

# Achieving Building Sustainability with Simulation Technologies

08 November 2016 (Tuesday), 9.00am - 1.00pm (Half Day)  
Shah's Village Hotel, Petaling Jaya

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## Case Study on Benefit of Simulations

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LEO Building



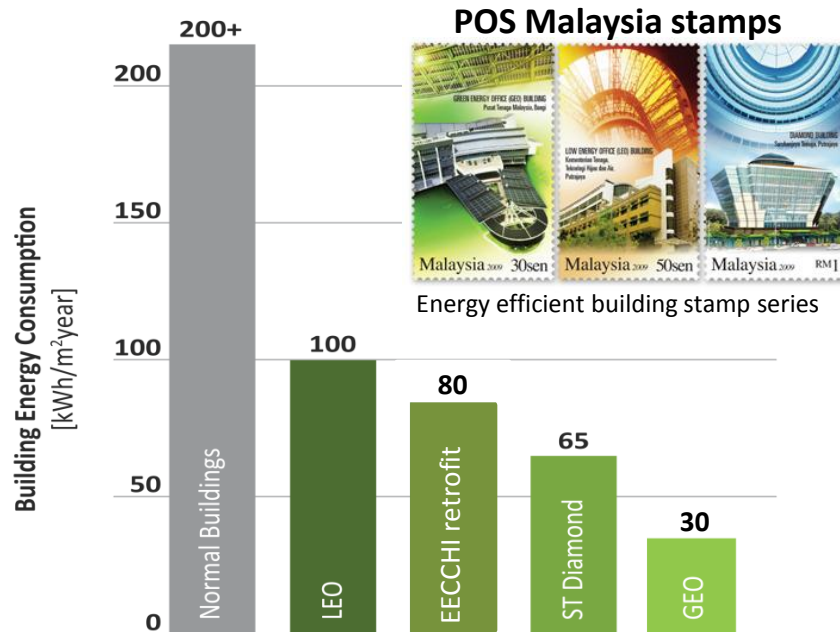
GEO Building



ST Diamond Building



EECCHI retrofit



YEAR: 2004 2010 2010 2007

Here's the answer to  
**"Benefit of Simulations"**

**Measured Energy Data**  
 for  
**New and Retrofitted Buildings**  
 by IEN Consultants  
 all of which were optimised through  
 extensive computer simulation

# A real conversation that I had here in Malaysia.....



Courtesy of Gregers Reimann/IEN Consultants Sdn Bhd / Illustration by Rachel Chen Ruiqi

*The Star newspaper, 16 August 2013*

I optimised the design of buildings through computer simulation – and then they are built without any big surprises 😊

# Problem of Over-Design for Buildings

Building owners get **double-penalty** of:

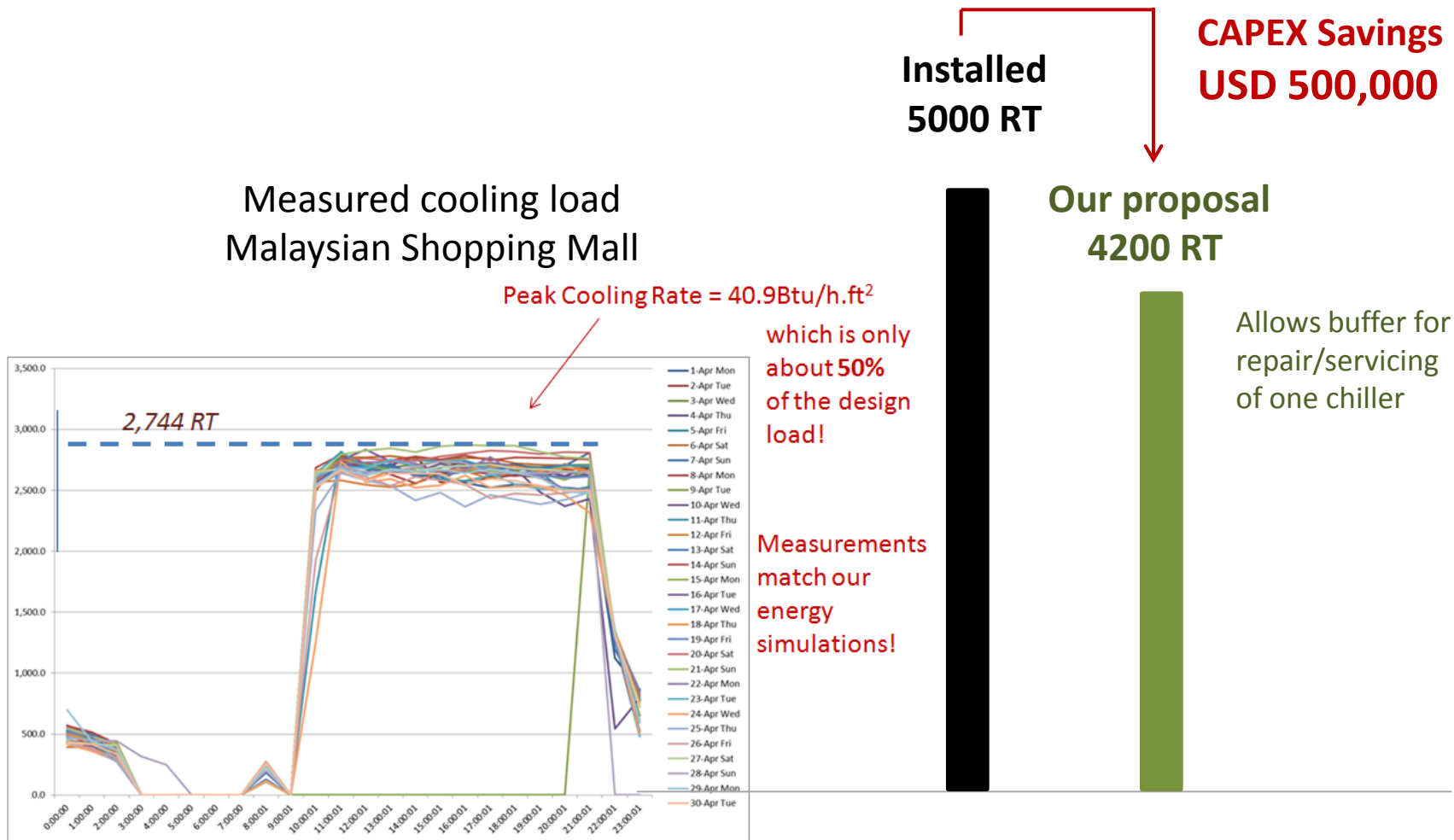
- Higher CAPEX  
(higher construction cost)
- Higher OPEX  
(higher operating cost)

Building owner



Cartoon by IEN Consultants / The Star newspaper (2014)

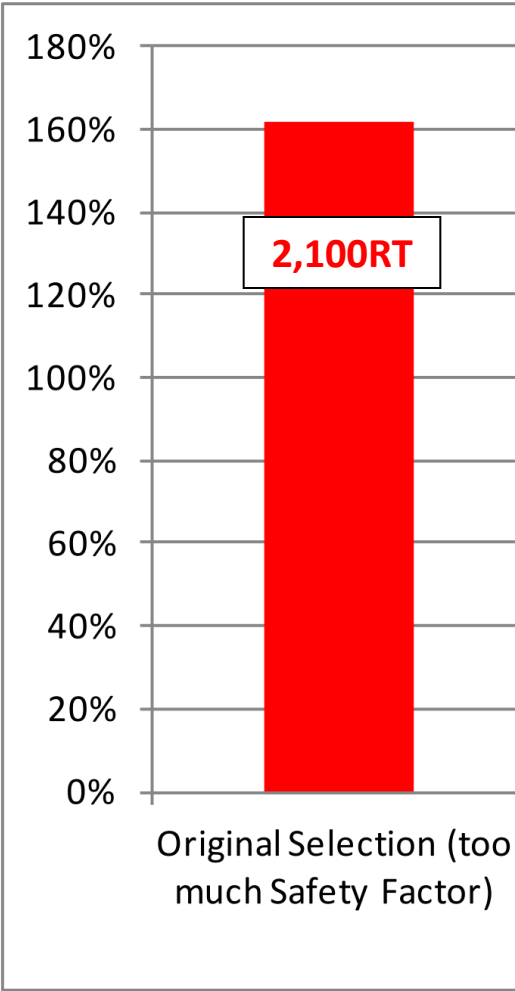
# Case study 1: Building Simulation showed that the Chiller Plant could be Down-Sized





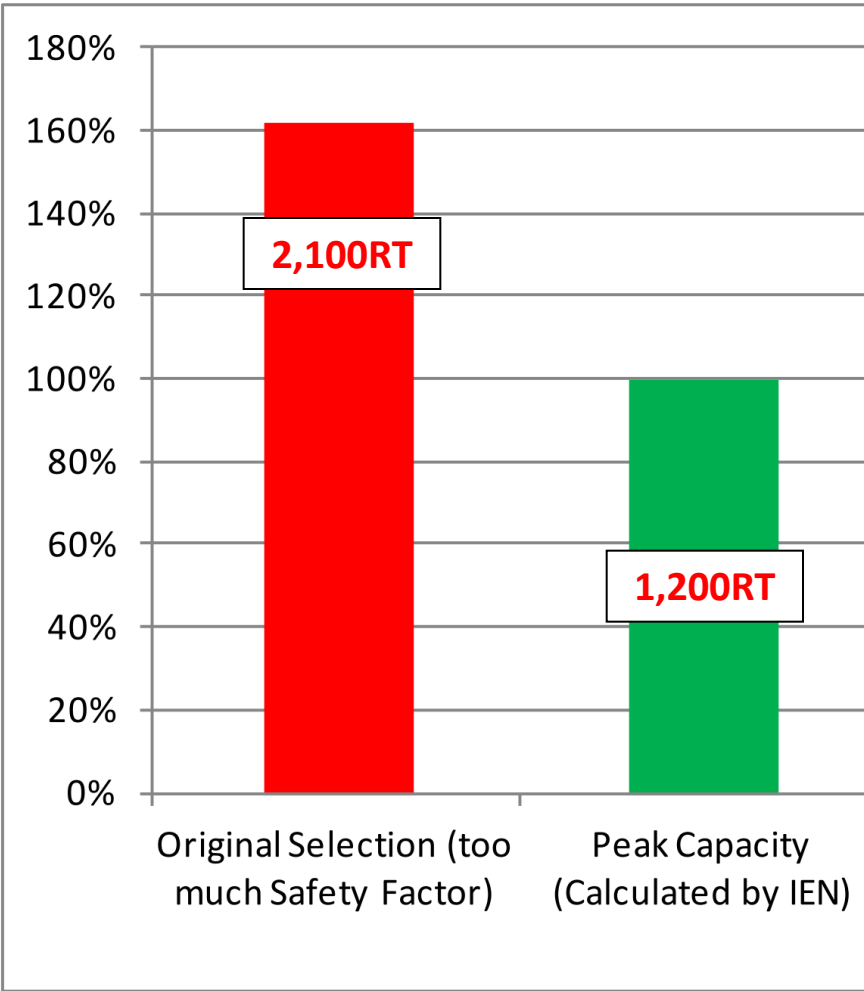
# Case study 2: Building Simulation showed that the Chiller Plant could be Down-Sized

*Shopping mall  
project in  
Malaysia*



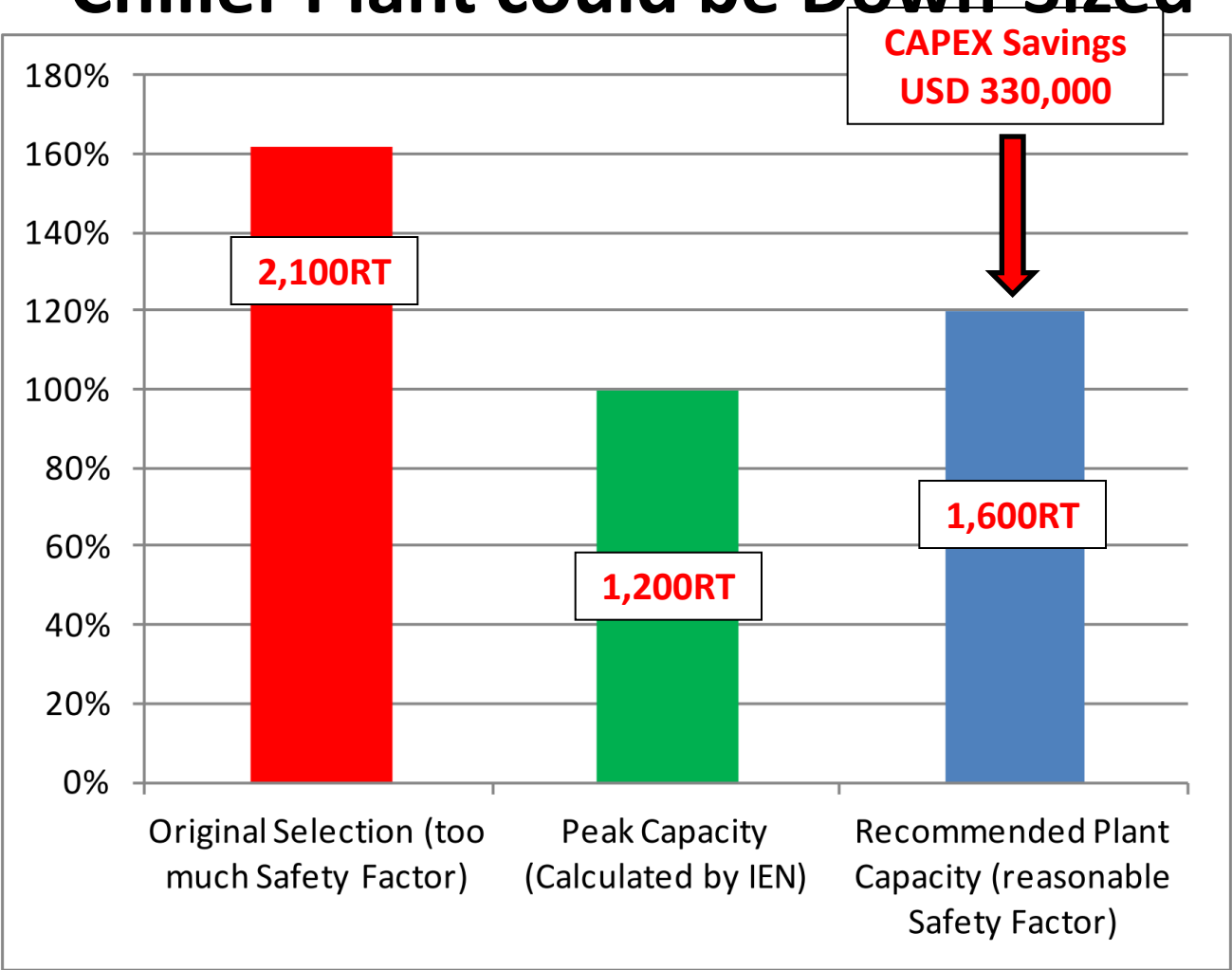
# Case study 2: Building Simulation showed that the Chiller Plant could be Down-Sized

*Shopping mall  
project in  
Malaysia*



# Case study 2: Building Simulation showed that the Chiller Plant could be Down-Sized

*Shopping mall  
project in  
Malaysia*





# Think of Computer Building Simulation like Navigating with a Map of Varying Accuracy

Let's move the market in this direction!

