guides](#)
- [Education/Research](#)
- [Journals & Books](#)
- [Papers/Articles](#)
- [Projects/Programs](#)
- [Resources](#)

- * Specific pages:
- [Hong Kong](#)
- [Mainland China](#)
- [Taiwan](#)

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- * [HKU](#)
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This web site is developed with the aim to promote sustainable design and planning of buildings. Key information is collected from various sources and organised in a systematic way for efficient study and exploration of the subjects.

The web site will be maintained and updated regularly. Comments and/or suggestions may be sent to us by [email](#).

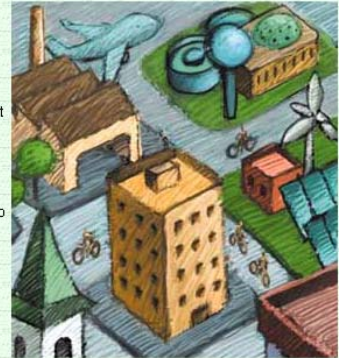
Search Tools

The following tools are useful for searching related information and literature. As the information on the Internet is very dynamic and may change quite frequently, it will be helpful to use these tools to identify the current sources of information and any broken links.

- ◆ [Google](#)
- ◆ [Google Scholar](#)
- ◆ [Yahoo](#)
- ◆ [Alta VISA](#)
- ◆ [ScienceDirect](#)

Associated Websites

- ◆ [Case Studies on Sustainable Buildings](#)
- ◆ [References on Sustainable Buildings](#)



References on Sustainable Buildings

[Index]

- * [Homepage](#)
- * **Strategies**
- [General](#)
- [Site/Communities](#)
- [Energy](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Material/Waste](#)
- [Indoor Environment](#)
- * **Process**
- [Design](#)
- [Construction](#)
- [Operation](#)
- * **Evaluation**
- [Assessment](#)
- [Building Types](#)
- [Cases/Examples](#)
- * **Others**
- [A/V Materials](#)
- [Journals/Magazines](#)

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The materials are organised in a systematic way for easy understanding and searching.

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 - ◇ [General](#)
 - ◇ [Site/Communities](#)
 - ◇ [Energy](#)
 - ◇ [Water](#)
 - ◇ [Material/Waste](#)
 - ◇ [Indoor Environment](#)
- ◆ **Process**
 - ◇ [Design](#)
 - ◇ [Construction](#)
 - ◇ [Operation](#)
- ◆ **Evaluation**
 - ◇ [Assessment](#)
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 - ◇ [Cases/Examples](#)
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Related Tools

The following tools are useful for searching related information and literature in the libraries.

- ◆ [Dragon: HKU Library catalogue system](#)
- ◆ [Libraries in Hong Kong and overseas](#)
 - ◇ Multiple Search for Libraries in Hong Kong via Z39.50

Associated Websites

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