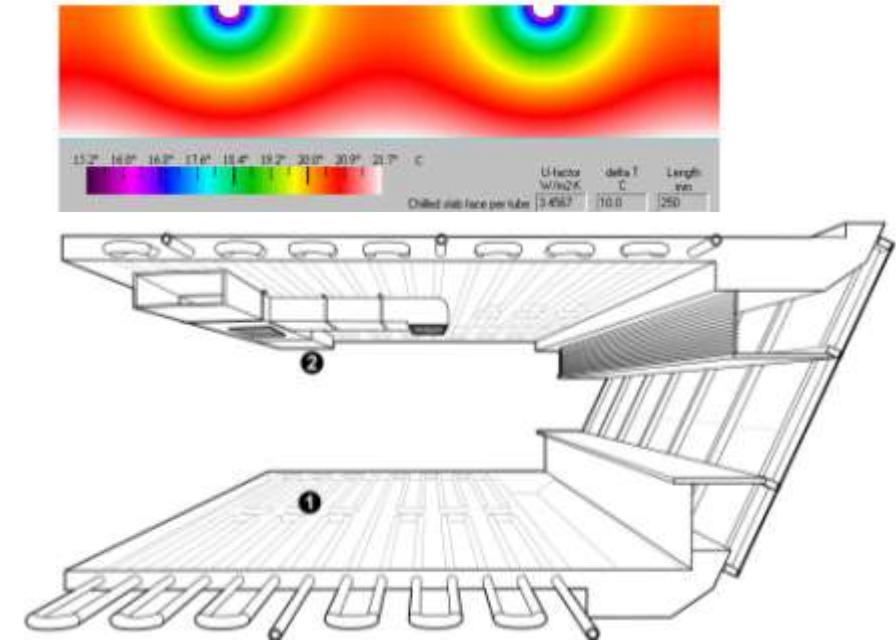


# Innovative Energy Concepts for Buildings in Tropical Climates

Case Studies: Office buildings | Residential buildings | New & Retrofits



## Gregers Reimann

Managing director, IEN Consultants

Energy Efficiency & Green Building Consultancy

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Singapore | Malaysia | China

# Buildings & Energy

Buildings are like a leaky bucket with lots of unnecessary wastages

**ENERGY SUPPLY**  
(renewable) energy



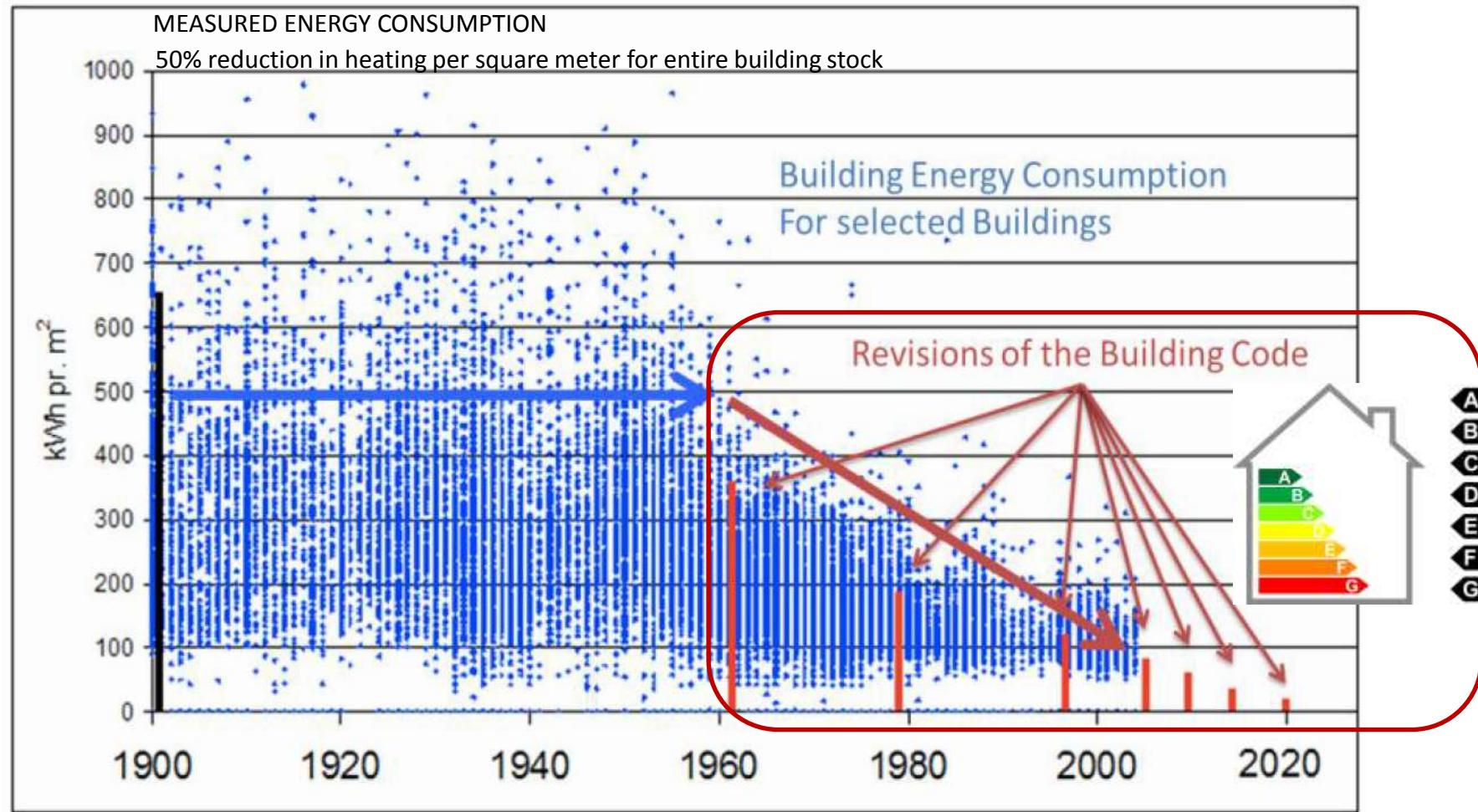
**ENERGY STORAGE**  
electric cars/batteries/thermal



**ENERGY DEMAND**

Let's plug the holes!

# 50% Energy Savings in Danish Building Stock



Let's do the same in Asia!

# Energy Efficient Buildings with Good Payback time

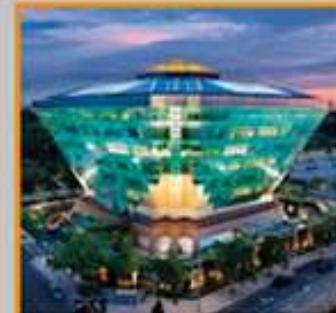
Case studies from the South East Asian countries



LEO Building



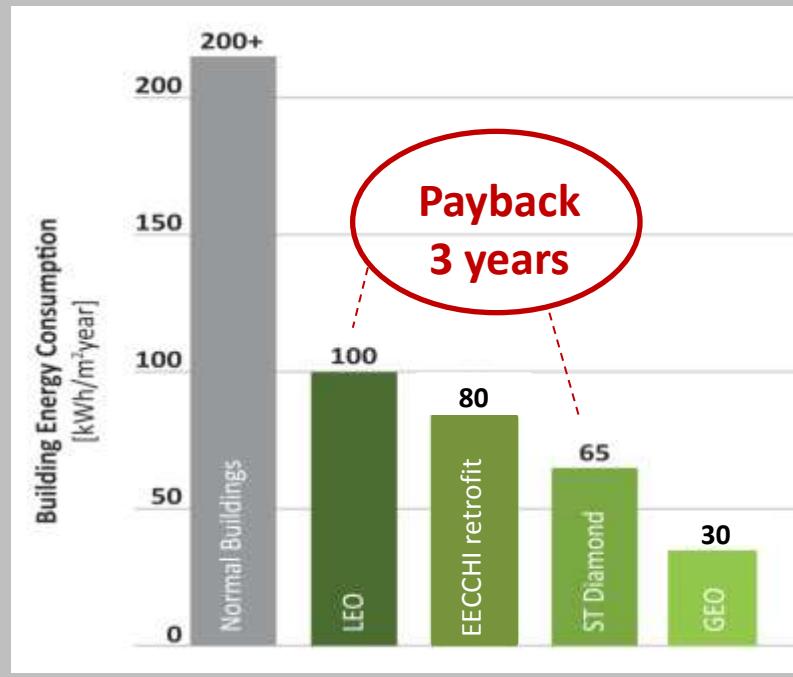
GEO Building



ST Diamond Building



EECCHI retrofit



## Energy Consumption of Green Office Buildings

Measured data for New and  
Retrofitted Buildings  
by IEN Consultants

Completed year: 2004 2010 2010 2007

# Two Tropical Office Building Case Studies

## “Energy Efficient Buildings” Malaysian stamp series

All buildings by IEN Consultants



**GEO**  
building

**DIAMOND**  
building

### Where?

Both located about 25 km south of the capital, Kuala Lumpur, in Bangi and Putrajaya, respectively



# Climate Data of Malaysia: Hot & Humid

MONTHLY DIURNAL AVERAGES  
ASHRAE Standard 55

LOCATION: KUALA LUMPUR, -, MYS  
Latitude/Longitude: 3.12° North, 101.55° East, Time Zone from Greenwich 8  
Data Source: IWECC Data 486470 WMO Station Number, Elevation 22 m

## LEGEND

### HOURLY AVERAGES

TEMPERATURE: (degrees C)

- DRY BULB MEAN
- WET BULB MEAN
- DRY BULB (all hours)

COMFORT ZONE

SUMMER

WINTER

(At 50% Relative Humidity)

RADIATION: (Wh/sq.m)