**Accurate map**



=

**Accurate  
computer simulation**

**Building design can be optimised  
and over-design of systems  
minimised**

**Inaccurate map**



=

**Inaccurate  
computer simulation**

**Building design can be improved  
and over-design of systems  
reduced**

**No map**



=

**No  
computer simulation**

**Building design relies on rules of  
thumb resulting in inefficient and  
over-designed systems**

# Create a 'Green Shopping List' for Building Design Team

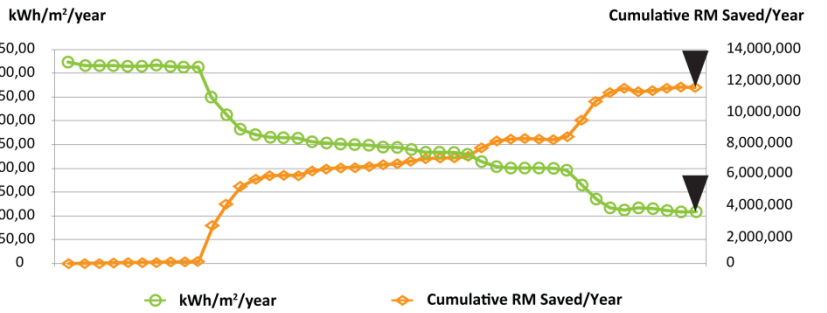
Computer simulation allows assessment of payback time & green Impact for each item

SUMMARY if all 42 items implemented:

Item	Description	Total Building MWh/year	Tenant's MWh/year	Owner's MWh/year	Owner's MWh/year Savings (MWh/yr)	Owner's kWh/m2/year	Running Cost/year	Cumulative MWh/year Saved	% Saved	RM/year Saved per step	% Save per Step	Extra Budget Estimated (RM)
1	Base Case Grid Fw Doors 50% Open during Mall hours.	75,447	36,331	39,117	4,786	419	15,444,554	496	1.24%	190,882	1.24%	300,000
2	Clear Glazing to Clear Glass Single Glazing	75,900	36,331	39,569	52	418	15,234,221	547	1.36%	19,831	0.13%	361,872
3	Clear Low E Glazing to High performance DGI Glazing	75,848	36,331	39,518	52	418	15,214,143	599	1.49%	39,709	0.13%	504,678
4	Roof Insulation 25mm to 50mm	75,812	36,331	39,481	36	417	15,200,368	635	1.58%	13,974	0.09%	733,742
5	Roof Insulation 50mm to 100mm	75,785	36,331	39,454	27	417	15,189,598	662	1.65%	24,384	0.07%	1,760,981
6	Green Vegetated Roof	75,782	36,331	39,451	3	417	15,188,752	665	1.66%	1,206	0.01%	
7	Brickwall to Aerated Light Weight Concrete, 100mm	75,669	36,331	39,338	113	416	15,145,172	775	1.94%	43,580	0.28%	623,900
8	Brickwall to Aerated Light Weight Concrete, 150mm	75,657	36,331	39,326	12	416	15,145,597	790	1.97%	48,155	0.02%	1,405,976
9	Brickwall to Aerated Light Weight Concrete, 200mm	75,649	36,331	39,319	8	415	15,137,432	798	1.99%	51,121	0.02%	
10	VAV system instead of CAV system	69,627	36,331	33,297	6,022	352	12,819,204	6,820	17.00%	2,321,394	15.03%	
11	CO2 sensor for fresh air intake for all AHU	69,091	36,331	32,760	5,557	314	11,457,543	10,357	25.82%	1,361,661	8.82%	750,000
12	Total Pressure 2000 down to 650 Pa, Larger Duct Sizes	61,180	36,331	26,849	2,950	284	10,337,054	13,267	33.07%	1,120,488	7.23%	
13	Electronic Air Filter used for all AHU	62,029	36,331	25,698	1,151	272	8,893,910	14,418	35.94%	443,144	2.87%	1,400,000
14	Use of Air Fall Fan instead of Backward Curve for all AHU	61,506	36,331	25,176	523	266	6,692,638	14,941	37.24%	201,272	1.30%	300,000
15	Efficiency 1 motor for all AHU instead of 0.2	61,403	36,331	25,072	104	265	6,652,652	15,045	37.50%	39,586	0.26%	250,000
16	Heat Recovery Wheel for Cinema spaces only	61,343	36,331	25,012	60	264	6,626,731	15,104	37.63%	22,921	0.13%	100,000
17	Chill Water Pump Head 30m down to 20m, Increase Pipe Sizes	60,682	36,331	24,351	661	257	9,375,189	15,746	38.30%	254,542	1.63%	1,000,000
18	Chill Water Pump Head 20m down to 15m, Increase Pipe Sizes	60,370	36,331	24,039	312	254	9,255,116	16,077	40.08%	120,073	0.78%	1,000,000
19	Chill Water Pump Efficiency 68% to 80%	60,230	36,331	23,899	140	253	9,201,079	16,218	40.43%	54,037	0.33%	108,000
20	Chill Water Motor Efficiency Type 1 instead of Type 2	60,204	36,331	23,873	26	252	9,193,204	16,243	40.49%	9,875	0.06%	270,000
21	Chill Water Constant Flow to Primary/Secondary variable	59,936	36,331	23,605	268	249	9,087,913	16,512	41.16%	103,291	0.67%	500,000
22	Condenser Water Pump Efficiency 68% to 80%	59,623	36,331	23,292	313	246	8,967,515	16,824	41.94%	120,398	0.78%	50,000
23	Condenser Water Motor Efficiency Type 1 instead of Type 2	59,566	36,331	23,235	57	245	8,945,508	16,862	42.08%	22,007	0.14%	25,000
24	Condenser Water Pump head 25 down to 20m, Increase Pipe Size	59,076	36,331	22,745	490	240	8,754,854	17,372	43.30%	188,655	1.22%	1,000,000
25	Condenser Water Pump head 20 down to 15m, Increase Pipe Size	58,586	36,331	22,255	490	235	8,564,259	17,861	44.52%	188,596	1.22%	1,500,000
26	Cooling Tower Constant Speed to 2 speed Fan	58,479	36,331	22,148	107	234	8,526,094	17,965	44.76%	41,564	0.27%	112,000
27	Cooling Tower Constant Speed to variable fan speed	58,427	36,331	22,096	52	233	8,507,145	18,020	44.92%	61,113	0.13%	198,000
28	Cooling Tower Fan Loco, Constant Inlet	58,170	36,331	21,840	257	231	8,408,233	18,277	45.58%	160,025	0.94%	150,000
29	Concourse Lights 35 W/m2 down to 30 W/m2	56,794	36,331	20,464	1,376	216	7,974,473	19,633	48.99%	628,672	4.03%	
30	Concourse Lights 20 W/m2 down to 10 W/m2	55,713	36,331	19,381	1,083	205	7,461,496	20,736	51.69%	1,045,649	6.77%	
31	Concourse Philips 6.8W/m2 (200 lux)	55,368	36,331	19,037	344	201	7,235,186	21,080	52.55%	1,177,557	7.62%	3,333,261
32	Concourse Osram 7.5 W/m2 (200 lux)	55,389	36,331	19,058	1,405	201	7,337,390	21,059	52.40%	1,169,755	7.57%	2,871,613
33	Concourse Megaman 7.8 W/m2 (200 lux)	55,475	36,331	19,144	1,320	202	7,376,404	20,973	52.28%	1,136,741	7.36%	871,172
34	Concourse Night Light 50m down to 2.5m	55,422	36,331	19,091	59	202	7,366,068	21,024	52.41%	6,126	0.12%	
35	Concourse Daylight Top Floor - 75% 1st Floor 75% Grid 50%	55,109	36,331	18,778	313	198	7,225,611	21,339	53.19%	120,457	0.78%	1,400,000
36	Retail Lights & Small Power 100W/m2 down to 75W/m2	42,980	22,748	15,732	3,046	166	6,054,934	24,384	60.78%	1,172,677	7.59%	Free, Convince Retailer
37	Retail Lights & Small Power 75W/m2 down to 50W/m2	31,204	18,165	11,846	2,849	116	4,941,718	24,638	61.88%	1,114,114	7.21%	Free, Convince Retailer
38	Retail Lights & Small Power 50W/m2 down to 35W/m2	23,836	12,716	1,718	1,117	117	4,261,411	28,996	72.28%	661,308	4.28%	Free, Convince Retailer
39	Night Retail 30% down to 15%	21,938	11,249	1,689	432	113	4,115,276	29,428	73.38%	566,135	1.08%	Free, Convince Retailer
40	Chill Water Pump Head 20m, Condenser Water Pump Head 30m	22,400	11,249	1,151	462	118	4,293,257	28,965	72.20%	177,581	1.13%	Base Case Chiller
41	MS 1525 to Durham Bush	22,168	11,249	1,919	232	115	4,200,985	29,397	72.78%	89,272	0.58%	1,957,975
42	MS 1525 to Carrier w/ primary variable flow + variable condenser	21,832	11,249	1,583	336	112	4,074,439	29,534	73.62%	218,818	0.84%	1,092,130
43	MS 1525 to Transco Ind	21,161	11,249	1,543	270	109	3,970,350	29,804	74.29%	322,807	0.87%	810,113
44	MS 1525 to Transco Chill Water Pump delta T high (dTi=10F to 15F, Chill wa	21,773	11,249	1,524	212	111	4,051,900	29,592	73.77%	241,357	0.53%	681,120

% Saving per step  
0.67%

% Saving in Energy  
68.53%



Green Mark Score  
[Points]

97.5

Additional Cost  
[RM]

32,206,000

Saving / Year  
[RM]

10,640,000

Payback Period  
[Years]

<3

Energy Index  
[kWh/m2/y]

133

Total Saving in  
Energy [%]

68.53%

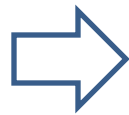
POTENTIAL: 68% energy savings and 3 year payback time

# For unfamiliar territory, a map will be very helpful!

## Case Study:

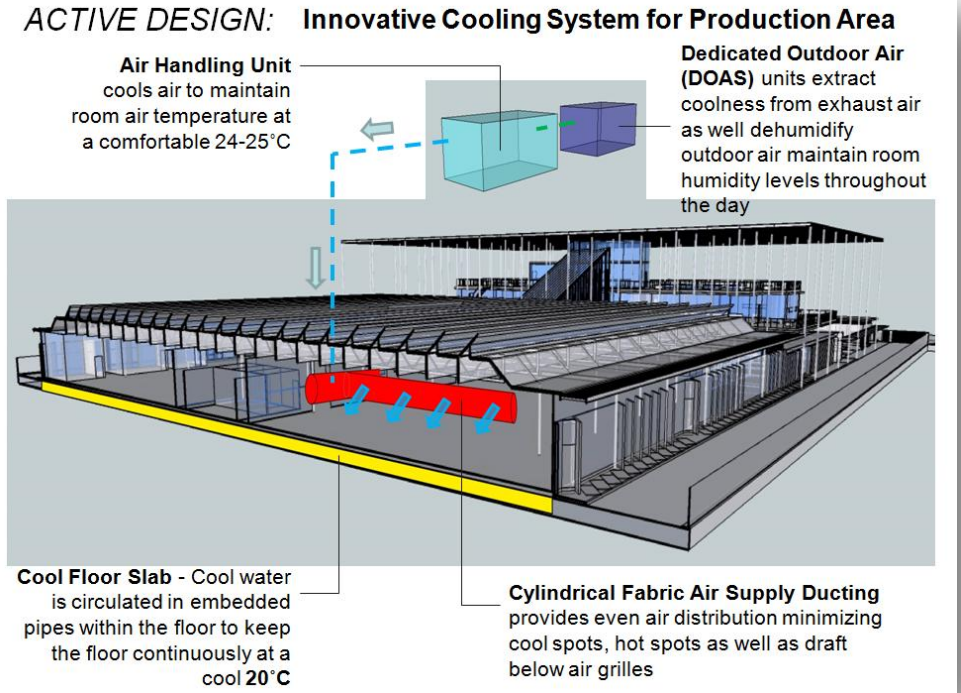
Air Conditioned Factory (Malaysia)

1. Cooling load can vary a lot from factory to factory (rule of thumb difficult to apply)
2. Roof architecture of factory might not be correctly modelled in simple HVAC-sizing softwares