- GLOBAL HORIZ
- DIRECT NORMAL
- DIFFUSE

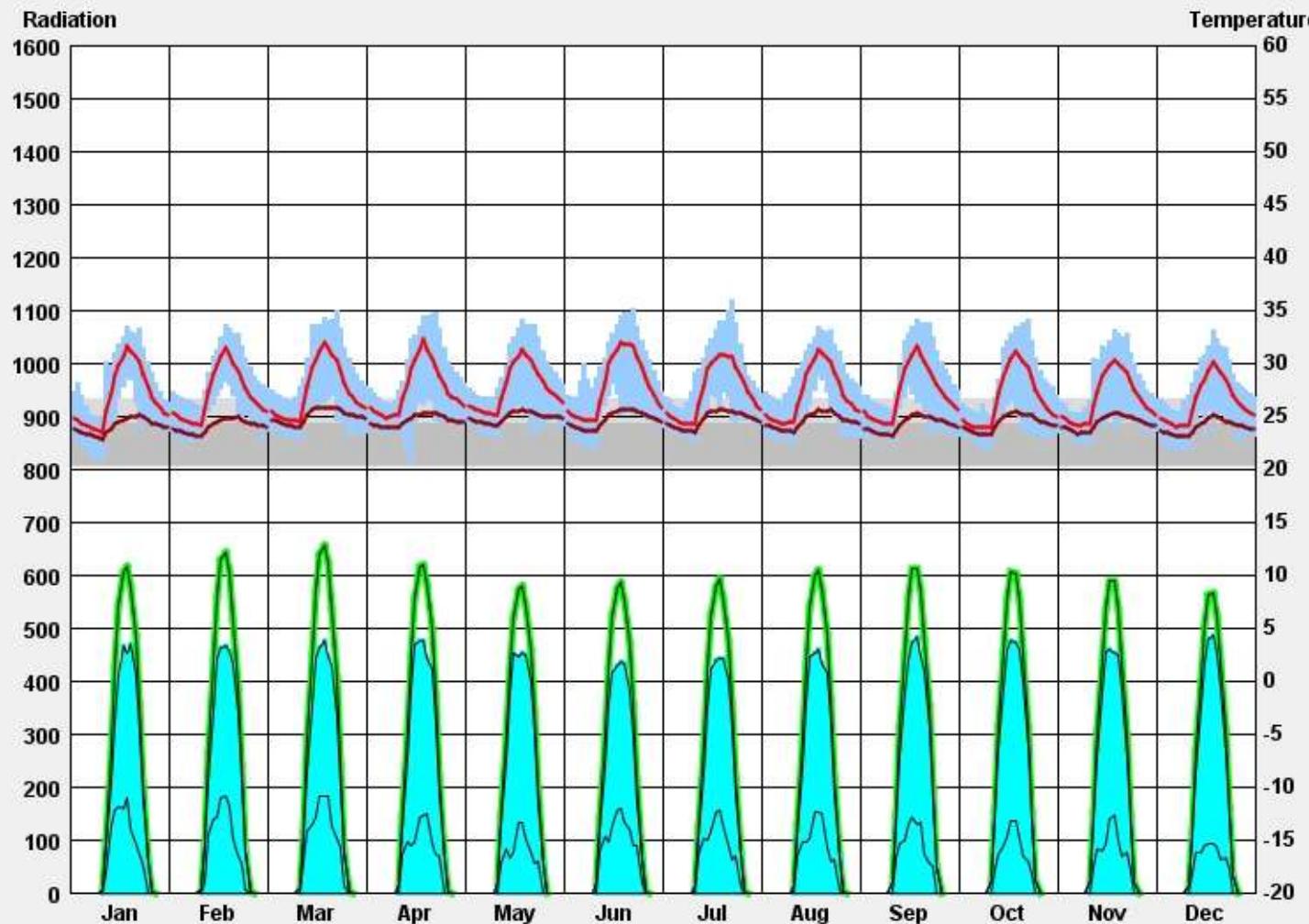
Display Dry Bulb Temp:

(all hours)

TEMPERATURE RANGE:

-10 to 40 °C

Fit to Data



## Case study no. 1



Energy Efficient Office case study in Bangi:

# **GEO BUILDING**

**(MALAYSIA, 2007)**

# GEO Building (formerly ZEO) in Malaysia

## Key data:

- Gross Floor Area: 4,000 m<sup>2</sup>
- Energy Index: 64 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year (excl. PV)
- Energy Index: 30 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year (incl. PV)
- Additional construction cost: 18% (excl. PV)
- Additional construction cost: 33% (incl. PV)



## EE Features:

- Daylighting (almost 100%)
- EE lighting + task lights
- EE office equipment
- EE server room
- Floor slab cooling
- EE ventilation
- Controls & Sensors
- Double glazing
- Insulation

Greentech Malaysia office, Bangi, Malaysia (Occupation Oct 2007)

# Energy Design Concepts

## of GEO Building

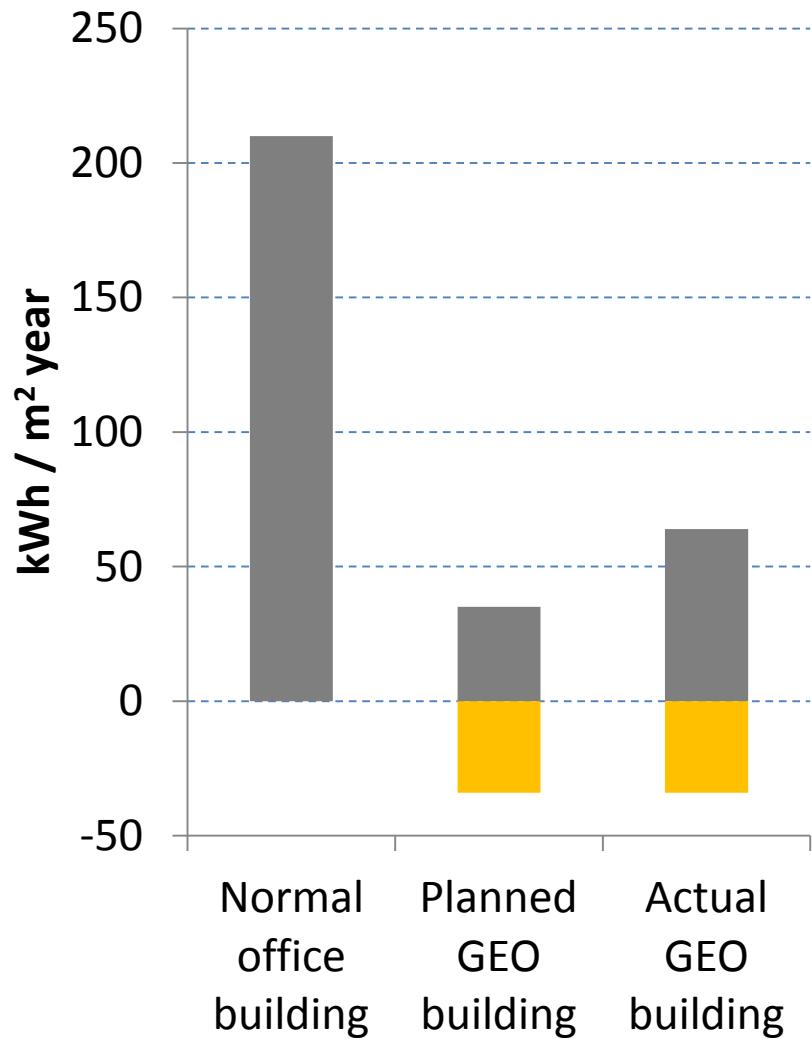
### Concept no. 1

Zero Energy Building

### Concept no. 2

Shift load to the night,  
hence, reducing peak  
demand for power utilities

# Concept no. 1: Zero Energy Building



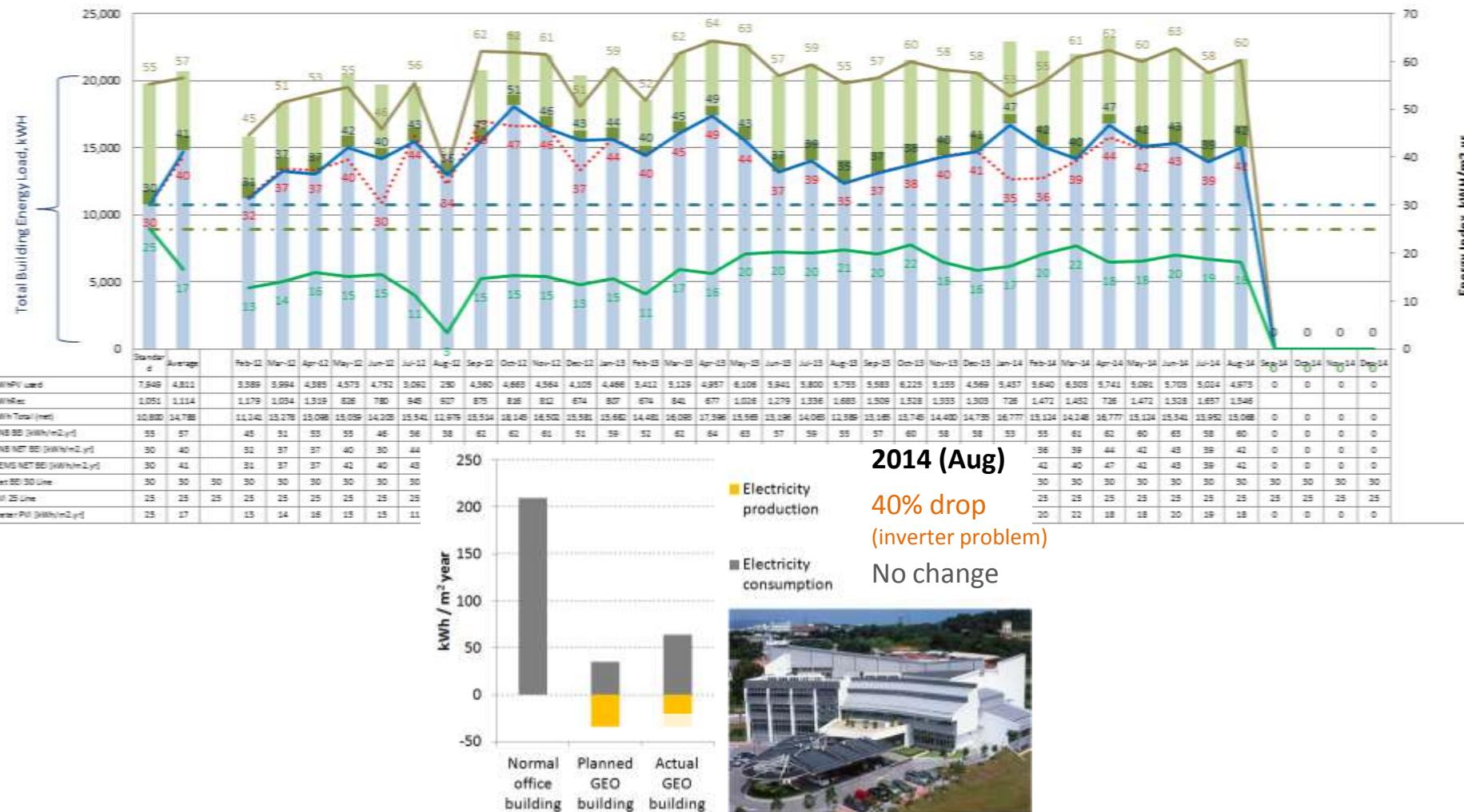
Electricity production

Electricity consumption



# GEO building: Latest energy measurements

**Graph 1 : GEO Building Energy Usage & Generation Performance , 2012-2014(Aug)**



# Concept no. 2: Shift load to the night



## Building integrated photovoltaic (91 kW<sub>p</sub>)



## Floor slab cooling (18°C) and Phase Change Material tank (10°C)



TABS (19°C)

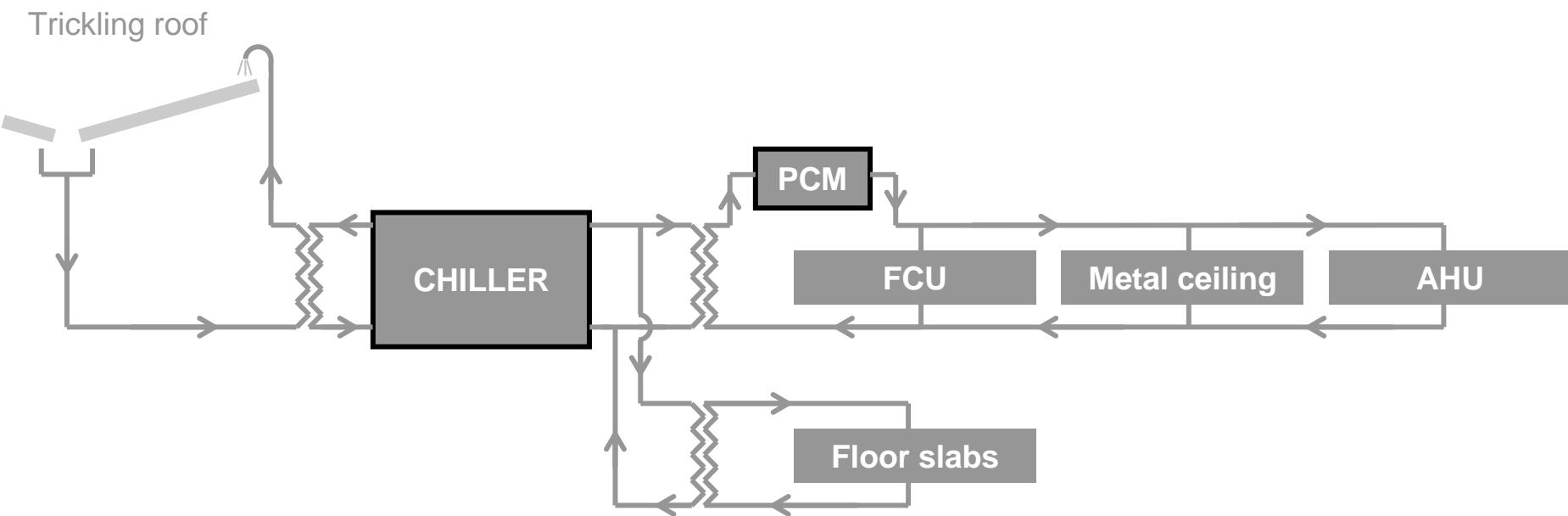


PCM tank

PCM flatice-10

# Schematic Design of Cooling System

GEO building



PCM:

Phase Change Material (thermal storage tank with “10°C ice”)

FCU:

Fan Coil Units

Metal ceiling:

Radiant cooling metal ceiling

AHU:

Air handling unit

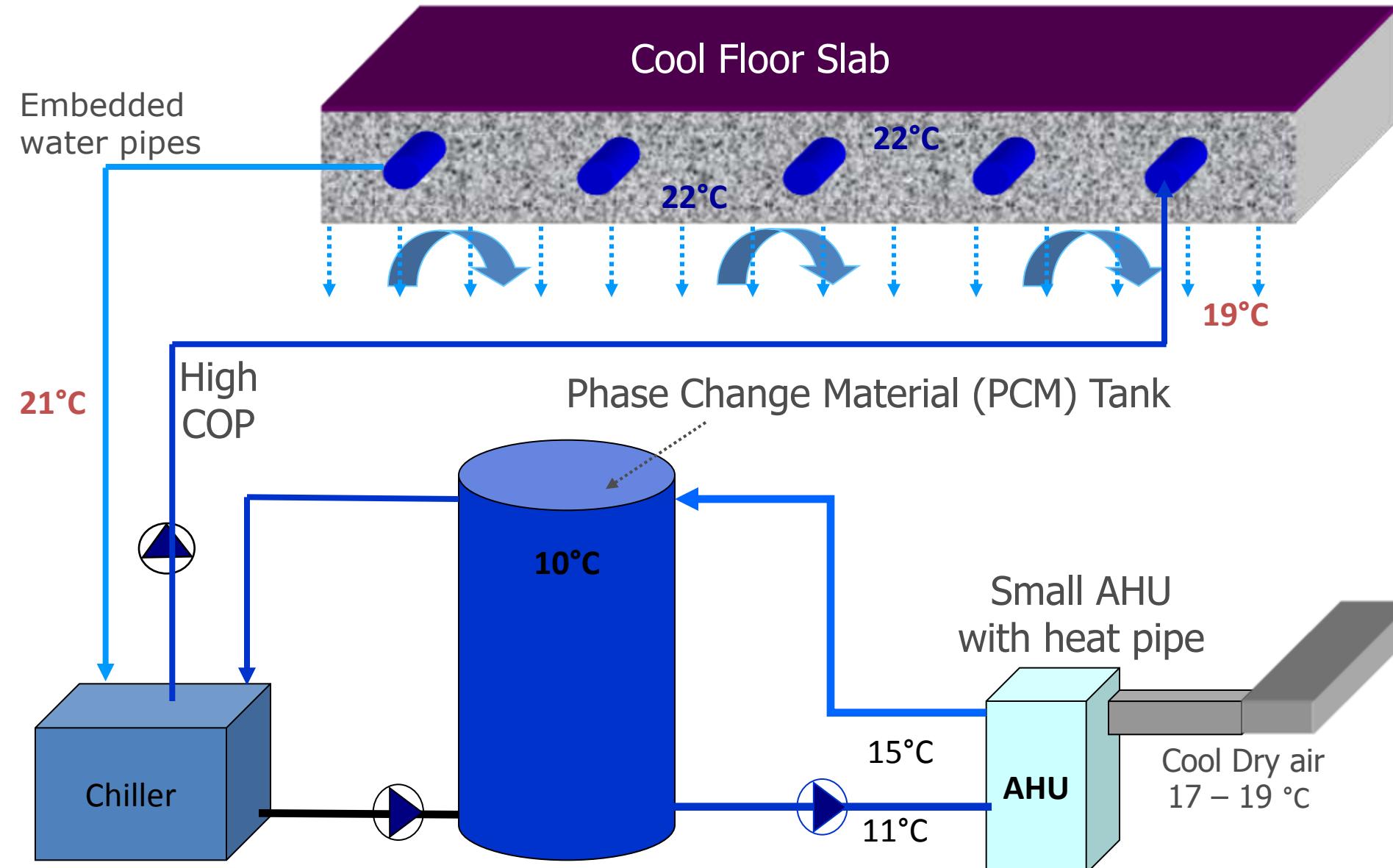
Floor slabs:

Concrete floor and ceiling slab cooling (TABS, thermally activate building structure)

Trickling roof:

7° tilt flat roof flooded with condenser water at night to eject heat (replaces cooling tower)

# Cooling Storage in Floor Slabs and PCM Tank



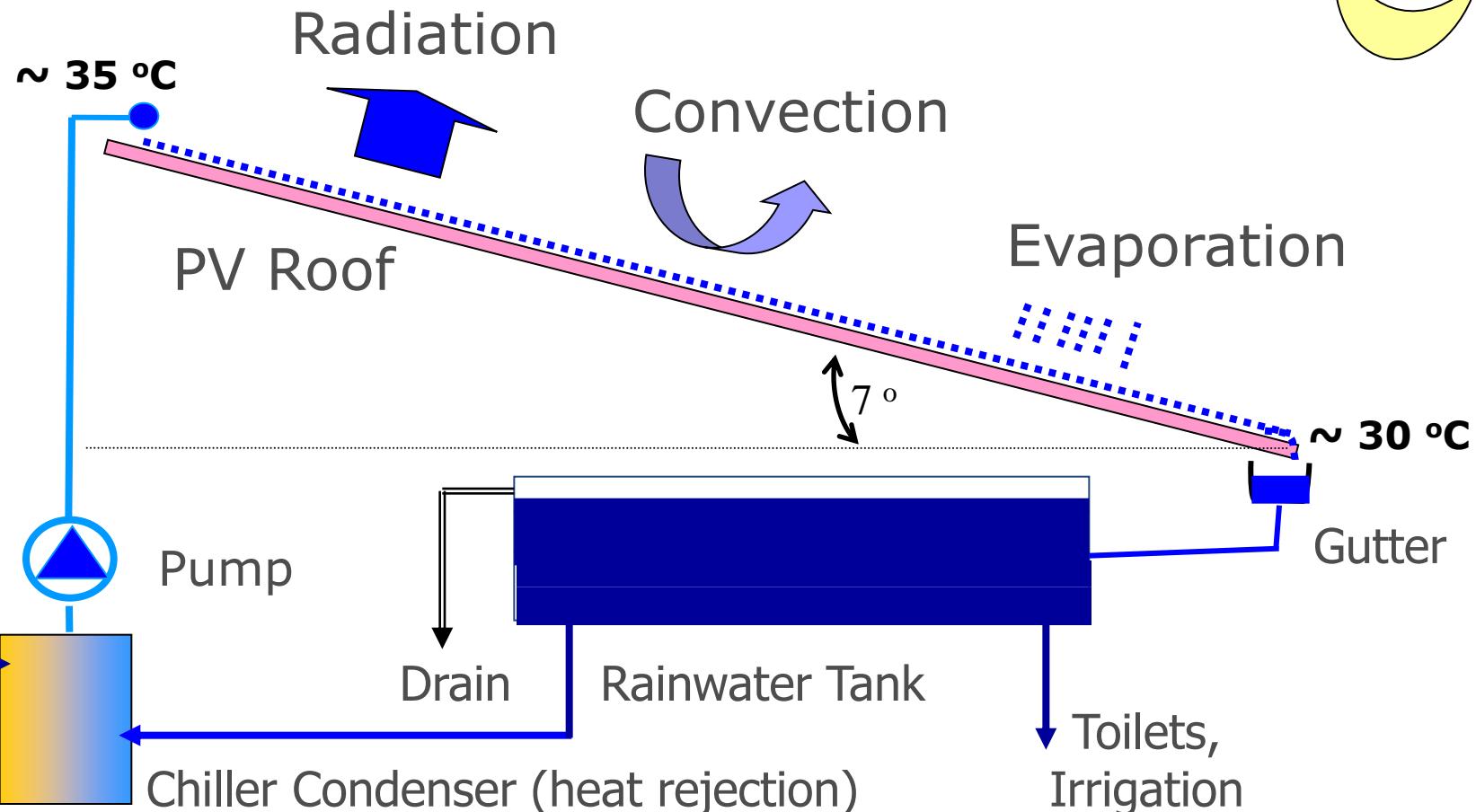
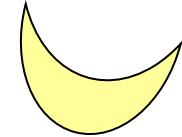
# Rainwater Collection and River Roof

(alternate cooling tower)