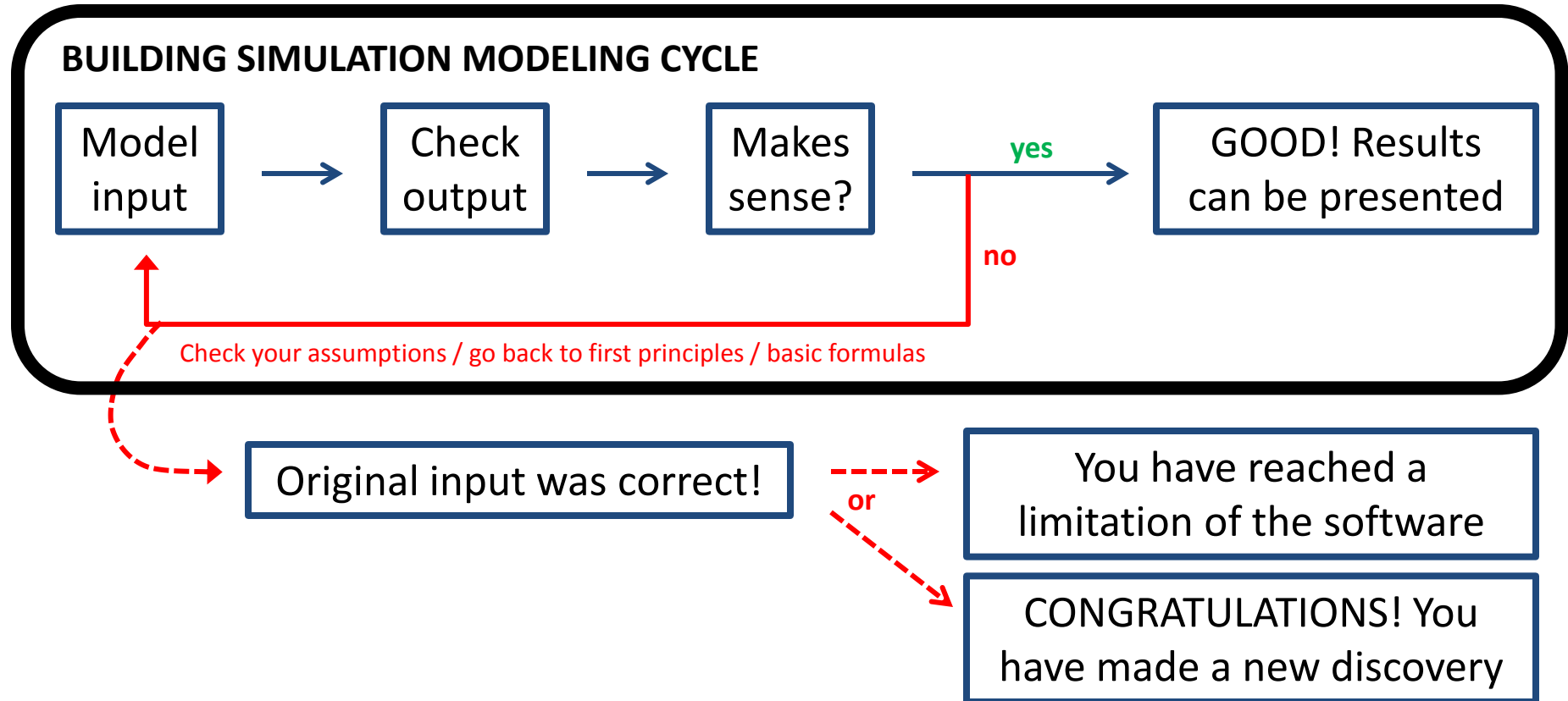


**Our energy model showed that the cooling system could be down-sized 3 times, saving a CAPEX of USD1 million!**

**Factory architecture and HVAC accurately simulated using IES software**



# “Energy Simulations are easy, making sense out of them is the challenge”



# Check your model, Check your model, Check your model – and don't forget to Check your model!

30/07/2016



SHARE



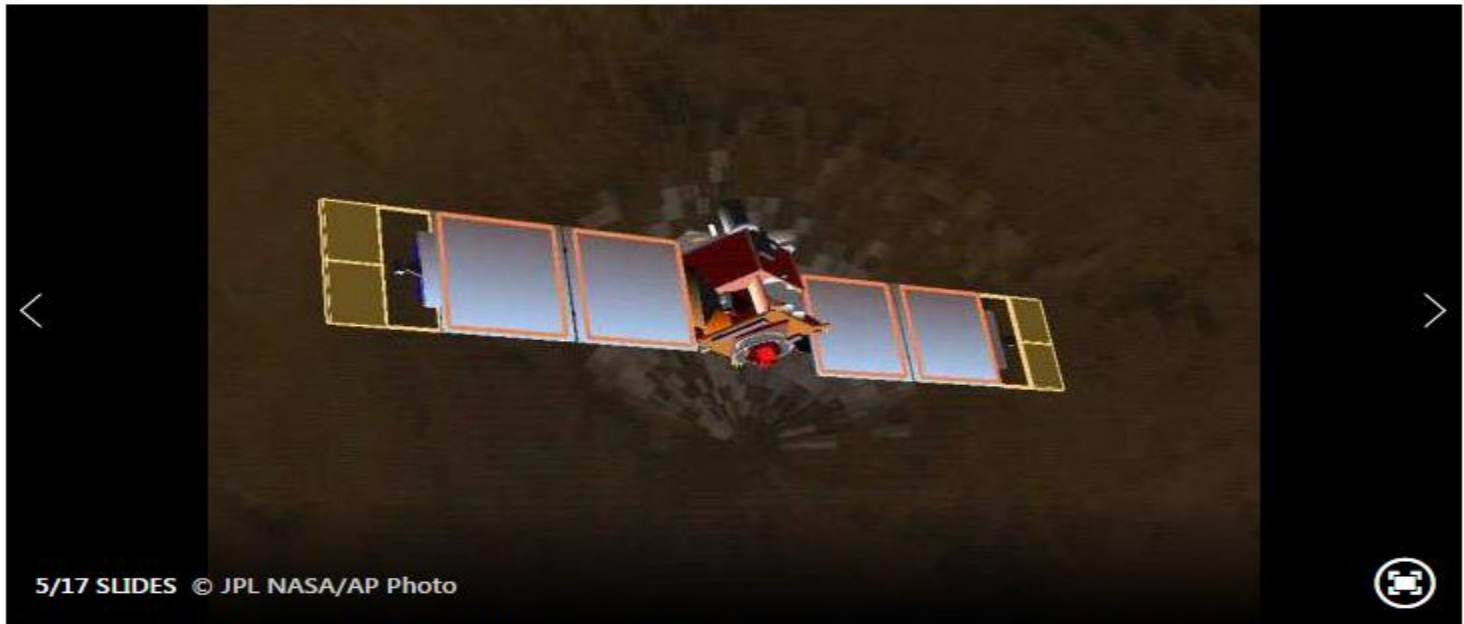
TWEET



SHARE



EMAIL



# Check your model, Check your model, Check your model – and don't forget to Check your model!

16 of the most expensive mistakes in history

30/07/2016



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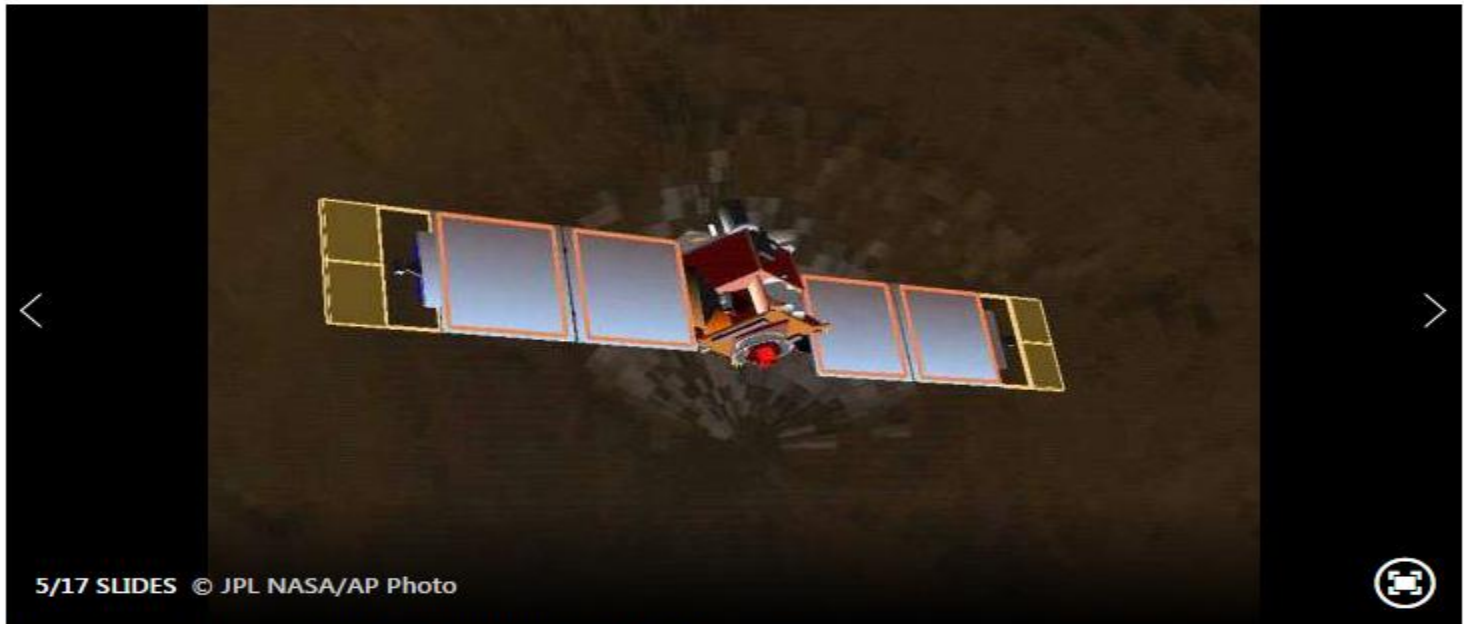
TWEET



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## MATHEMATICAL ERROR ENDS £80-MILLION NASA MARS PROBE

NASA spent around £80 million on the Mars Climate Orbiter, which was originally designed to study the climate on Mars. However, a small mathematical error proved to be the orbiter's undoing as NASA lost contact with the probe, and it was eventually destroyed over the planet in 1999.

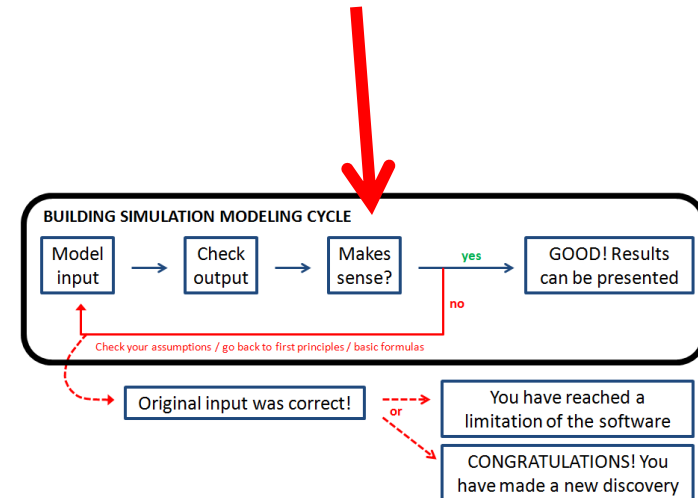


# Examples of 'trusting results blindly'

1. CO2 meter that had an outdoor reading of about 200 ppm, even though outdoor CO2 levels are about 400 ppm. Nevertheless, the Ph.D. lab-student insisted that the reading was correct
2. TVOC meter reading that had reading of 0, which made the university students think the meter was broken even though this was a perfectly probably reading
3. One of the big US building consultancy firms proudly presented an so-called optimised glare-free facade design option after 200+ iterations and countless annual computer simulations. However, it was immediately obvious that their glare model used was wrong rendering all the simulations worthless.
4. One of the big roofing contractors in Malaysia presented a simulation report that showed that the U-value requirement was met. However, our independent simulation in a more comprehensive 3D simulation software showed that the U-value was exceeded by 42%. The contractor had used an over-simplified software (for the last 20 years!)

Please don't forget the most important question:

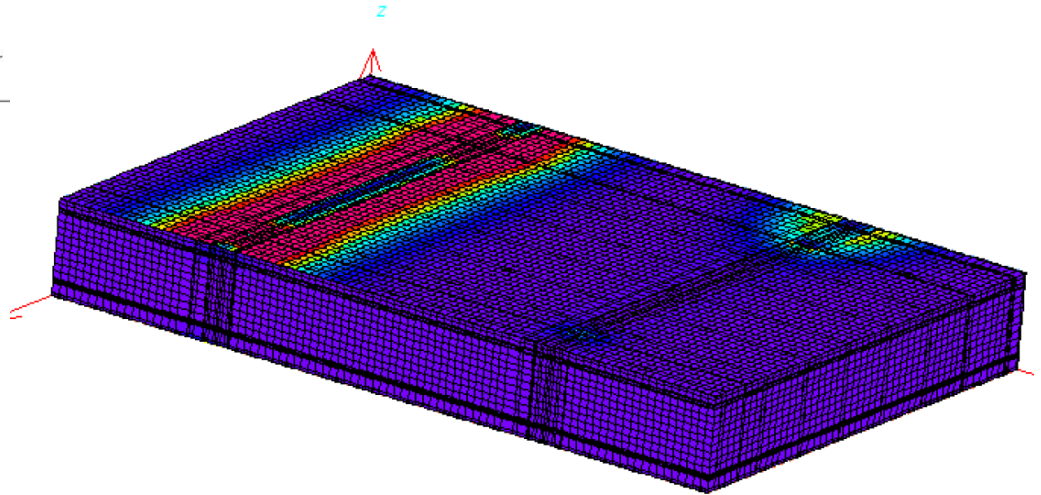
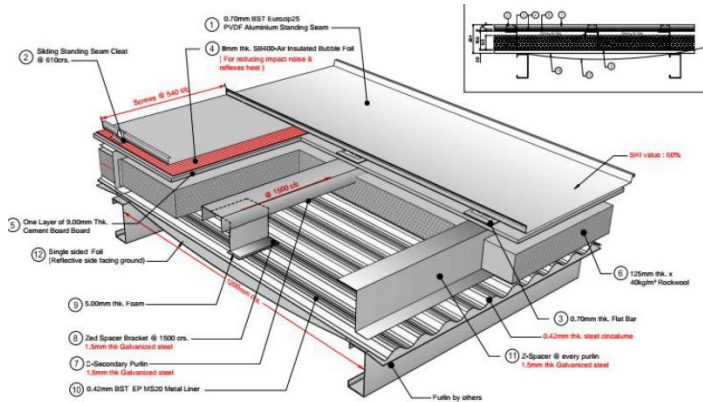
**Do the results make sense?**





# Example: 3D Heat Flow through Constructions

42% higher U-value than simplified simulation (refer item 4 previous slide)

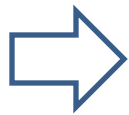


# Example of not 'trusting results blindly'

## Case Study:

24-hour air conditioned factory (Malaysia)

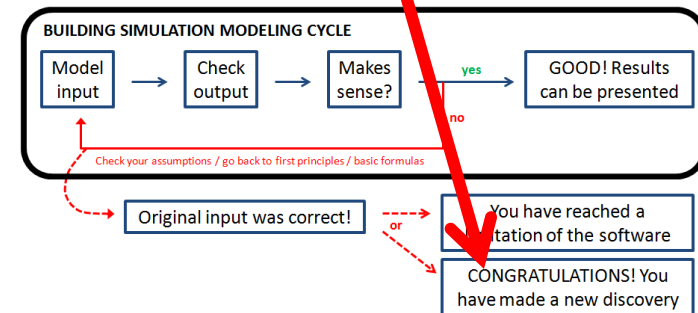
1. The base design was to insulate the entire factory floor by 50 mm. The floor is permanently cooled to 15°C with embedded floor slab cooling pipes
2. Value engineering prompted us to explore if we could save any roof insulation



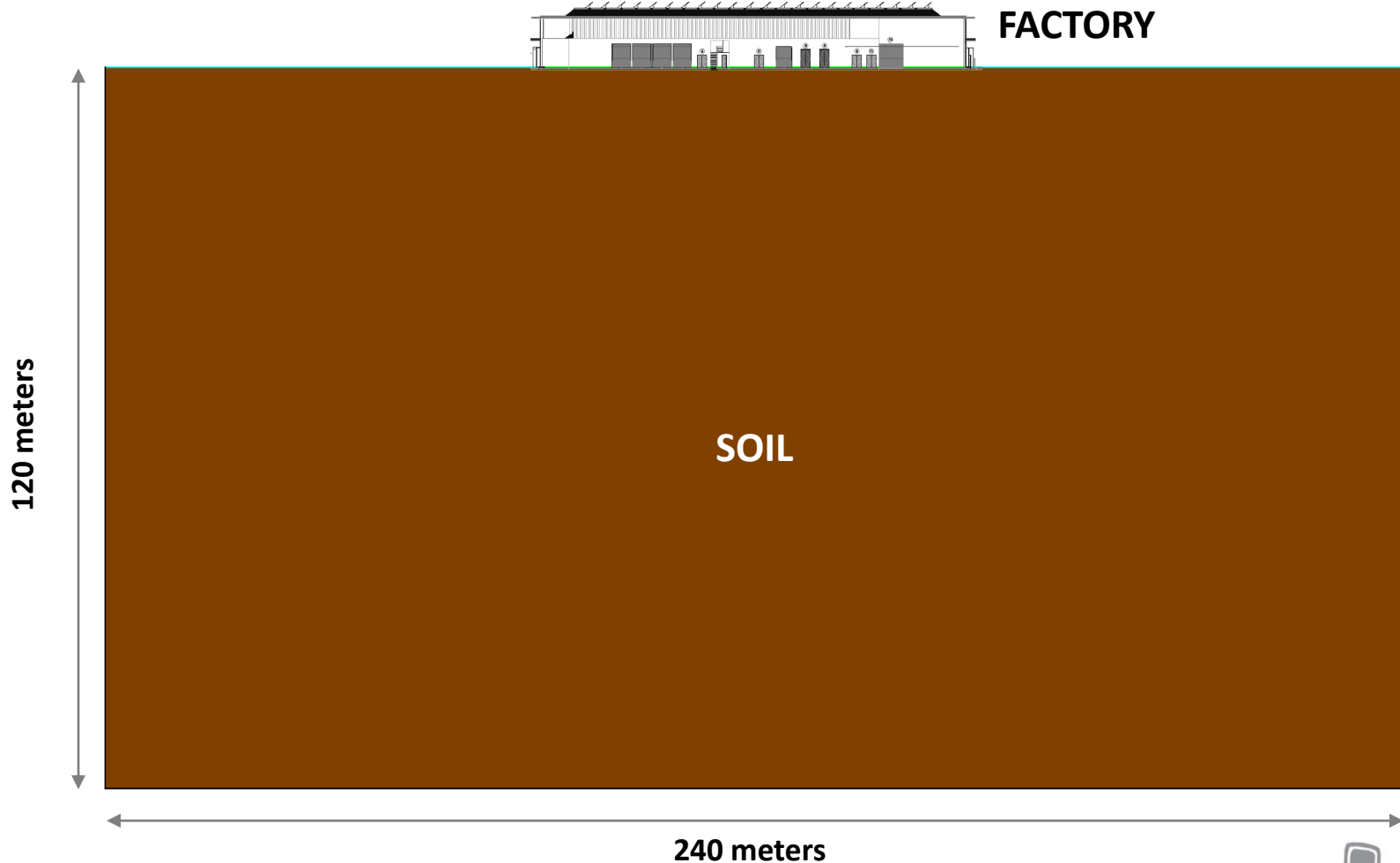
**This is what we found.....**  
(see next slides)

Example of:

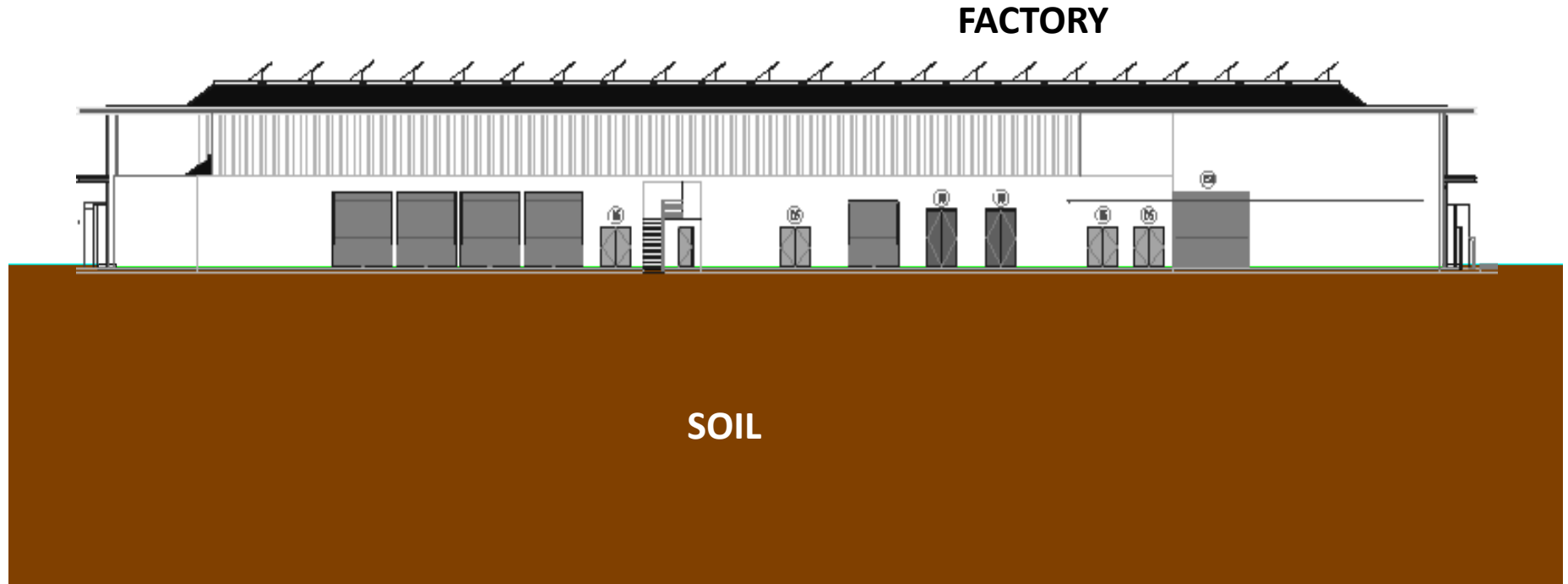
**Making new discovery**



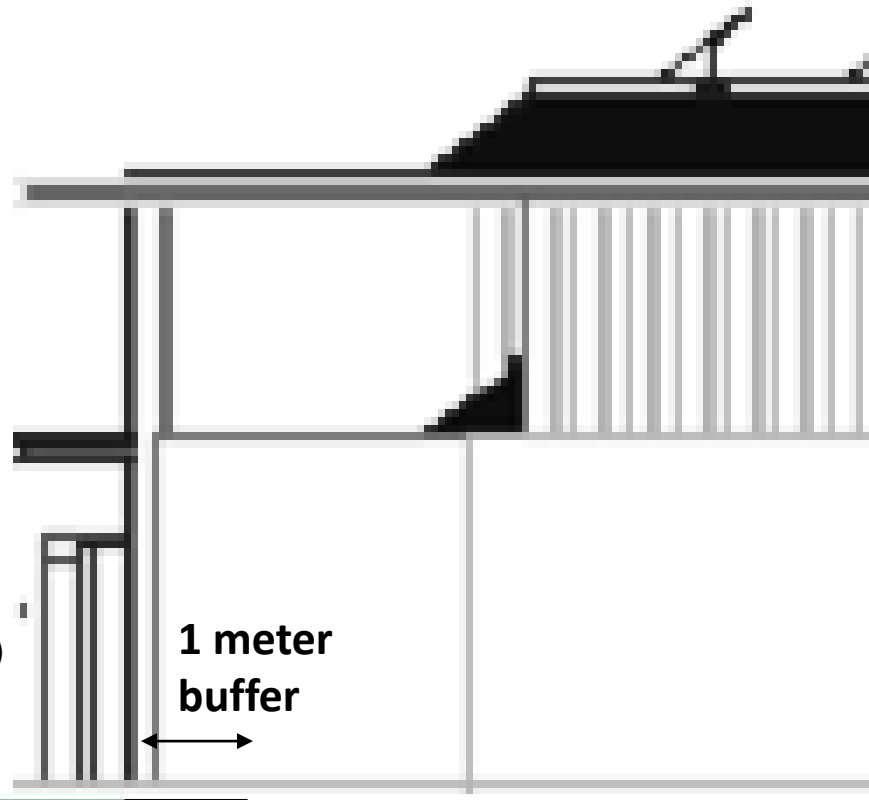
# Steady State Finite Element Model



# Steady State Finite Element Model



# Steady State Finite Element Model



**FACTORY**

**Base Case**  
(Case 1)

*Note: All measurements in the simulation model was reduced by a factor 10, as the model would otherwise become too big. Hence, only the relative cooling loss calculation is correct and not the absolute cooling calculation. The latter should roughly be divided by a factor 10.*