~ 25 °C

~ 95% RH

Sky Radiant Temperature  
10 – 20 °C at night



# The River Roof of GEO Building

to be operated at night only

## Video 1:

Gutter for 'cooling tower' water & rainwater



River roof GEO building, Malaysia



Video link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8gC4dIB330>

## Video 2:

Manifold splashing water onto PV roof



Manifold for river roof at GEO building, Malaysia

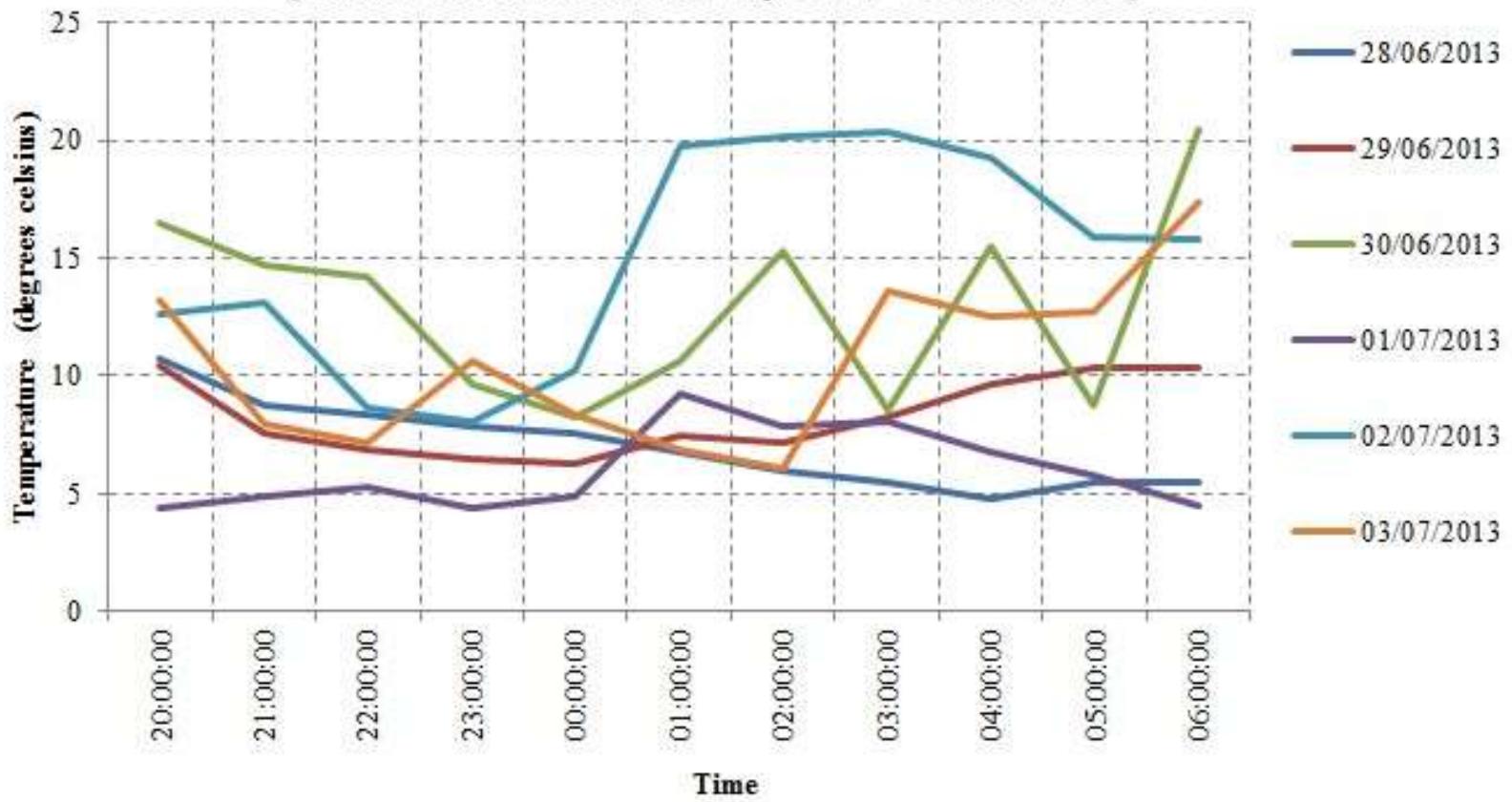


Video link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nb\\_JntSXoiA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nb_JntSXoiA)

# River roof cooling primarily through sky radiation

## Night sky temperature measurements in Malaysia (zenith measurements, by IEN Consultants)



# Phase Change Material Tank

- Melting point: 10°C
- Total storage capacity: 580 kWh
- Charged with 7°C water (night time)
- Used for dehumidification of air:  $19 \rightarrow 8 \text{ g/kg}$



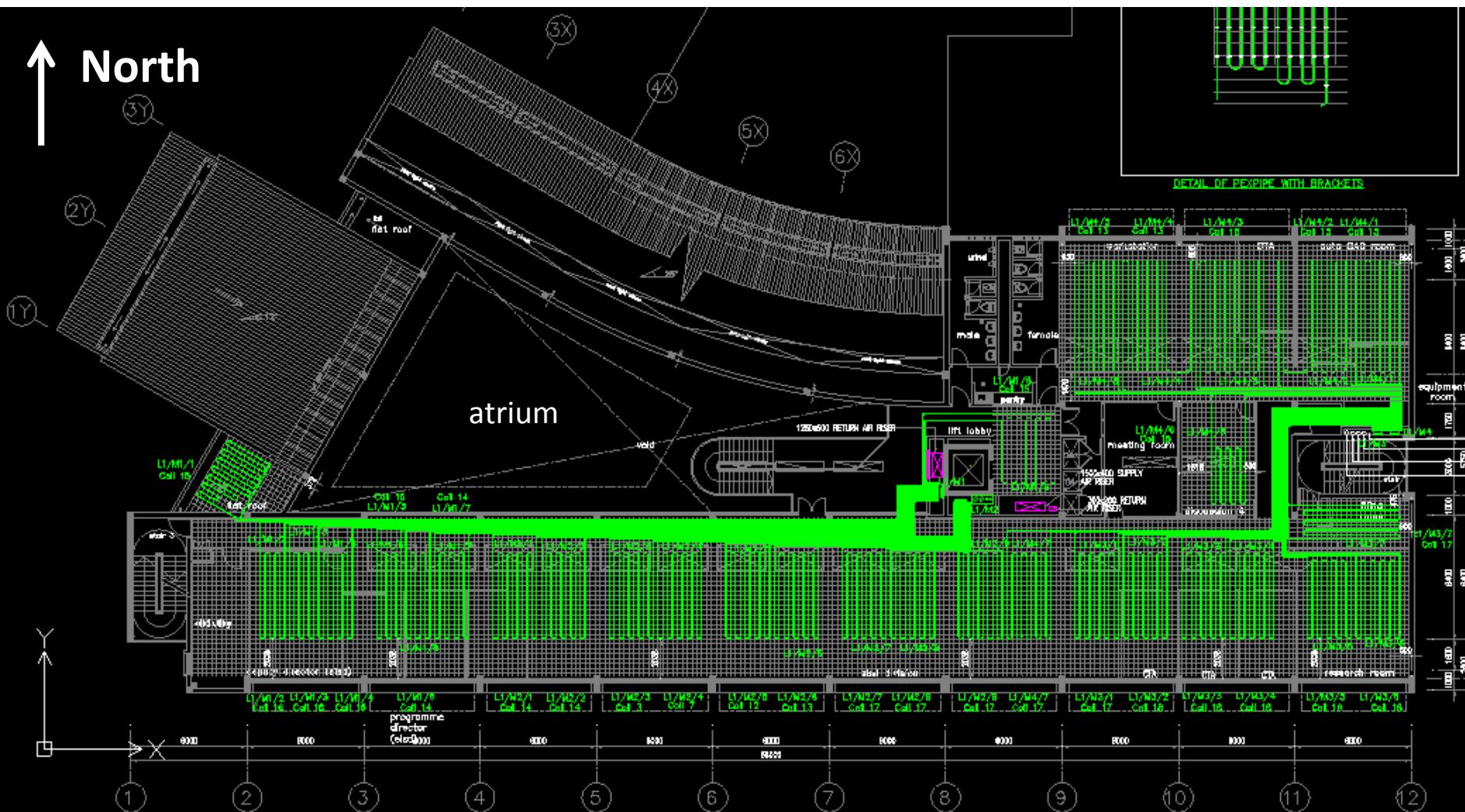
Dimensions: ~ 3 x 3 x 2.5 meters

# GEO building: Floor Slab Cooling

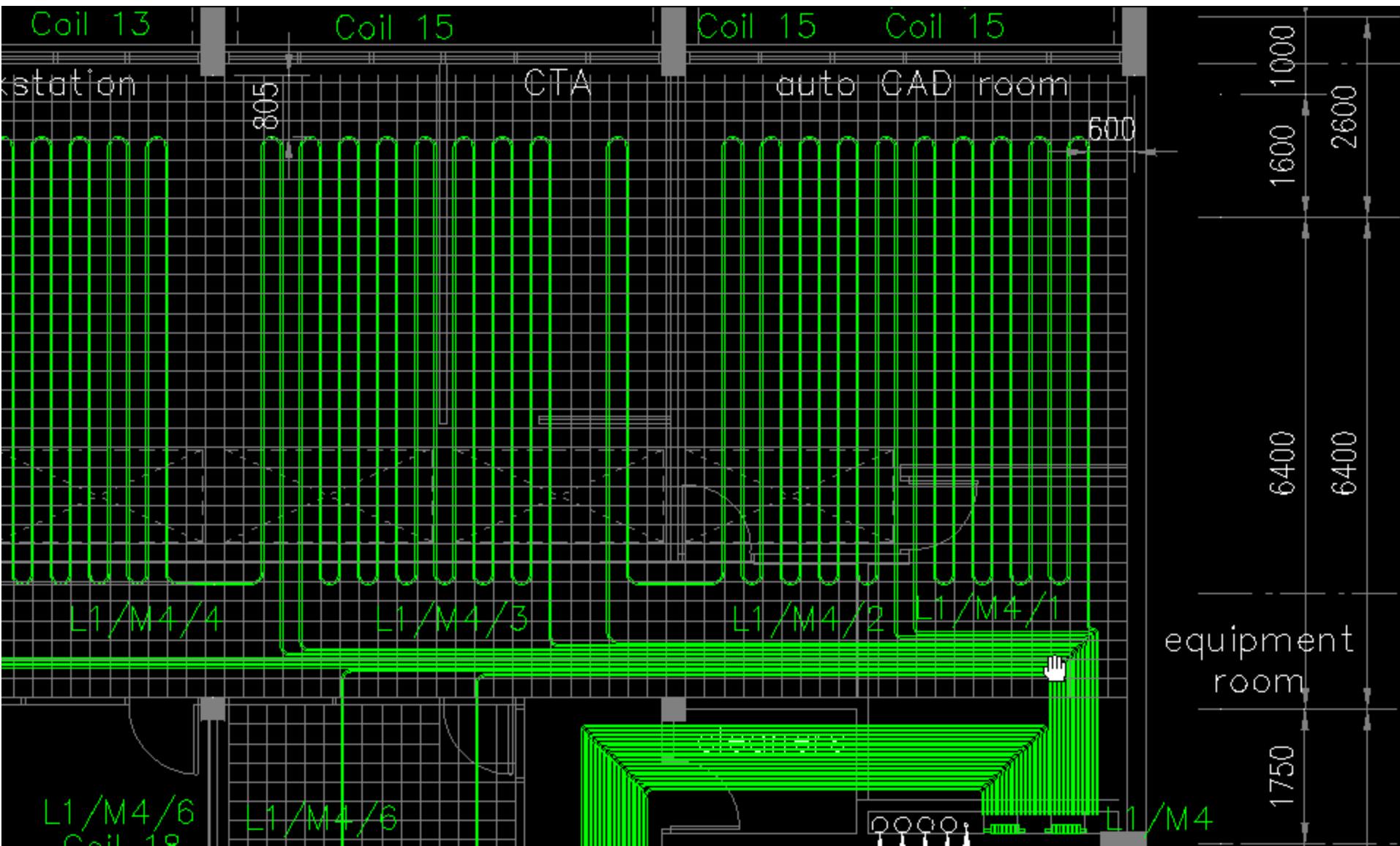
- PEX pipes
- Embedded in concrete slab
- Supply temperature: 18-20°C
- Return temperature: 22-24°C
- Night time operation only



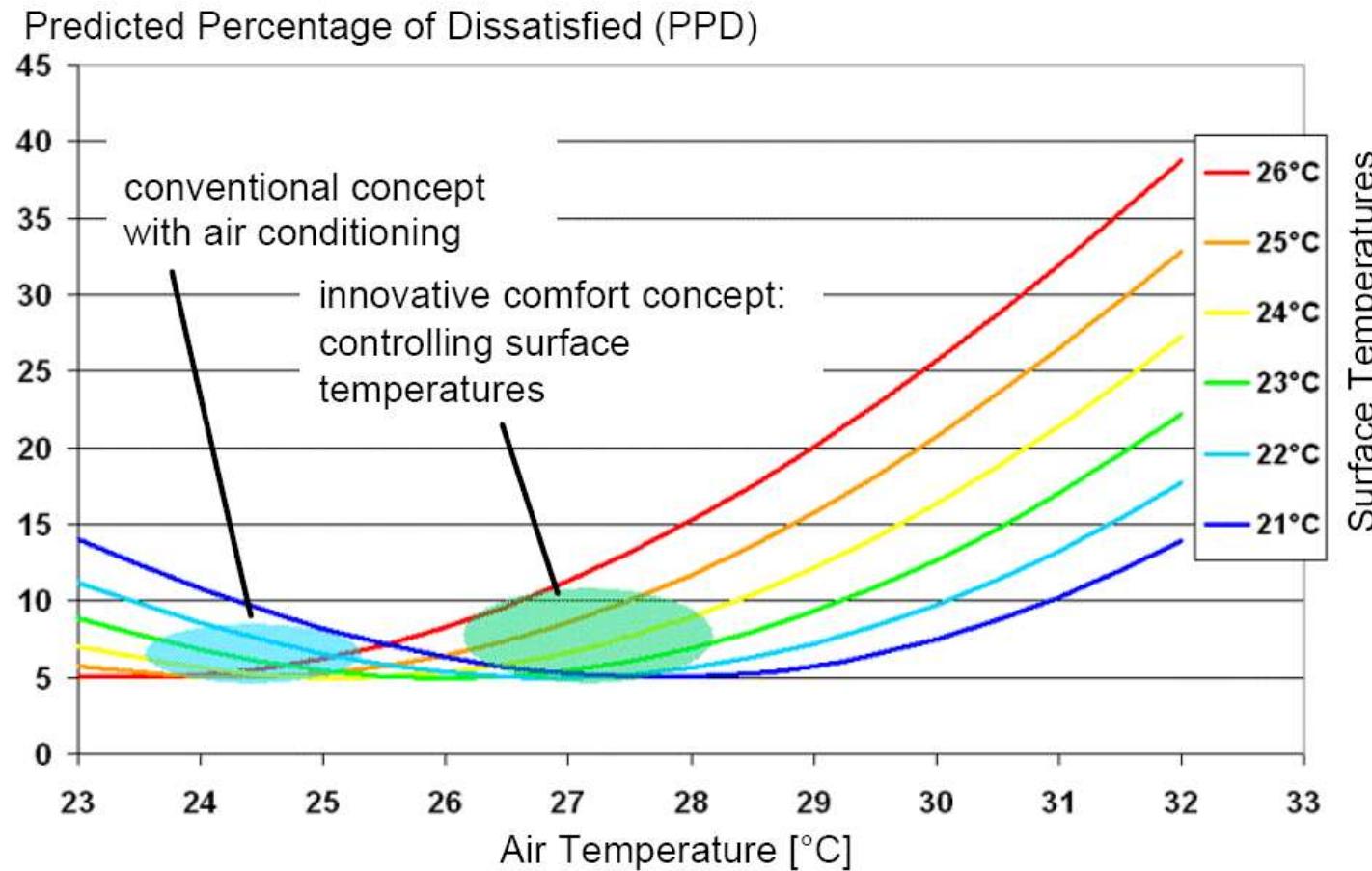
# GEO building: Floor Slab Cooling



# GEO building: Floor Slab Cooling



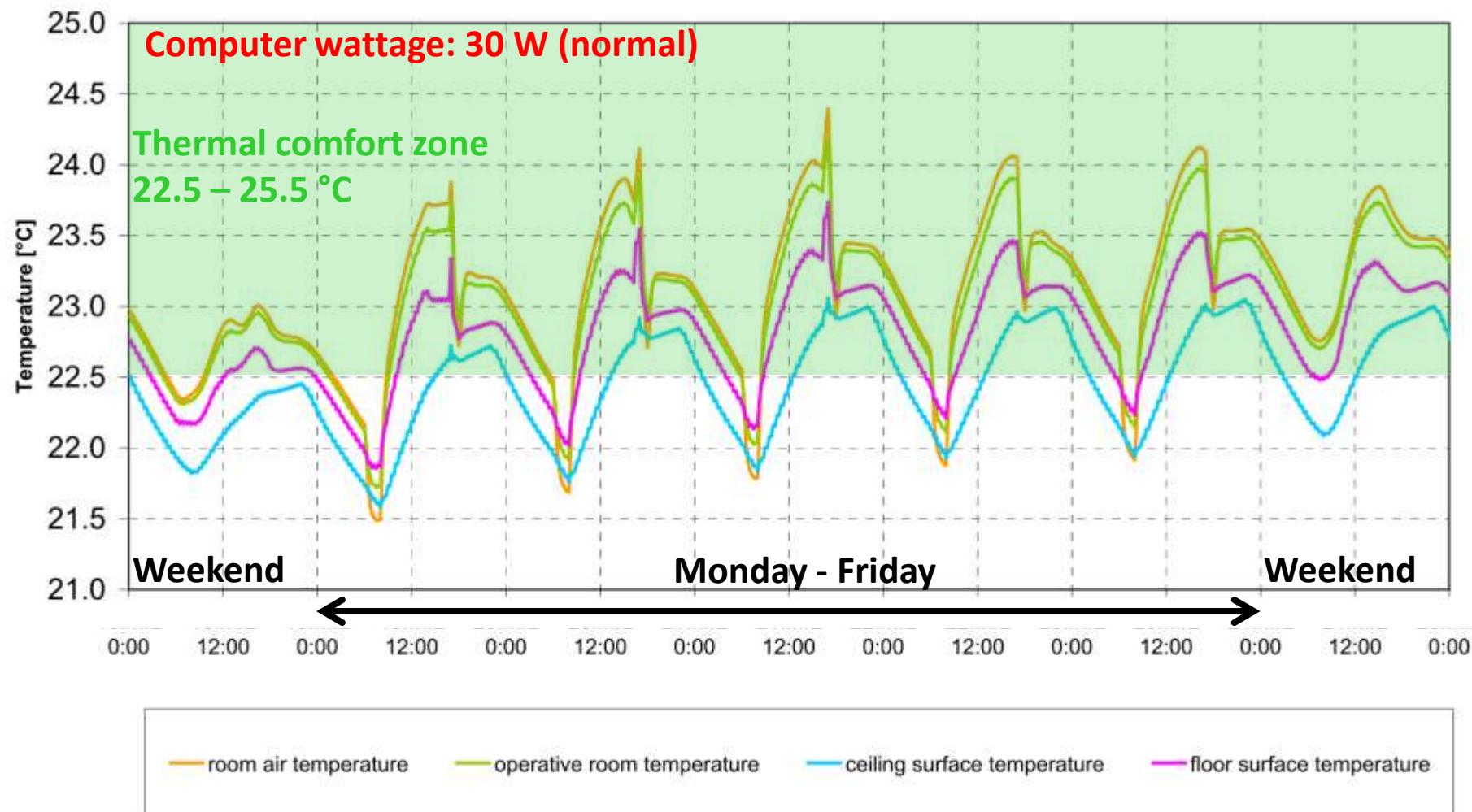
# Radiant Cooling allows Higher Air Temperature



Predicted percentage of dissatisfied (PPD) according to Prof. O. Fanger  
different surface temperatures; no direct radiation  
office work, light clothing air velocity 0.15 m/s; humidity 11 g/kg

# Thermal Comfort for Concrete Floor Slab Cooling

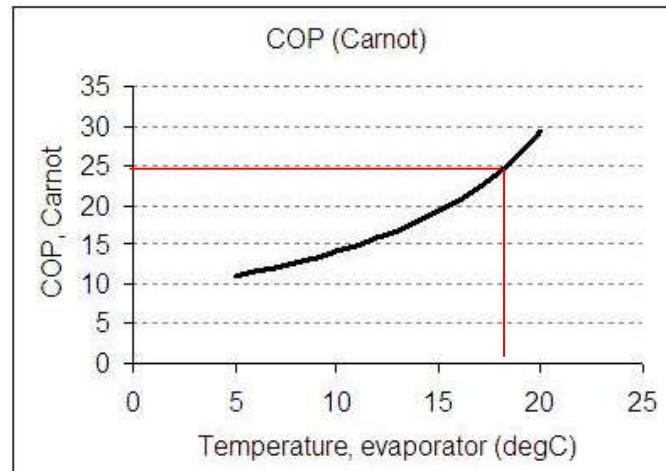
Slab cooling 10 pm – 8 am



# Efficient High Temperature Cooling

- 2 Chillers:
  - a) High Temperature cooling (18°C) for Floor Slab Cooling system (**very high COP possible**)
  - b) Conventional chiller (7°C) for fresh supply
- Chiller Operation Primarily at Night (lower temperature at condensing side → **higher COP**)
- Chillers only supply cooling to thermal storages, hence, **maximum COP** for chiller operation can be ensured at all times. NB. Maximum COP is at part load (~75% load)

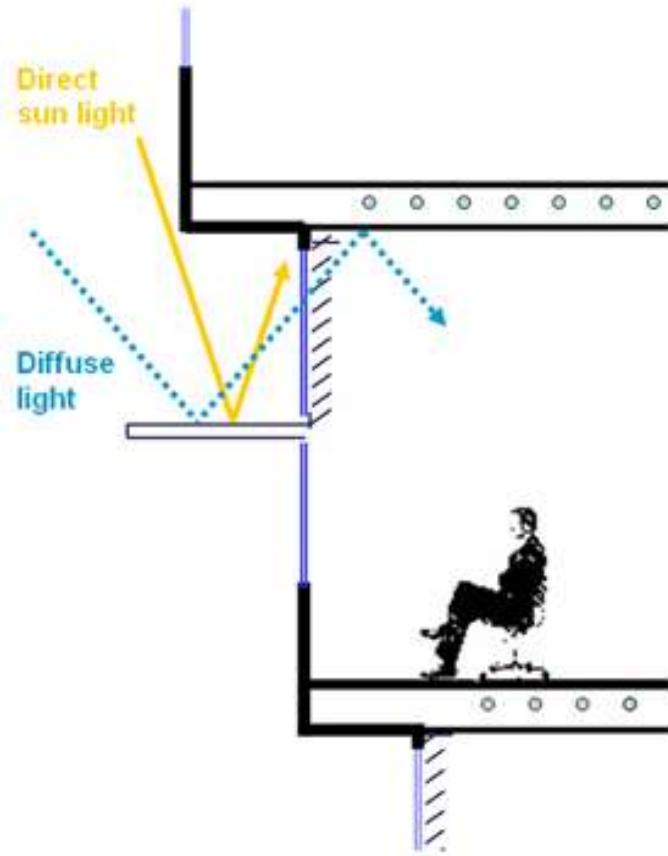
$$\text{COP}_{\text{refrigerator}} = \frac{T_c}{T_H - T_c}$$



*The COP increases with increasing temperature of the evaporator, for example for high temperature cooling at 18°C instead of at the conventional 7°C. Here, the theoretical maximum COP (Carnot) is shown for a constant condenser temperature of 30°C*