**28°C**  
(soil temp.)

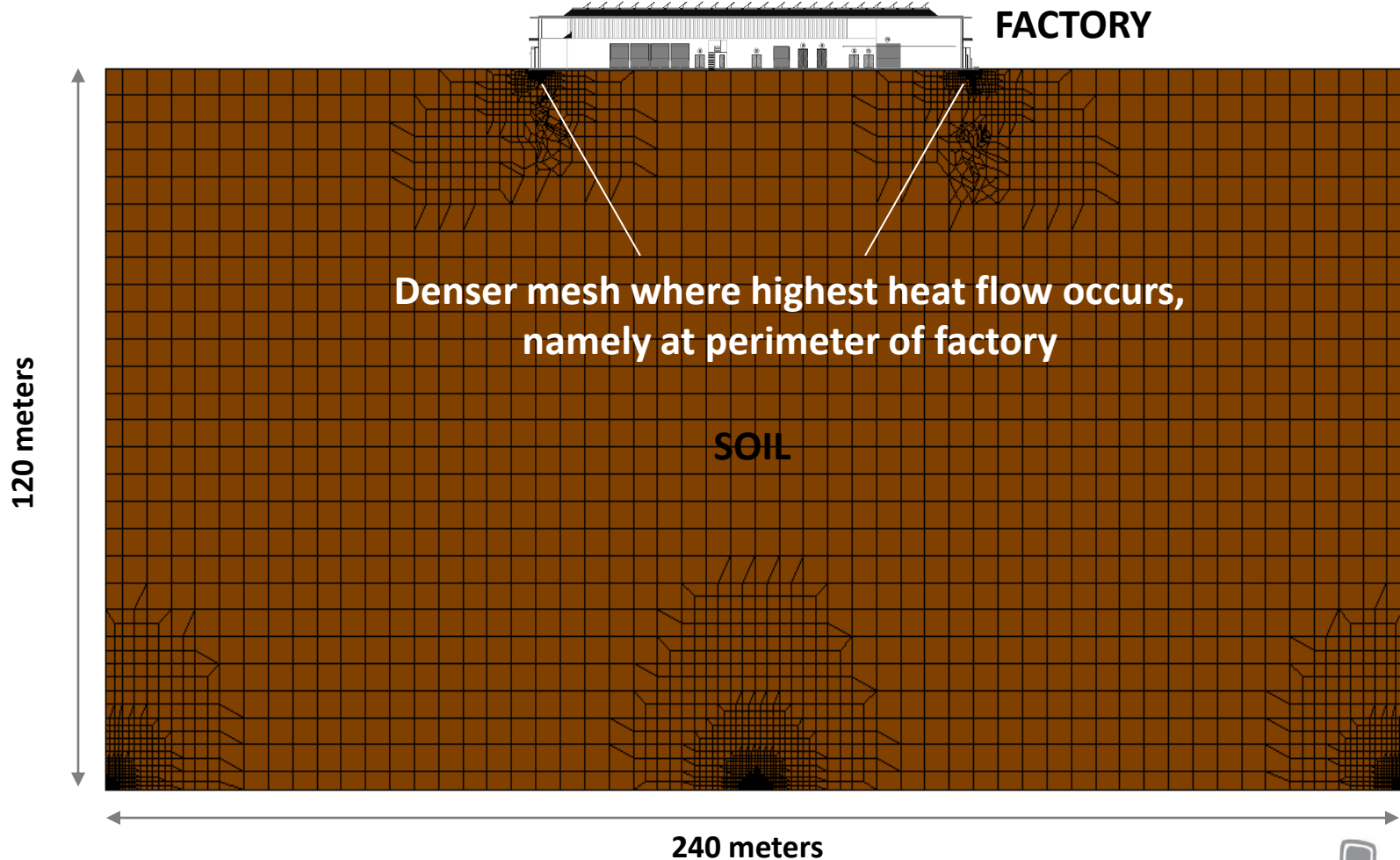
**1 meter  
buffer**

**2 W/m K** (wet soil thermal conductivity)

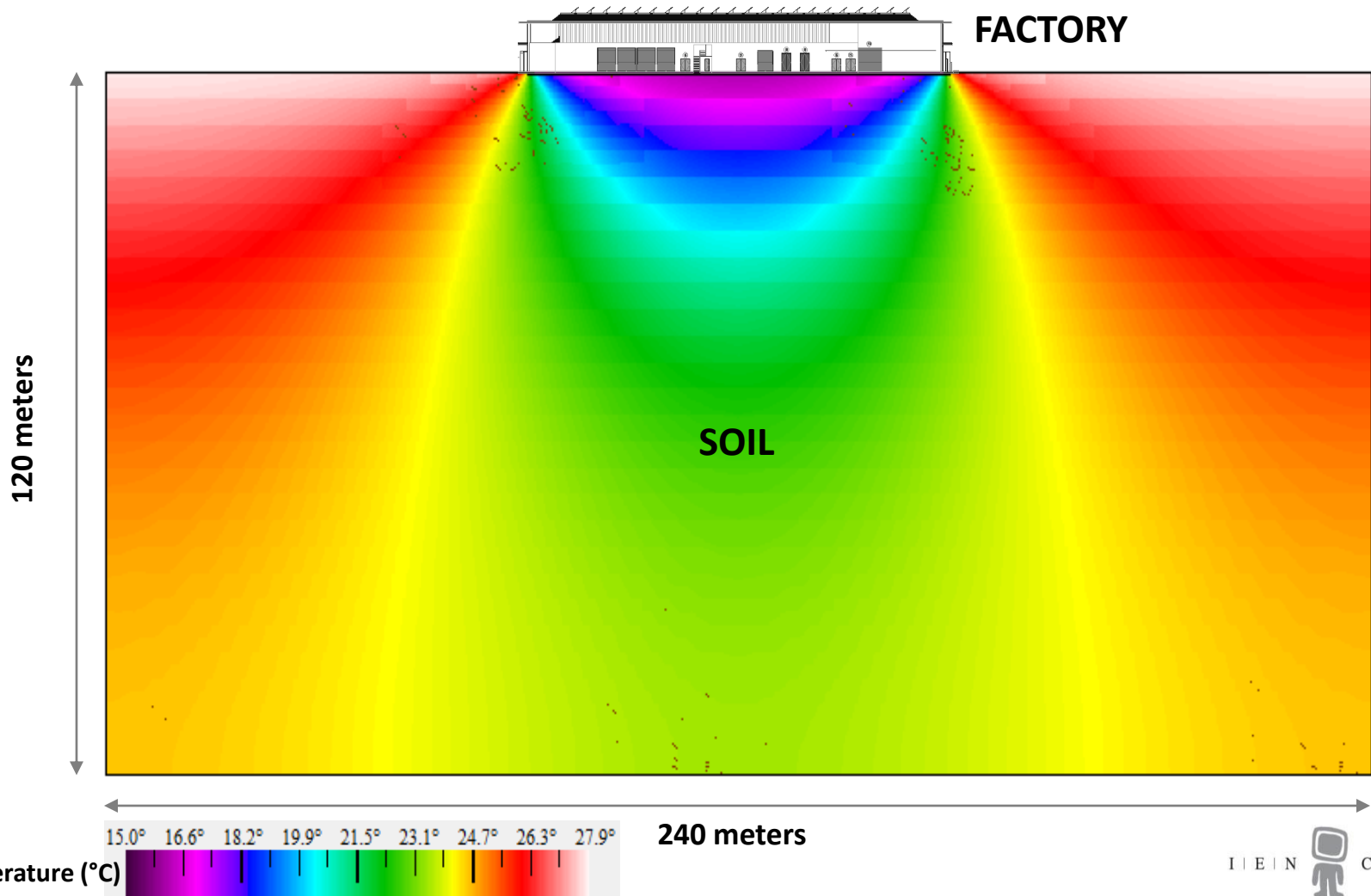
**15°C** (24-hour floor slab cooling)

**50 mm** (DOW insulation, colored green)

# Steady State Finite Element Mesh

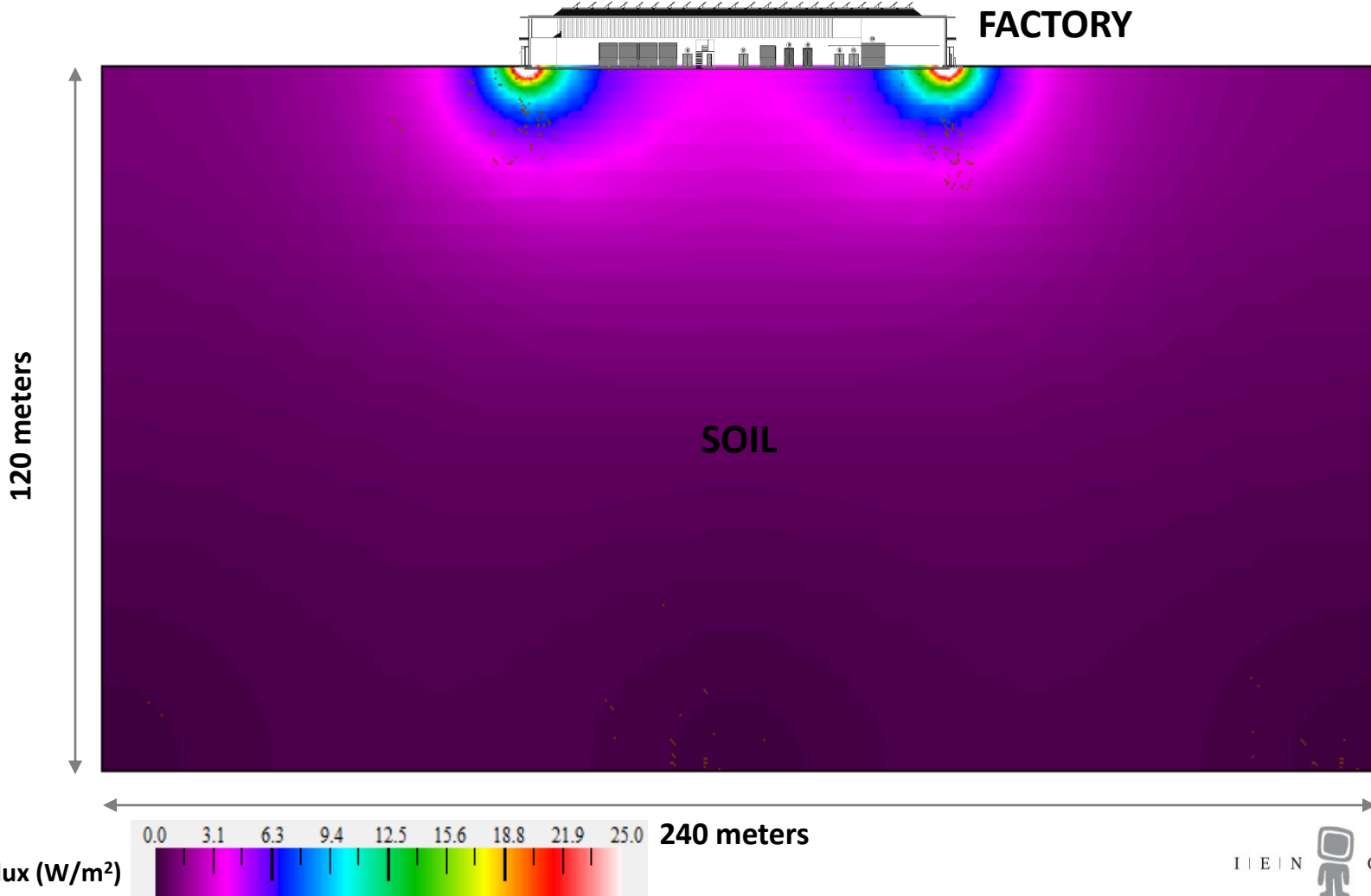


# Simulated Temperature Profile

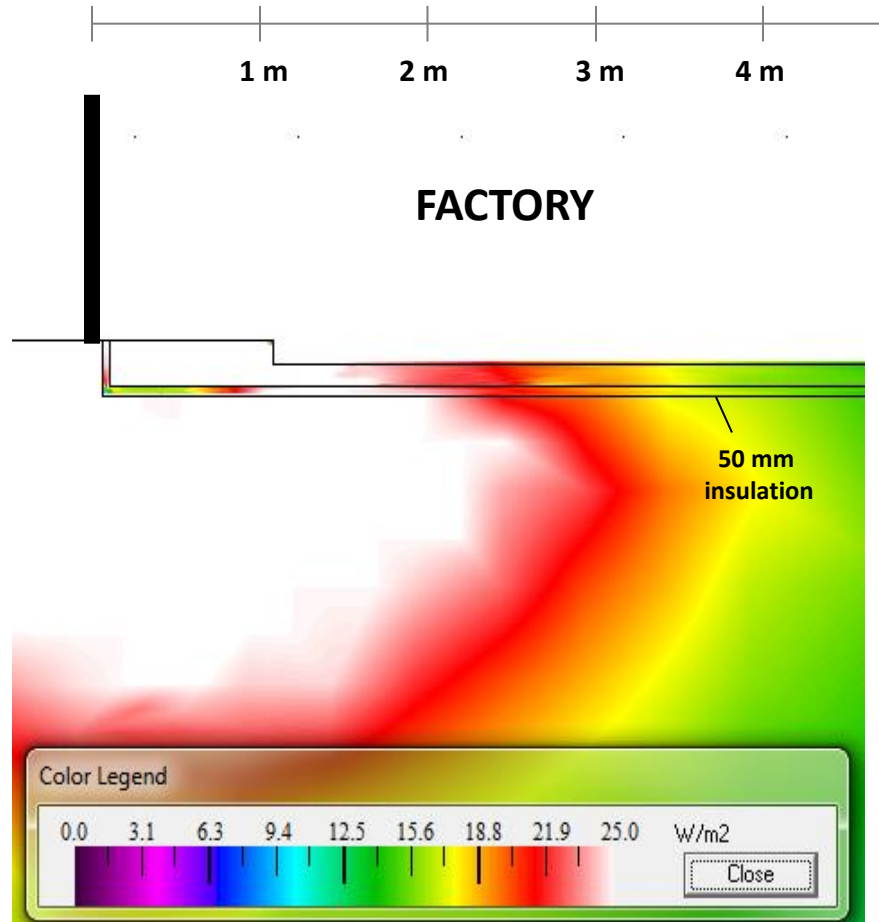




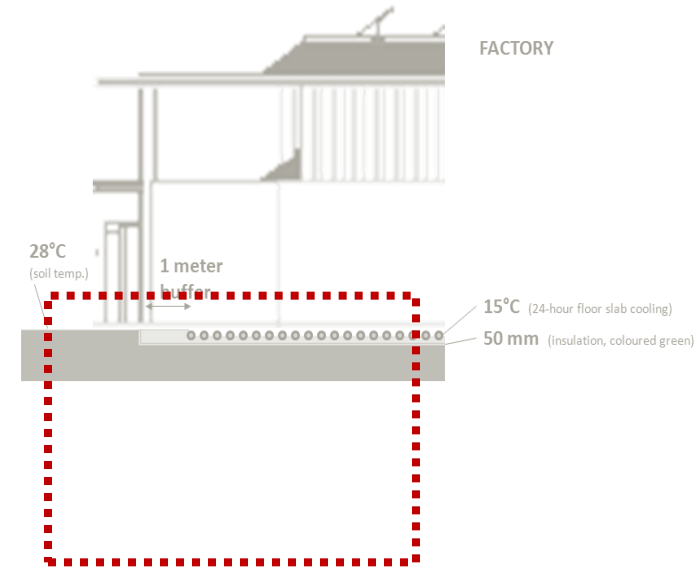
# Simulated Heat Flux Profile



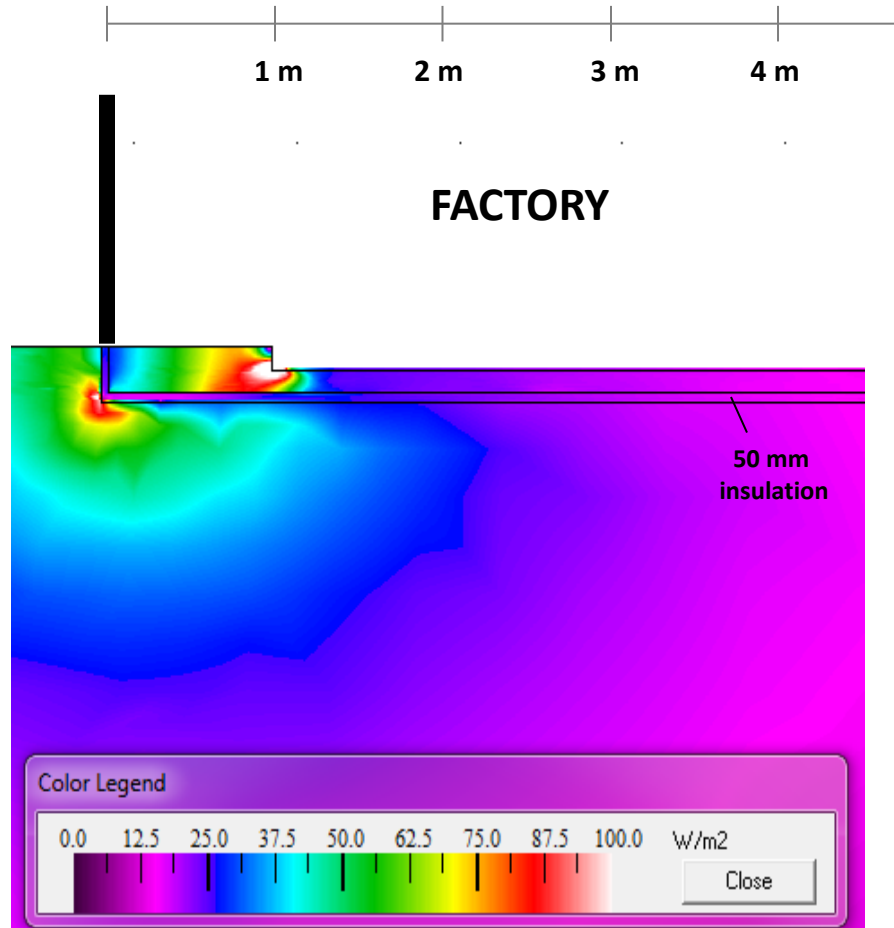
# Factory Perimeter (Simulated Heat Flux Profile)



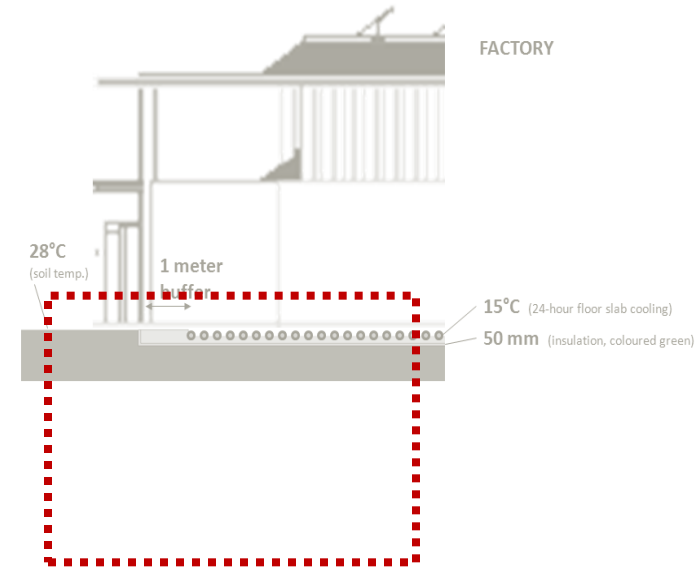
0 – 25 W/m<sup>2</sup> scale



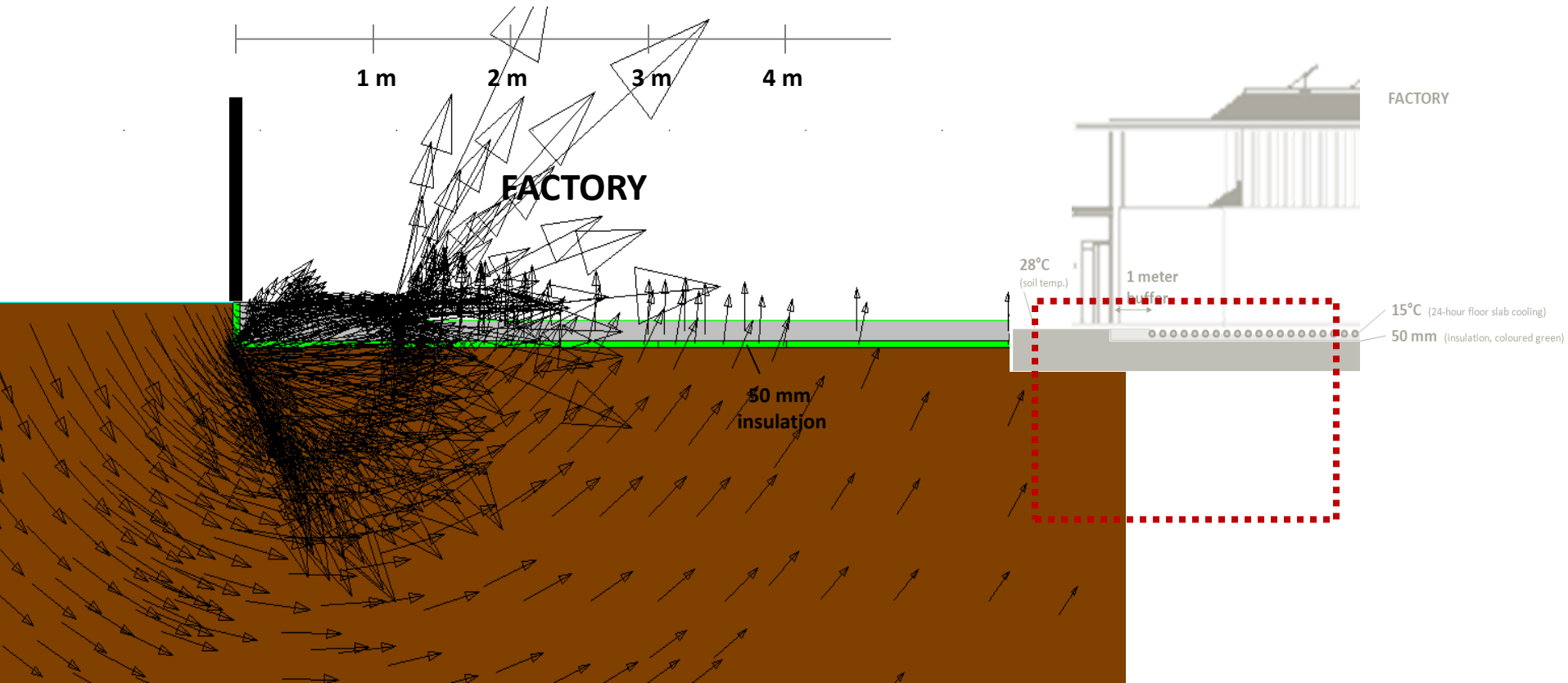
# Factory Perimeter (Simulated Heat Flux Profile)



0 – 100 W/m<sup>2</sup> scale



# Factory Perimeter (Simulated Heat Flux Profile)



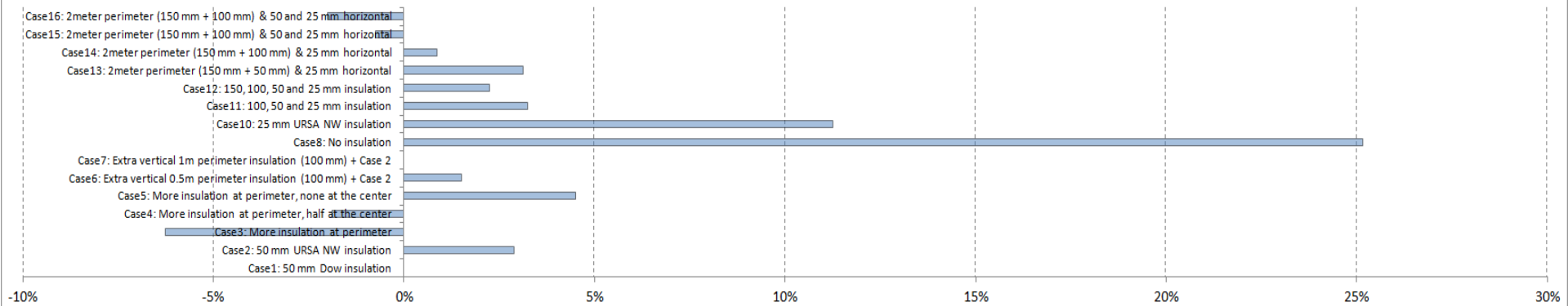
Heat flux arrows showing direction and quantity of heat flow

# Different simulations cases

Case	Description	DOW Thermal conductivity (W/m K)	URSA NW Thermal conductivity (W/m K)	Horizontal insulation thickness from factory floor perimeter						Vertical insulation thickness from factory floor perimeter	
				0-1 meter	1-2 meter	2-3 meter	3-4 meter	4 meter and above	Insulation depth	Insulation width	
1	50 mm Dow insulation (BASE CASE)	0.028	0.034	50 mm DOW	50 mm DOW	50 mm DOW	50 mm DOW	50 mm DOW	500 mm	50 mm DOW	
2	50 mm URSA NW insulation	0.028	0.034	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	500 mm	50 mm URSA NW	
3	More insulation at perimeter	0.028	0.034	200 mm URSA NW	200 mm URSA NW	150 mm URSA NW	100 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	500 mm	200 mm URSA NW	
4	More insulation at perimeter, half at the center	0.028	0.034	200 mm URSA NW	200 mm URSA NW	150 mm URSA NW	100 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	500 mm	200 mm URSA NW	
5	More insulation at perimeter, none at the center	0.028	0.034	200 mm URSA NW	200 mm URSA NW	150 mm URSA NW	100 mm URSA NW	0 mm URSA NW	500 mm	200 mm URSA NW	
6	Extra vertical 0.5m perimeter insulation (100 mm) + Case 2	0.028	0.034	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	1000 mm	100 mm URSA NW	
7	Extra vertical 1m perimeter insulation (100 mm) + Case 2	0.028	0.034	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	1500 mm	100 mm URSA NW	
8	No insulation	0.028	0.034	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10	25 mm URSA NW insulation	0.028	0.034	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	500 mm	25 mm URSA NW	
11	100, 50 and 25 mm insulation	0.028	0.034	100 mm URSA NW	100 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	500 mm	100 mm URSA NW	
12	150, 100, 50 and 25 mm insulation	0.028	0.034	150 mm URSA NW	100 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	500 mm	150 mm URSA NW	
13	2meter perimeter (150 mm + 50 mm) & 25 mm horizontal	0.028	0.034	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	2000 mm	150 and 50 mm	
14	2meter perimeter (150 mm + 100 mm) & 25 mm horizontal	0.028	0.034	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	2000 mm	150 and 100 mm	
15	2meter perimeter (150 mm + 100 mm) & 50 and 25 mm horizontal	0.028	0.034	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	2000 mm	150 and 100 mm	
16	2meter perimeter (150 mm + 100 mm) & 50 and 25 mm horizontal	0.028	0.034	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	50 mm URSA NW	25 mm URSA NW	2000 mm	150 and 100 mm	

# Results

COOLING LOSS INCREASE compared to using 50 mm DOW insulation under entire factory floor foundation

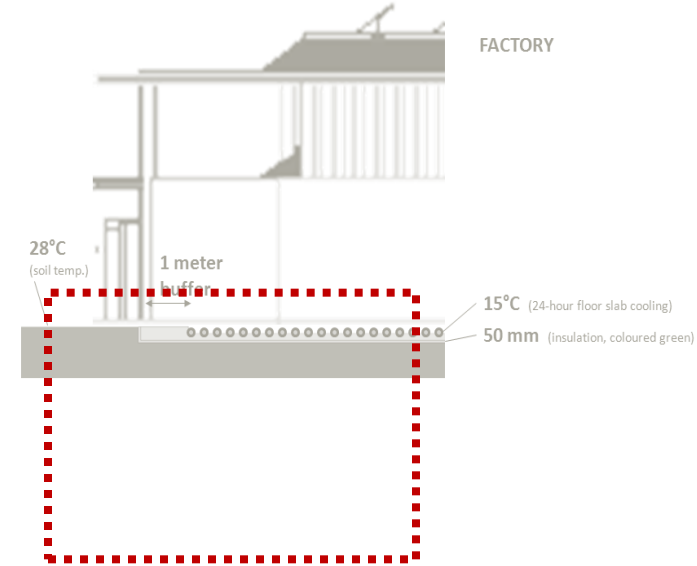
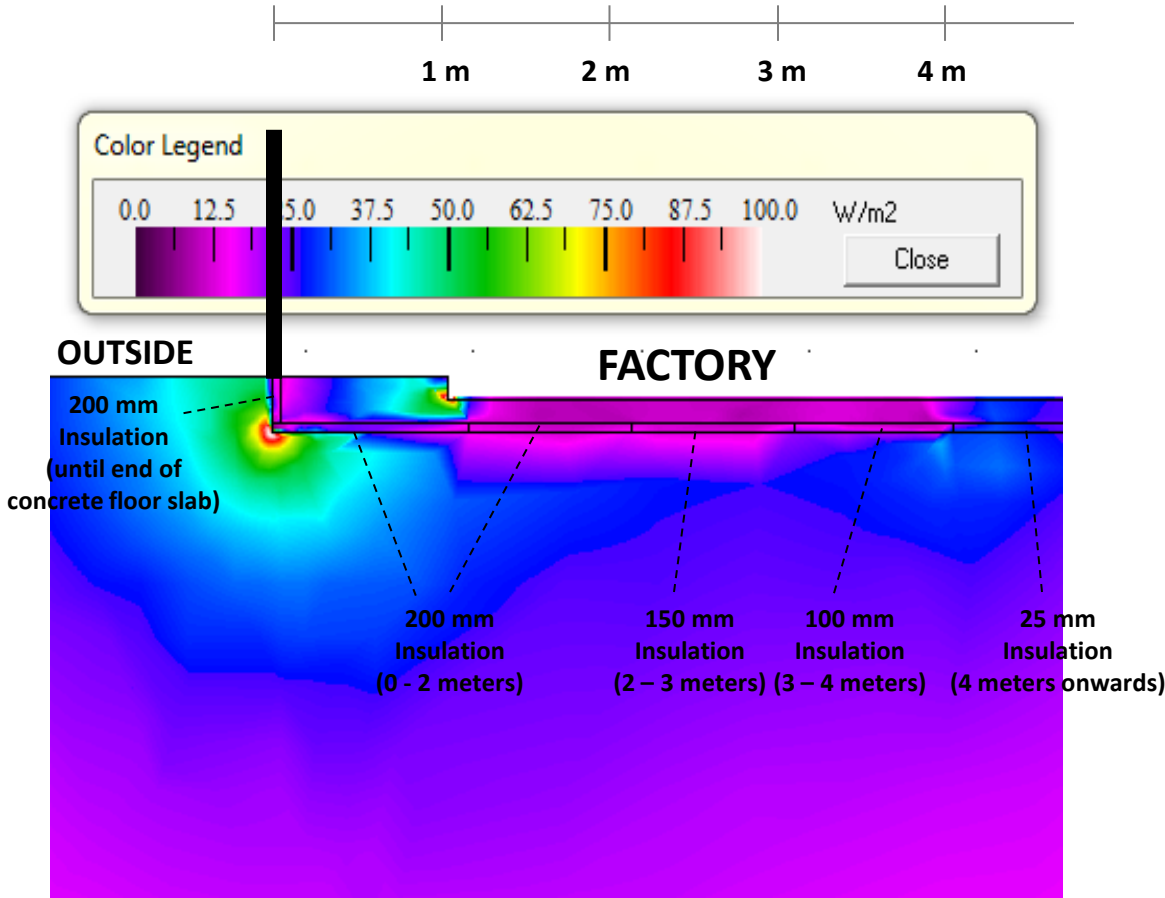


Graph	Cooling loss increase
Case1: 50 mm Dow insulation	
Case2: 50 mm URSA NW insulation	3%
Case3: More insulation at perimeter	-6%
Case4: More insulation at perimeter, half at the center	-2%
Case5: More insulation at perimeter, none at the center	5%
Case6: Extra vertical 0.5m perimeter insulation (100 mm) + Case 2	2%
Case7: Extra vertical 1m perimeter insulation (100 mm) + Case 2	0%
Case8: No insulation	25%
Case10: 25 mm URSA NW insulation	11%
Case11: 100, 50 and 25 mm insulation	3%
Case12: 150, 100, 50 and 25 mm insulation	2%
Case13: 2meter perimeter (150 mm + 50 mm) & 25 mm horizontal	3%
Case14: 2meter perimeter (150 mm + 100 mm) & 25 mm horizontal	1%
Case15: 2meter perimeter (150 mm + 100 mm) & 50 and 25 mm horizontal	-1%
Case16: 2meter perimeter (150 mm + 100 mm) & 50 and 25 mm horizontal	-2%

Recommendations

See illustration on the following slides  
→ → →

# Heat Flux: Floor Slab Section Case 4

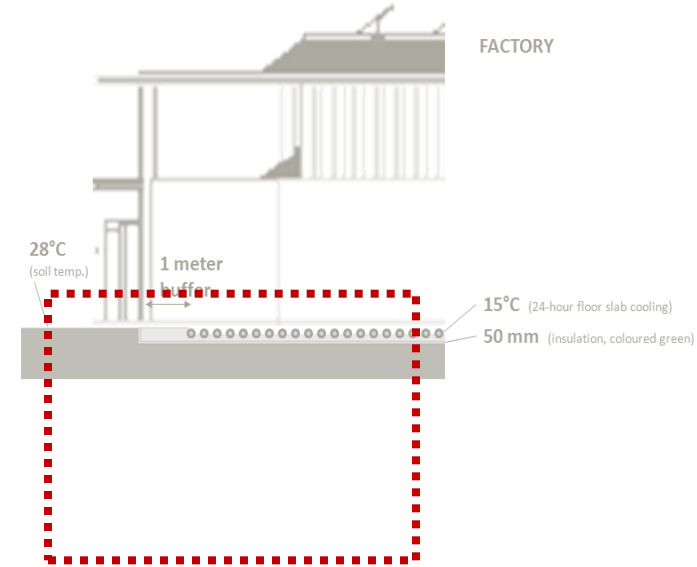
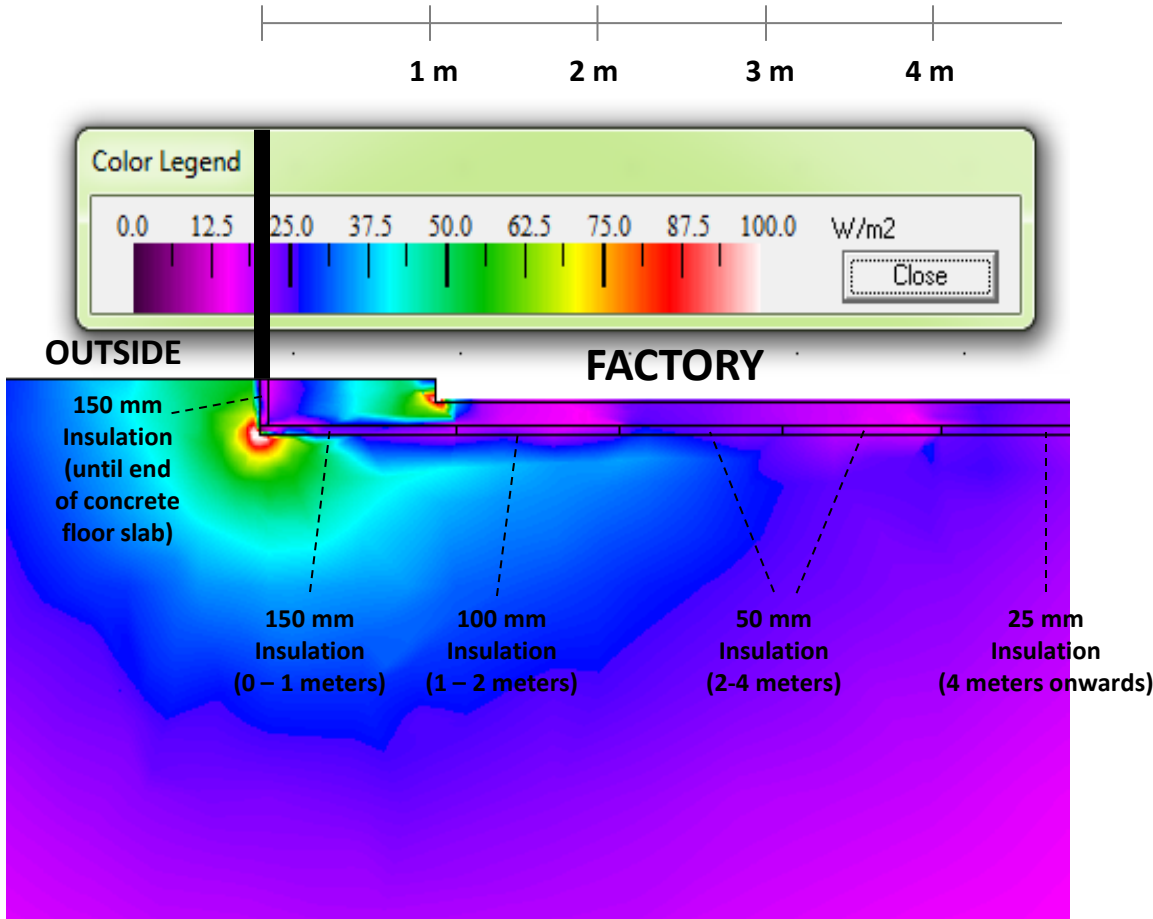


2% Extra Cooling  
**SAVING**

Heat flux at factory floor perimeter (0 – 100 W/m<sup>2</sup> scale)



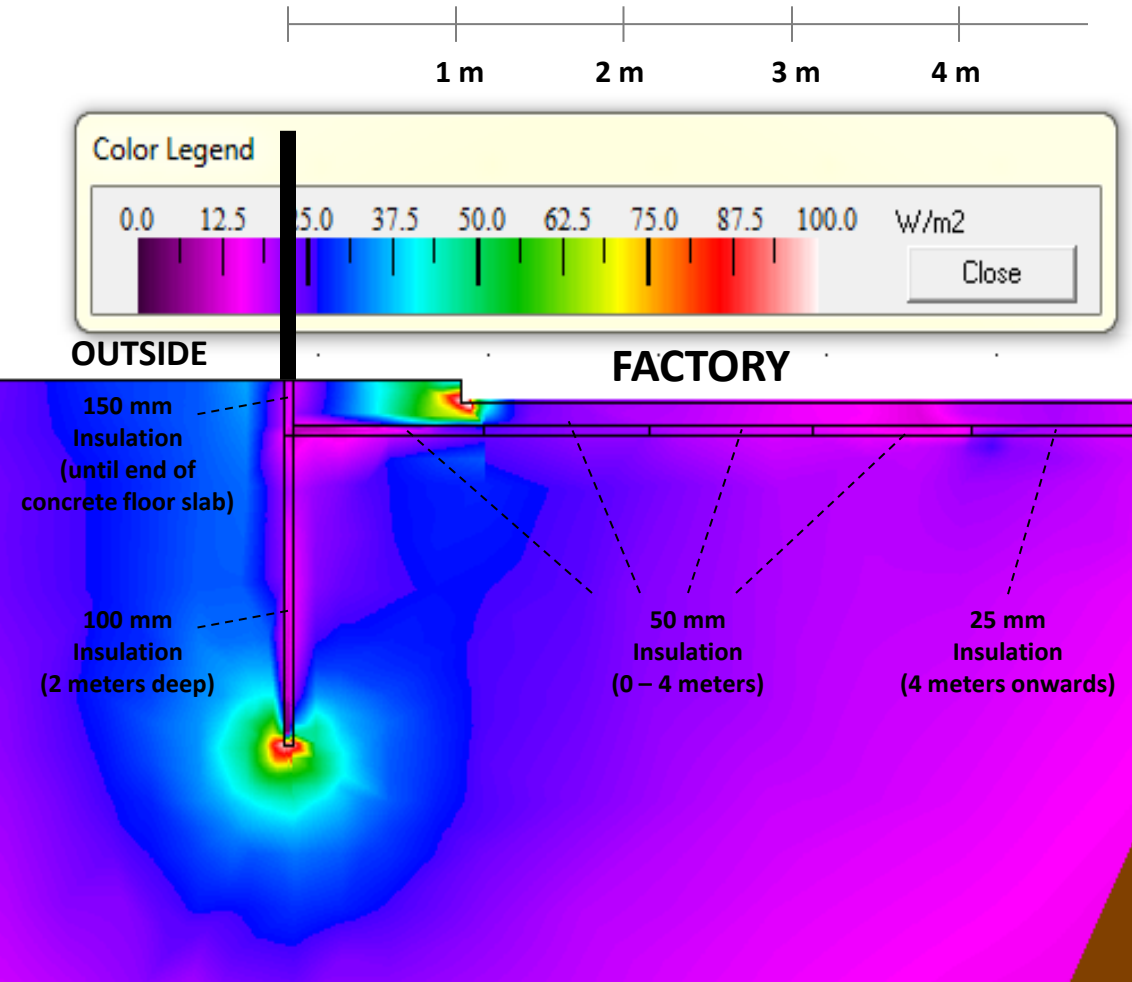
# Heat Flux: Floor Slab Section Case 12



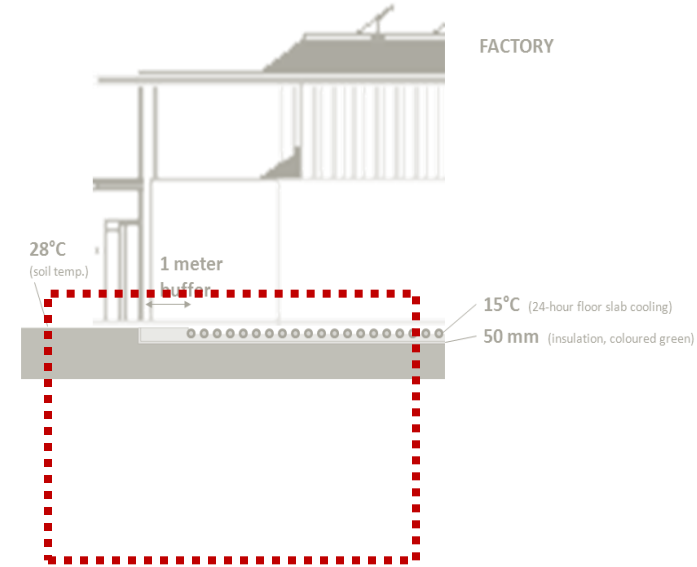
**2% Extra Cooling  
LOSS**

Heat flux at factory floor perimeter (0 – 100 W/m<sup>2</sup> scale)

# Heat Flux: Floor Slab Section Case 16



Heat flux at factory floor perimeter (0 – 100 W/m<sup>2</sup> scale)



2% Extra Cooling  
**SAVING**

# Rain Water Harvesting

## Optimising Tank Sizes & Pump Sizes

### Case Study:

Office building in Putrajaya

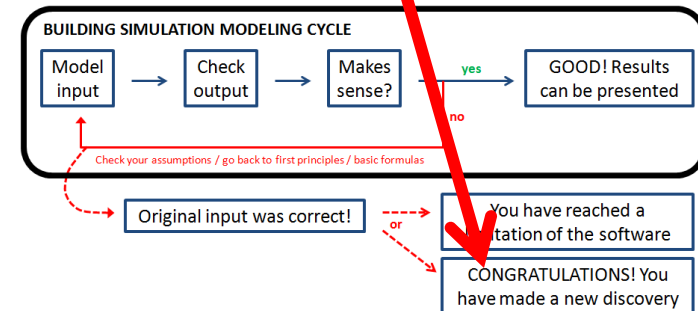
1. Harvest rainwater for irrigation
2. Harvest AHU condensate
3. Harvest grey water



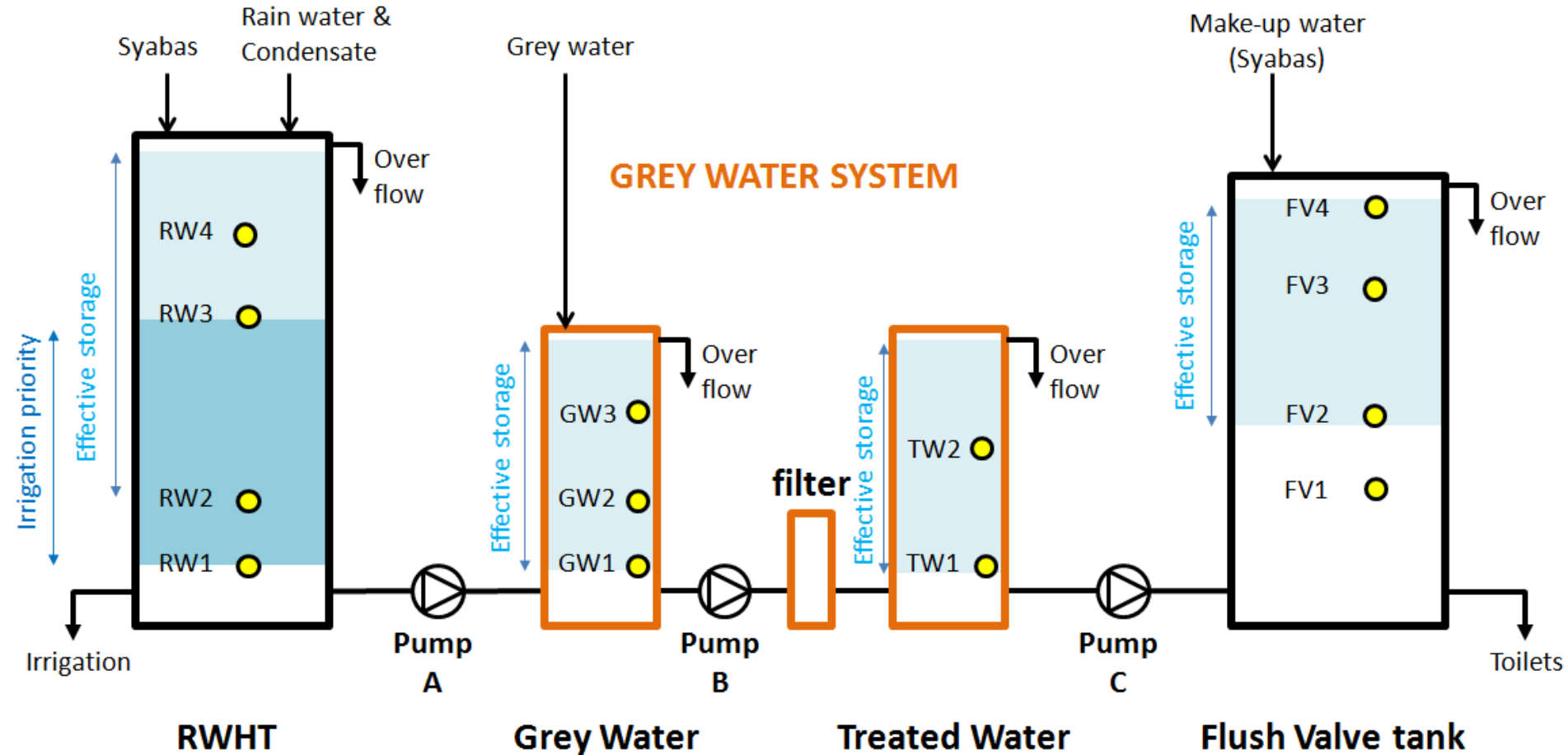
**This is what we found.....**  
(see next slides)

Example of:

**Making 'new' discovery**

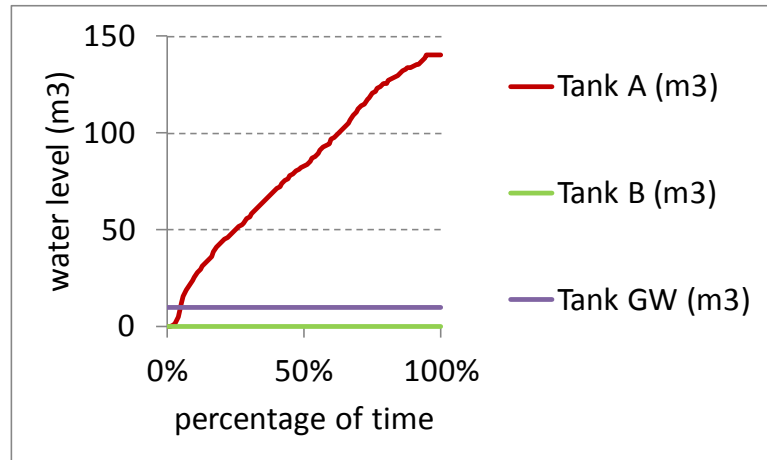
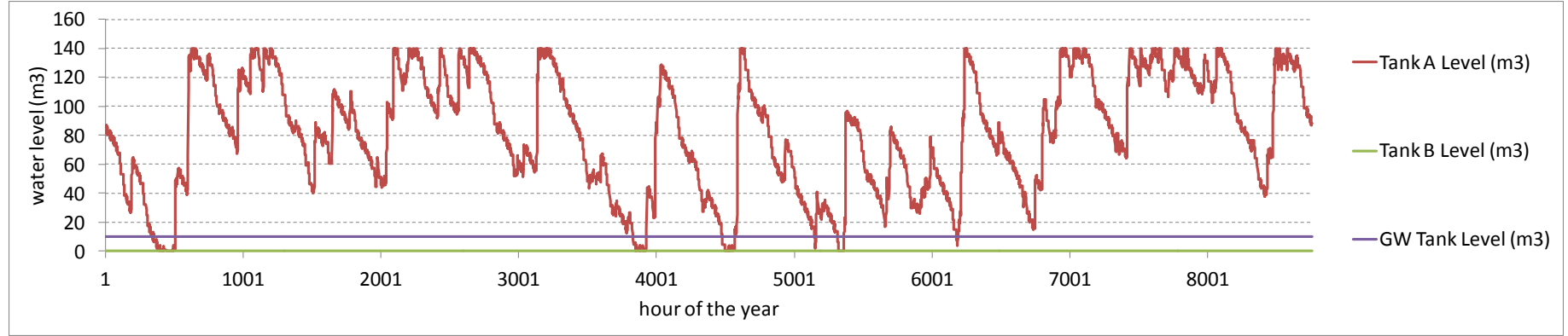


# Water System Diagram



# Water Level in Tanks

Effective storages: 140 m<sup>3</sup> / 84 m<sup>3</sup> (Tank A total / reserved for rainwater), 30 m<sup>3</sup> (Tank B), 10 m<sup>3</sup> (Grey Water Tank)  
Pump capacities: 0 m<sup>3</sup>/h (Pump A), 0 m<sup>3</sup>/h (Pump B)



## NON POTABLE WATER UTILISED

**5,290 m3/year**

Overflow from Tank A

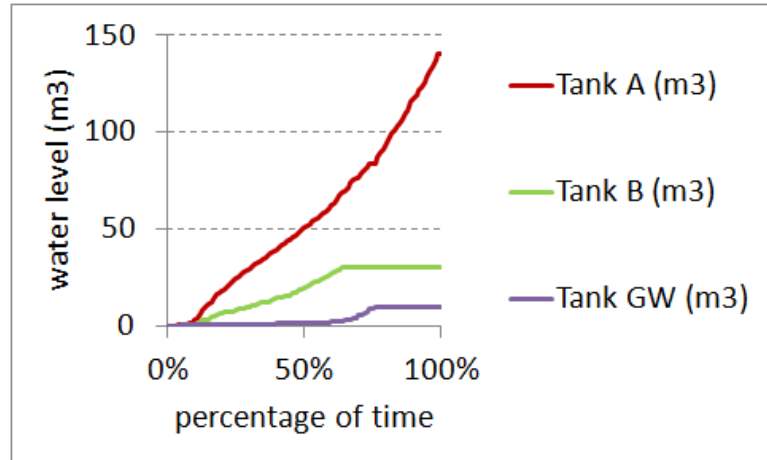
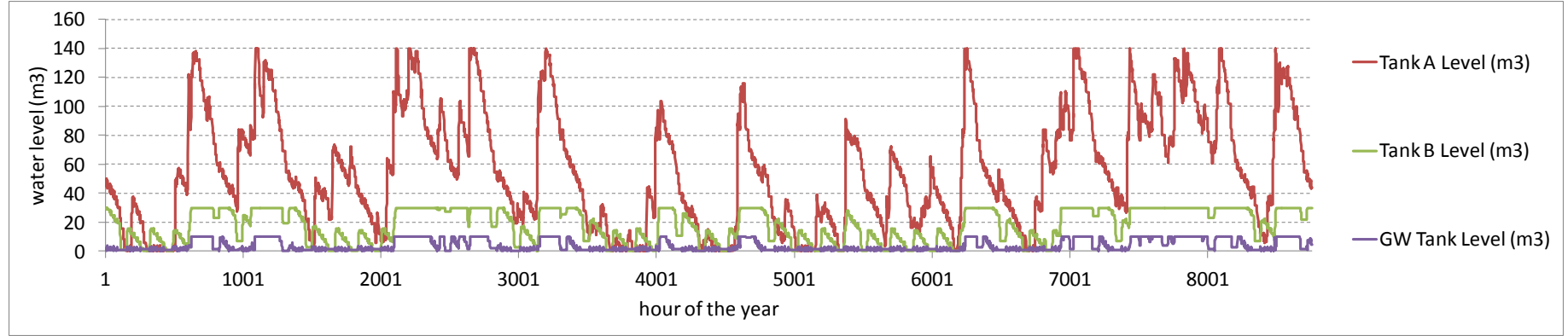
1,179 m3/year

Overflow from GW Tank

3,852 m3/year

# Water Level in Tanks

Effective storages: 140 m<sup>3</sup> / 84 m<sup>3</sup> (Tank A total / reserved for rainwater), 30 m<sup>3</sup> (Tank B), 10 m<sup>3</sup> (Grey Water Tank)  
Pump capacities: 2.4 m<sup>3</sup>/h (Pump A), 2.4 m<sup>3</sup>/h (Pump B)



## NON POTABLE WATER UTILISED

**9,510 m3/year**

Overflow from Tank A

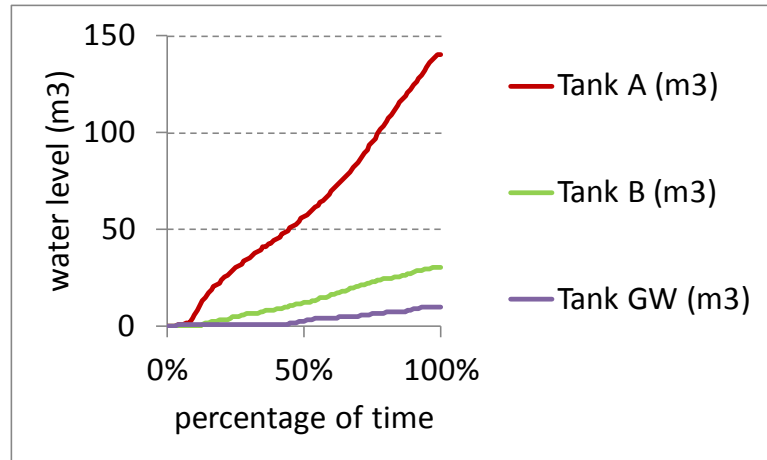
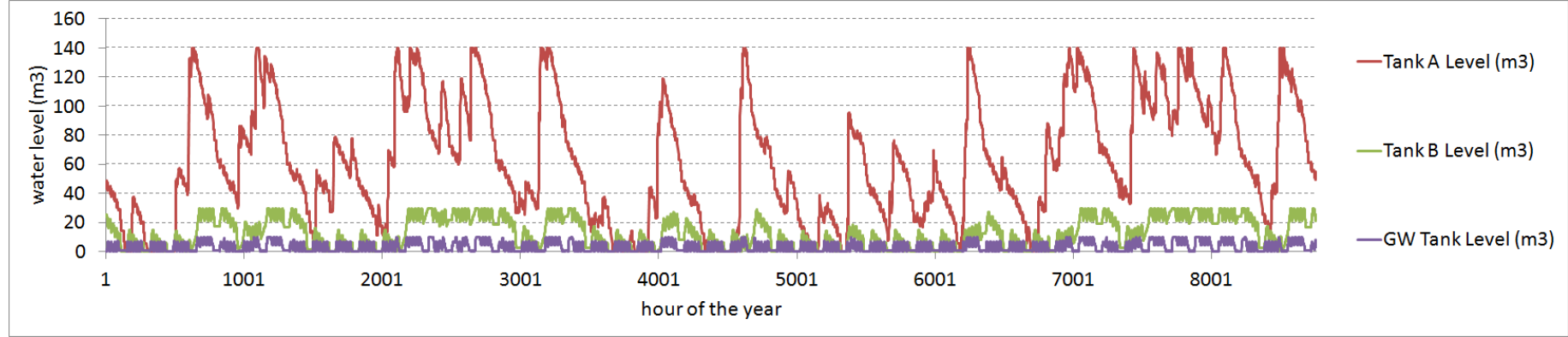
273 m3/year

Overflow from GW Tank

537 m3/year

# Water Level in Tanks

Effective storages: 140 m<sup>3</sup> / 84 m<sup>3</sup> (Tank A total / reserved for rainwater), 30 m<sup>3</sup> (Tank B), 10 m<sup>3</sup> (Grey Water Tank)  
Pump capacities: 0.3 m<sup>3</sup>/h (Pump A), 0.8 m<sup>3</sup>/h (Pump B)



## NON POTABLE WATER UTILISED

**9,505 m3/year**

Overflow from Tank A

592 m3/year

Overflow from GW Tank

223 m3/year

## RECCOMENDATION:

- The annual hourly simulation shows that small pumps are sufficient to maximise the annual non-potable water yield
- Small pumps have the added advantage of having less start-stop cycles and reducing grey water filter costs

# Concluding Remarks

- Building computer simulations are a very powerful tool to optimise building design – and to 'sell' your ideas to the design team / client
- ALWAYS check the validity of your results
- .... and go an make new discoveries to bring the building industry forward!



# Thank you



## ANY QUESTIONS?

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