# Almost 100% Daylit Building

Block direct sunlight | Reflect diffuse daylight onto ceiling | Glare protection



South facade



# Almost 100% Daylit Building



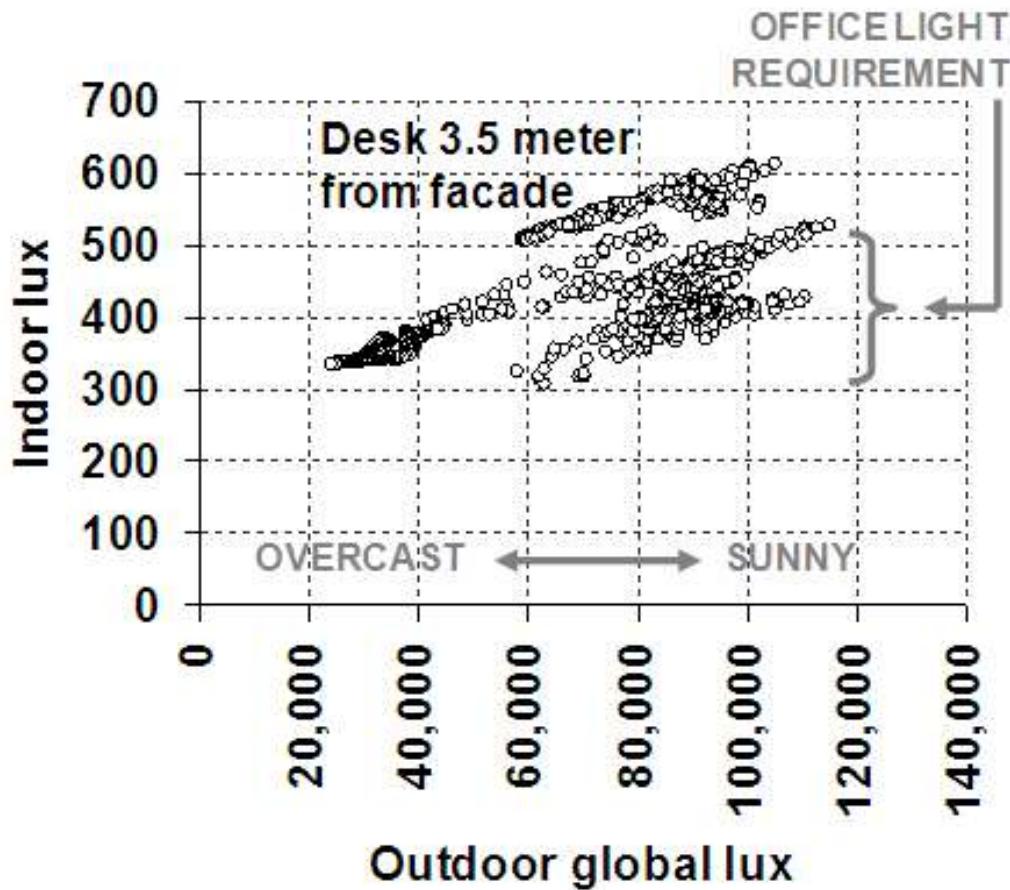
Blind encapsulated in double glazing, no maintenance needed. Looks as good as new after seven years and counting....!



Daylight design by IEN Consultants

Semi-specular tannenbaum reflector in the ceiling. Maintains inward light reflection without causing glare to the occupants. Translucent cubicle walls parallel to the façade ensures daylight passage to table top.

# Daylight Measurements



Measured lighting consumption during office hours is only 0.56 W/m<sup>2</sup>

1. Occupants prefer working in daylight
2. Electrical lighting consumption is 25 times lower than the code requirement



Daylight design by IEN Consultants

## Transparent PV atrium roof



- PV sandwiched in low-e glass
- 13% transparent area

Daylight factor  
in atrium about  
1 – 1.5%

Nice light  
pattern through  
PV atrium roof

## Case study no. 2



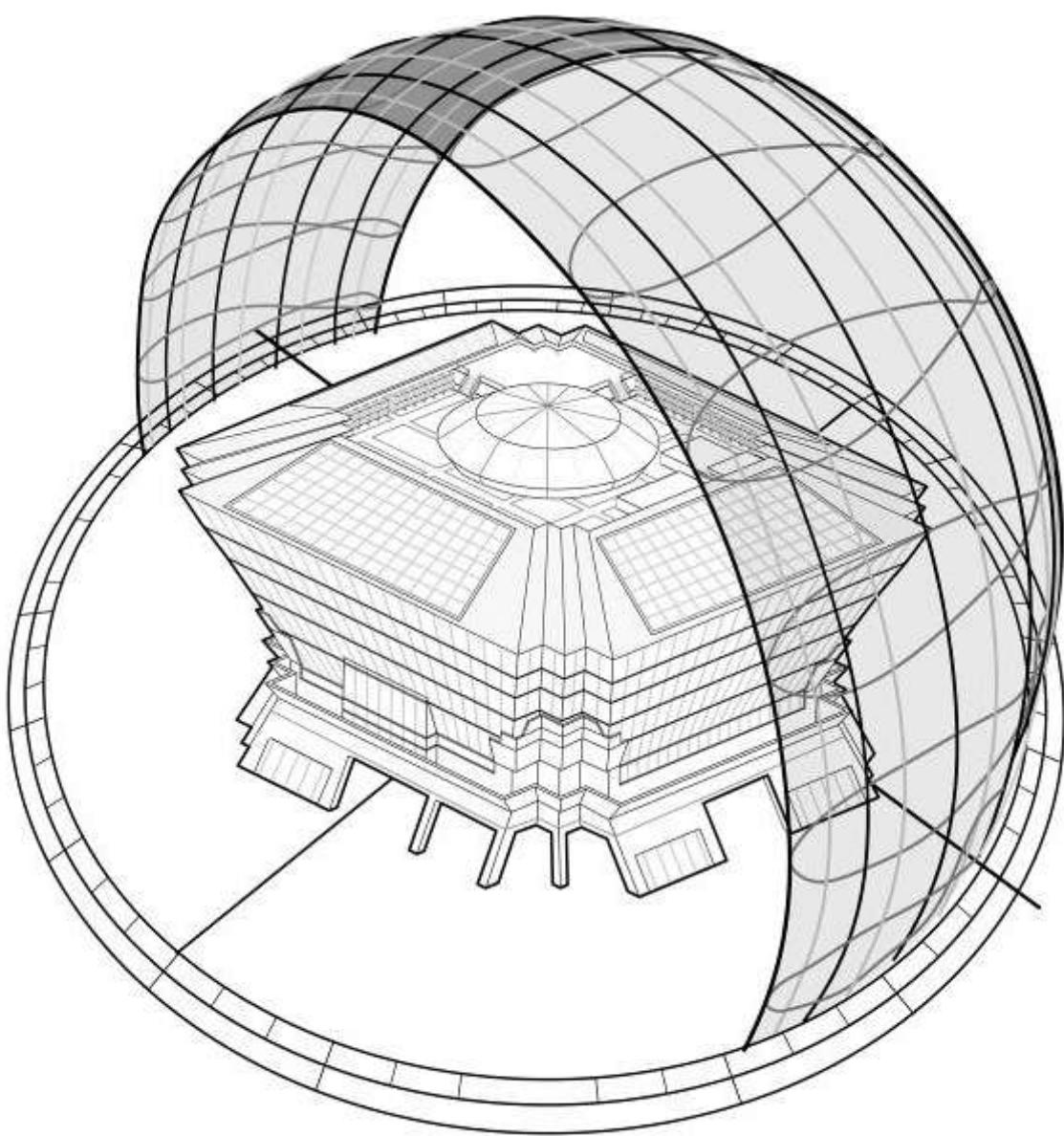
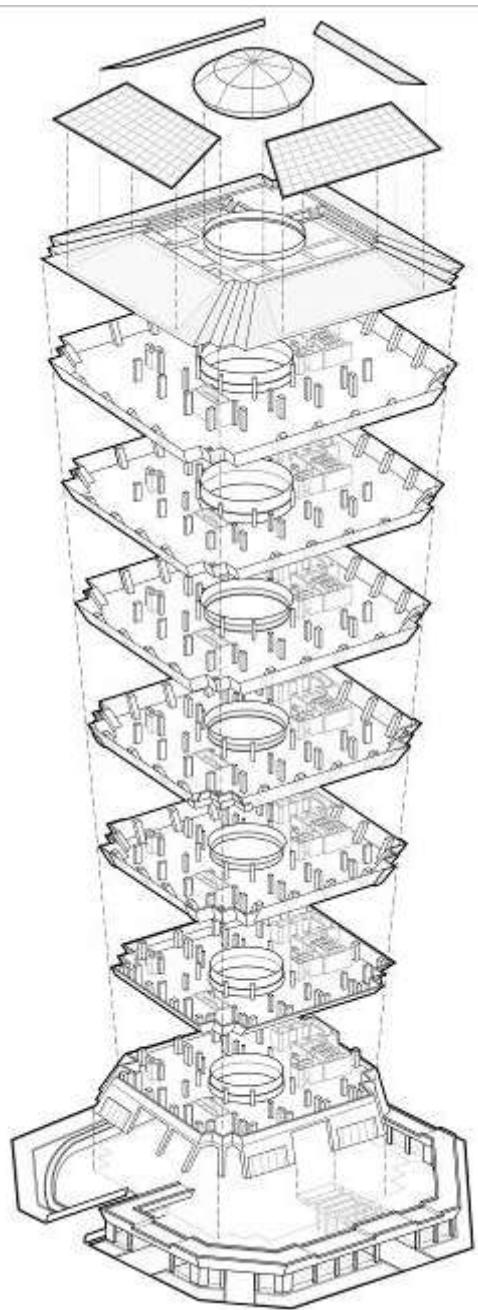
Green Office case study in Putrajaya:

# DIAMOND BUILDING (MALAYSIA, 2010)

# Winner of 2012 ASEAN Energy Award

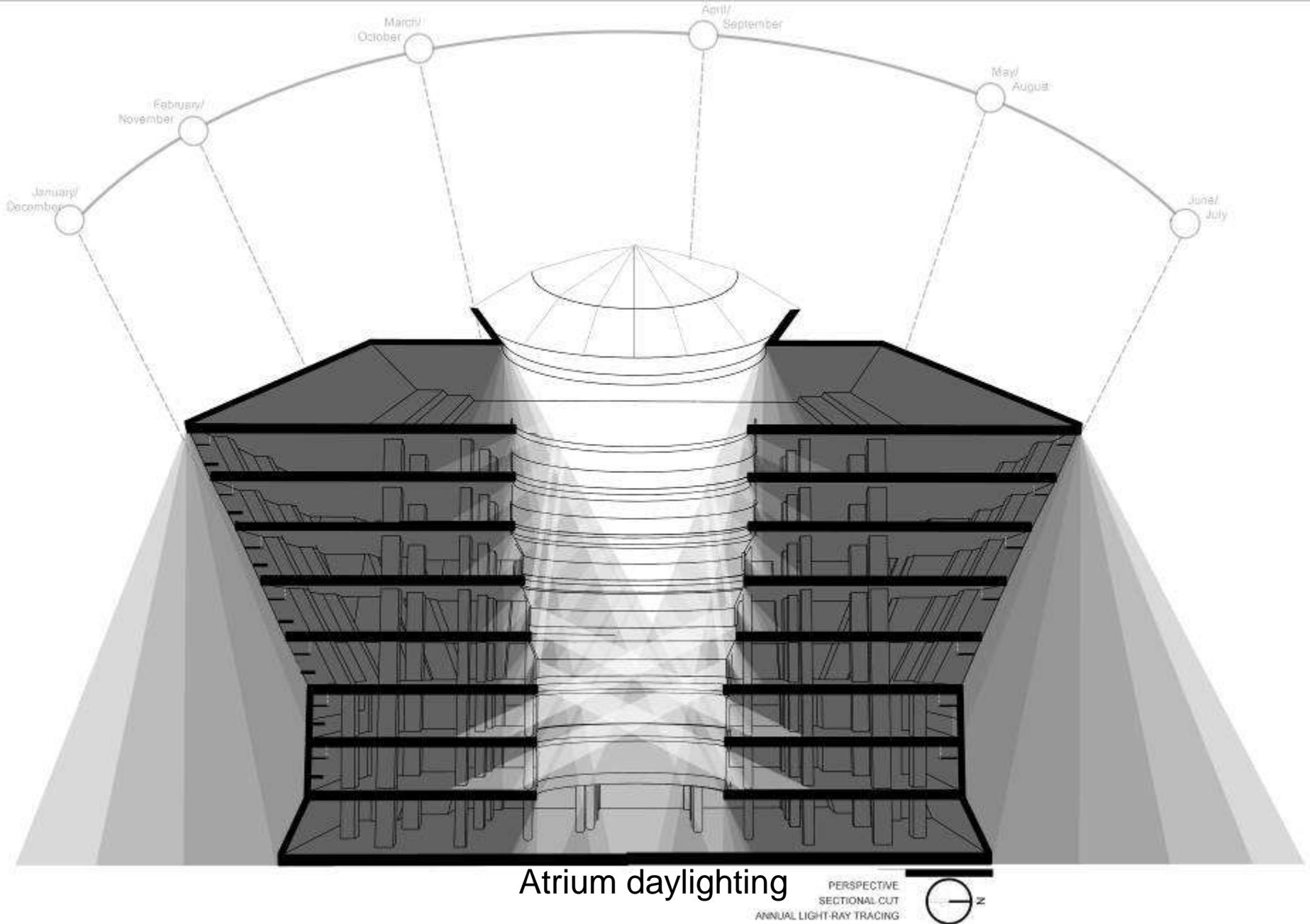
(ST Diamond Building, Putrajaya, Malaysia)





## Self-shading facades

Source: *Greening Asia – Emerging Principles for Sustainable Architecture*.  
Copyright: Nirmal Kishnani, 2012. Publisher: FuturArc





# DIAMOND BUILDING similar design with vernacular buildings

Malaysia and Denmark's commitment to the field of...

## Green Energy in Architecture

as well as in cooperation and capacity building within the field, can be illustrated by the mutually beneficial involvement of EN Consultants with the development of this field in Malaysia over the years. EN Consultants was originally a partnership established by a Danish Chief Technical Advisor involved in the identification of energy projects in Malaysia. When the company took on the LEO Building project, it gained recognition in Malaysia and EN Consultants managed to build up a team of consultants, most of them Malaysian, who with their experience on the LEO Building, became known further afield. This helped gain further commissions on both projects in the Green Tech Building and what has become known as The Diamond Building in Putrajaya.

"Green Buildings" are perceived to be expensive, both because of the costs of employing the expertise necessary to develop and refine the building and system designs, and because of the relatively high capital costs of green technology devices. It takes time for reduced operating costs, which come with reduced energy usage, to counterbalance the increased capital investment and this has been a significant factor in development worldwide. However, given that approximately 40% of worldwide carbon emissions come from buildings, it is clear that there is a need for the "greening" of buildings to

make a significant contribution to carbon reductions.

As a result much effort has gone into the dissemination of green ideas to the Malaysian building industry, including the idea that the advantages of reduction of whole life costs of buildings as opposed to just capital costs are worthwhile. The fact that some "green" input to building design in Malaysia has moved from a subsidized base, using for example Danish funding for the LEO Building and European Union funding for the Green Tech Office Building, to a fully Malaysian funded base in the case of the so-called "Diamond Building" indicates some success in changing attitudes to operating costs vs capital costs ascribed to "Green Buildings".

Improved energy efficiency is already recognized by the Malaysian government to be more important than mere certification under the Green Building Index (GBI) scheme. That scheme therefore carries less and stamp duty benefits to encourage the real application of green ideas in the design and operation of buildings.

Beyond this, EN Consultants is now involved with a UNDP funded project, with the Ministry of Works, to promote low carbon buildings in Malaysia. It is hoped, amongst other things that it will lead to a building code by 2015 specifying much lower carbon footprints even than the LEO Building or the Diamond Building.



Modern example  
Diamond Building in leather central lighting



Traditional example  
Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia

Another major area of involvement was in:

## Capacity Building for Malaysian Industry and Academia in EE Building design

The objective of the scheme, which was implemented by the Ministry of Energy, Communications and Multimedia (now Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water), was to develop capacity in the optimization of energy efficient building design. This was done through training sessions, seminars, specific analysis of existing buildings and design development of new buildings. A key partner in this endeavor was the Public Works Department (JKR) and there was close cooperation with Schools Division and Healthcare Division, so the lessons learned were comprehensive, and the dissemination of the results widespread.

The project produced reports outlining design strategies for new buildings, making lessons learned from the LEO Building described above available to practitioners and academics across Malaysia. The project also produced reports on "Energy Efficiency Promotion: Lessons Learned and Future Activities", and undertook an evaluation of JKR design standards.

The project certainly raised awareness and improved the country's knowledge base regarding energy efficiency in buildings and made recommendations to Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water and JKR to set up demonstration offices, a very successful example of which was in Wiara Damansara.

Result of many SIMULATIONS

Result of many GENERATIONS

# 1/3 Energy Consumption



## Key Data

Gross Floor Area: 14,000sqm  
Year of Completion: 2010  
Building Energy Intensity: 69kWh/m<sup>2</sup>\*year  
Total Construction Cost: RM60mil  
Additional EE Cost: 3.2%  
Payback Period: < 3 years  
IRR: 34% (based on 7 year Lease Term)



GBI  
Platinum



Green Mark  
Platinum

AWARDS:

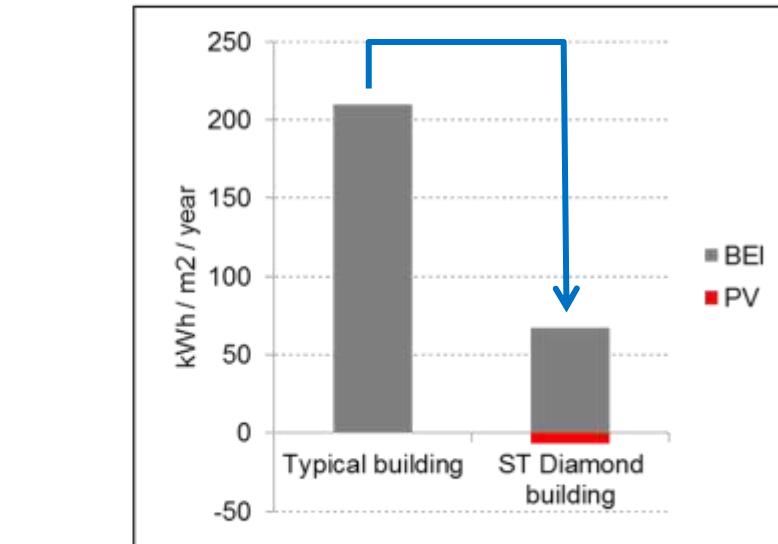


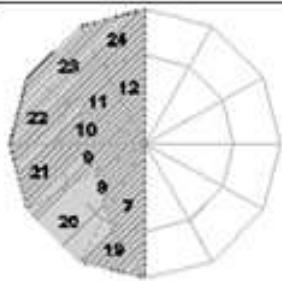
2012 ASEAN  
energy  
award  
Winner

&

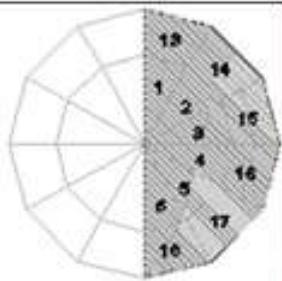


2013 ASHRAE  
Technology  
Award  
(2nd place)



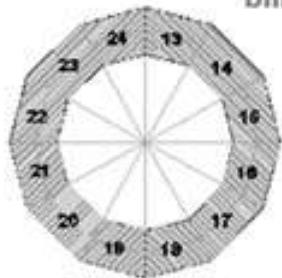


Configuration 01

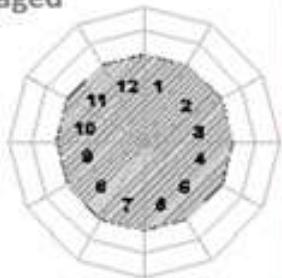


Configuration 02

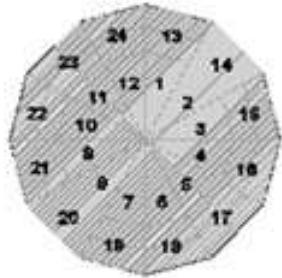
Hatching means blind is engaged



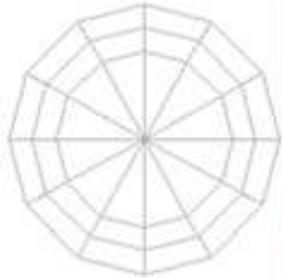
Configuration 03



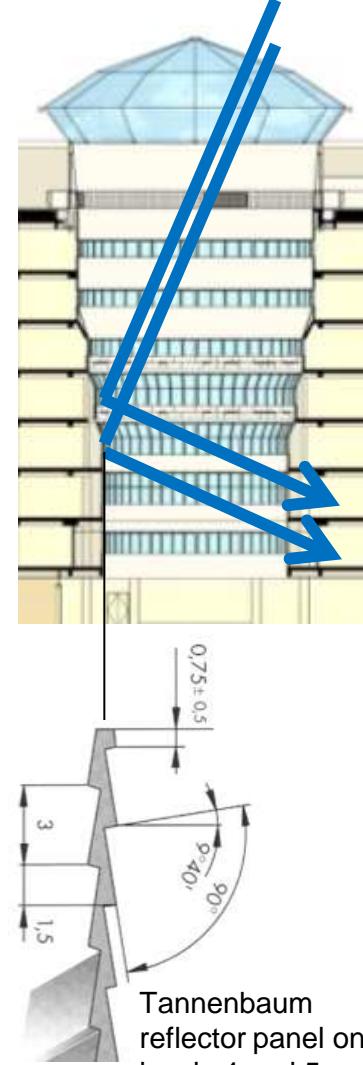
Configuration 04



Configuration 05



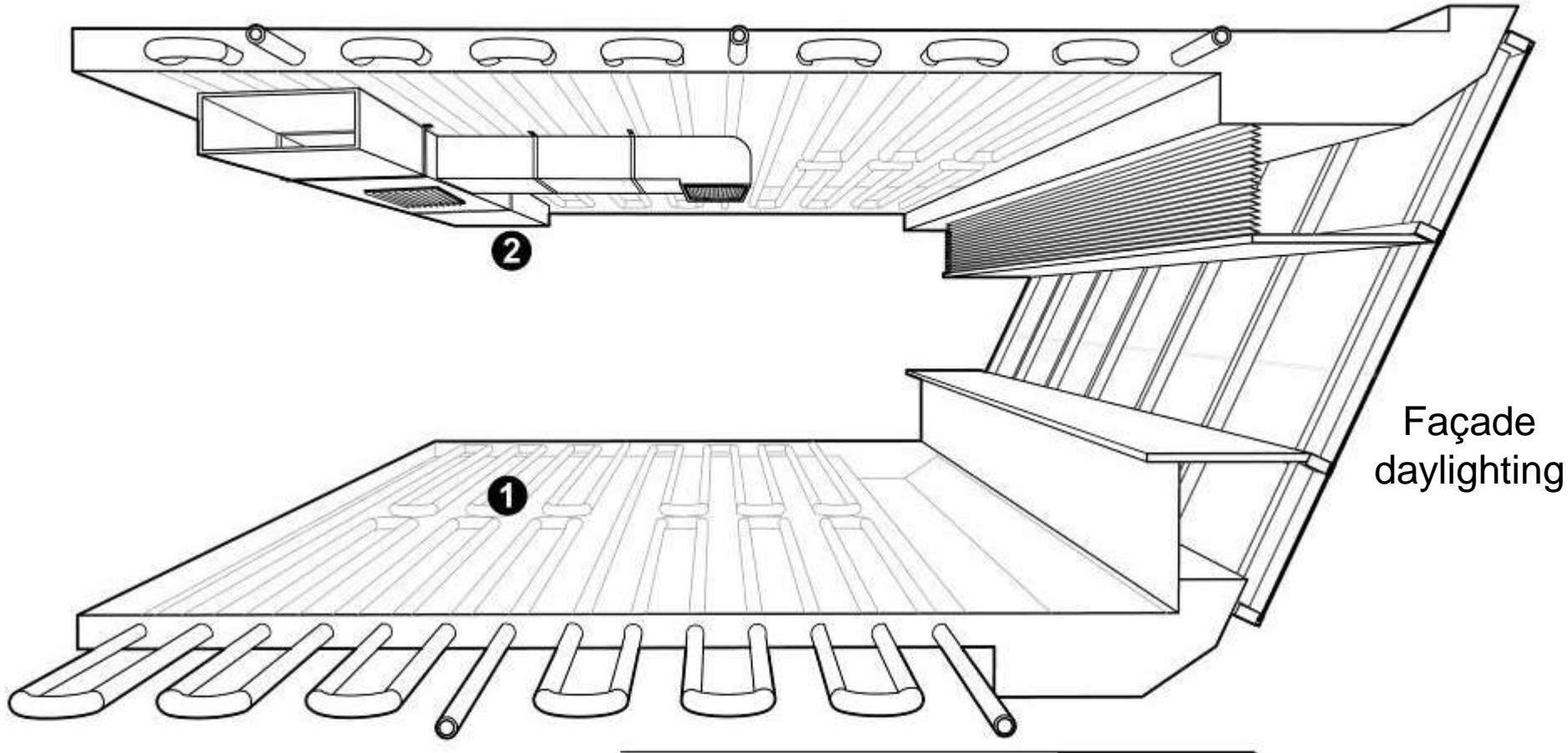
Configuration 06



## Atrium Daylight Design

The atrium has been carefully designed to optimize daylight utilization for each floor employing the combination of the following three strategies:

1. Automated blind with six different configurations to maintain the appropriate daylighting levels at all times. The blinds with 30% light transmittance are adjusted every 15 minutes and follow three different control strategies for morning, mid-day and evening
2. The windows size becomes larger deeper into the atrium to cater for lower daylight levels
3. A band of Tannenbaum reflector panels are applied to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floor to deflect daylight across the atrium to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor where daylight levels are the lowest. The 'christmas tree' profile reflectors have an inclination of 10° and reflect about 85% of the light in semi-diffuse manner, hence, avoiding visual glare issues for the building occupants.



ST DIAMOND  
COOLING SYSTEMS



INTERNAL COOLING SYSTEM

FLOORSLAB COOLING 1

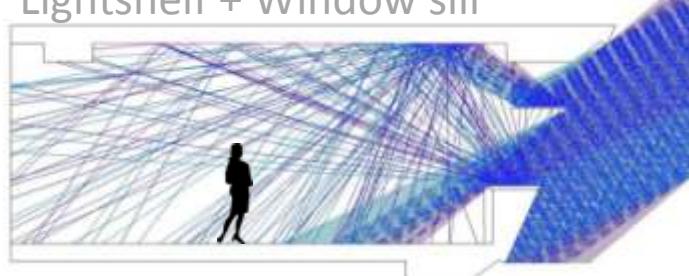
MECHANICAL VENTILATION 2

# FACADE



## LIGHT REFLECTIONS FROM:

Lightshelf + Window sill



Lightshelf only



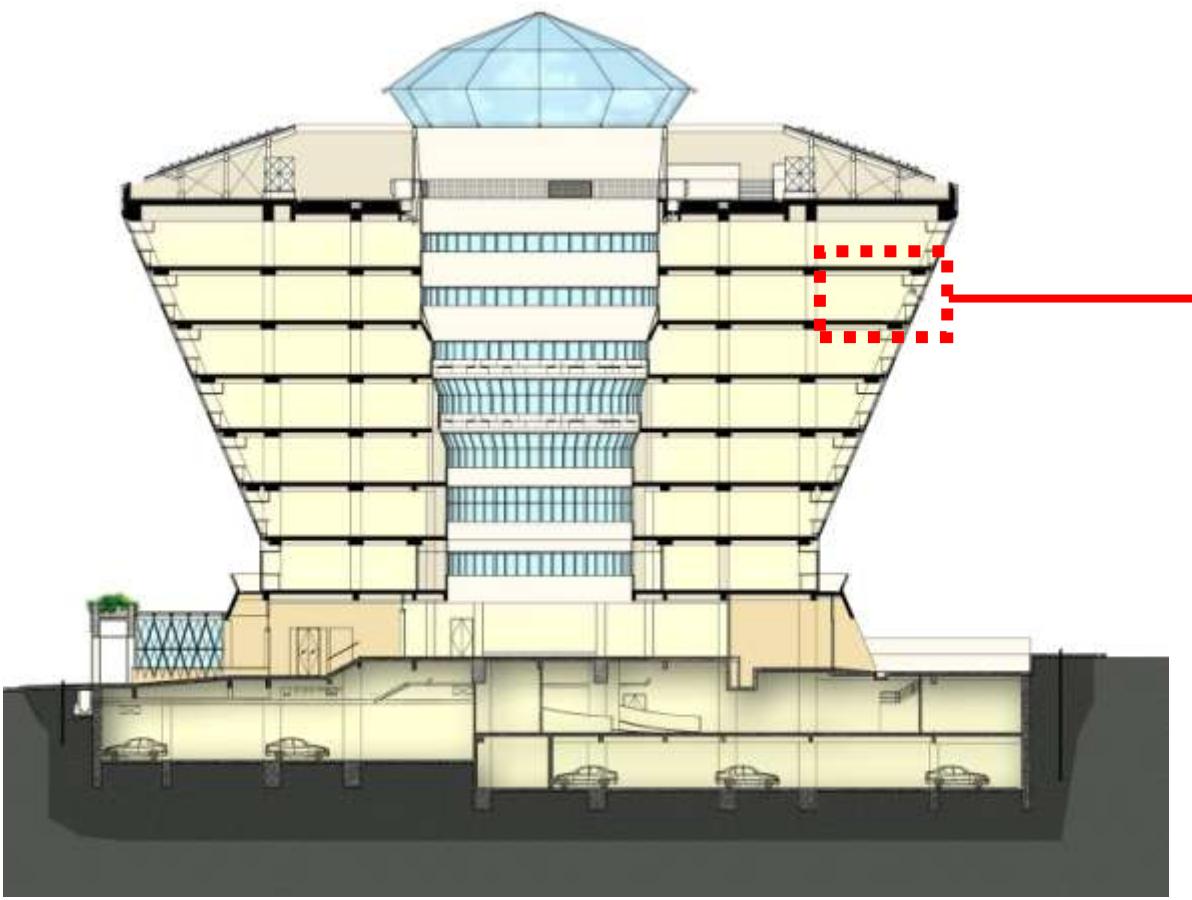
Window sill only



## Façade Daylight Design

The building is 50% daylit. The façade daylighting system consists of a mirror lightshelf and a white painted window sill. Both deflect daylight onto the white ceiling for improved daylight distribution until 5 meters from the façade + 2 additional meters of corridor space. Installed office lighting is 8.4 W/m<sup>2</sup>, but 1-year measurements show consumption of only 0.9 W/m<sup>2</sup> showing high reliance on daylighting. Some people worked down to 33 lux without switching on the lighting.

# Day-Lighting- Office



Mirror  
lightshelf



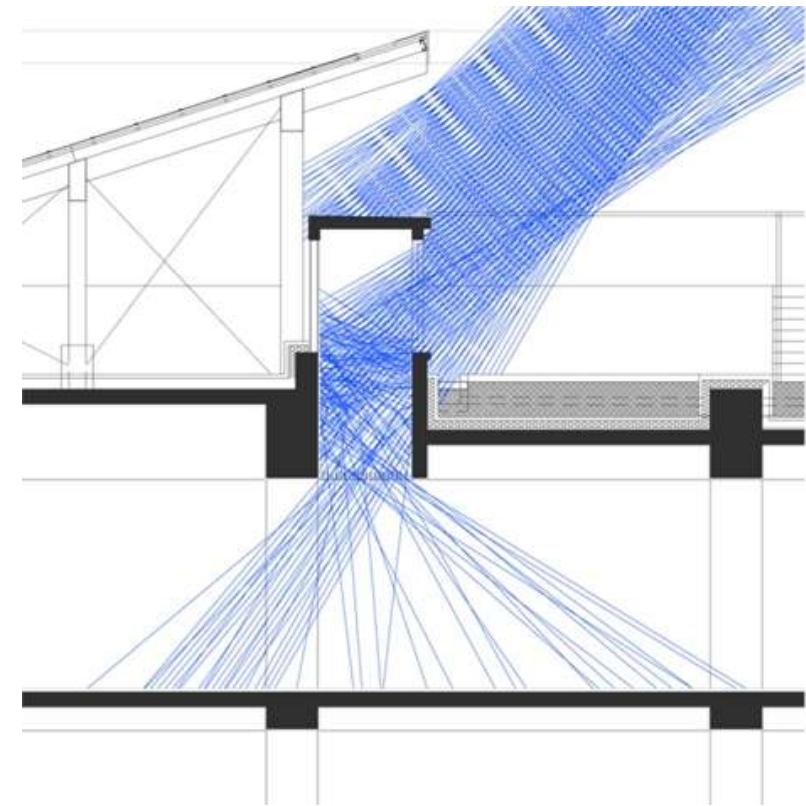
Fixed  
blinds for  
glare  
control



Daylight  
reflected  
onto  
ceiling

# Daylight Skylight through Roof

Take in diffuse light only



# Floor Slab Cooling in ST Diamond Building

Floor slab cooling system embedded in RC slab

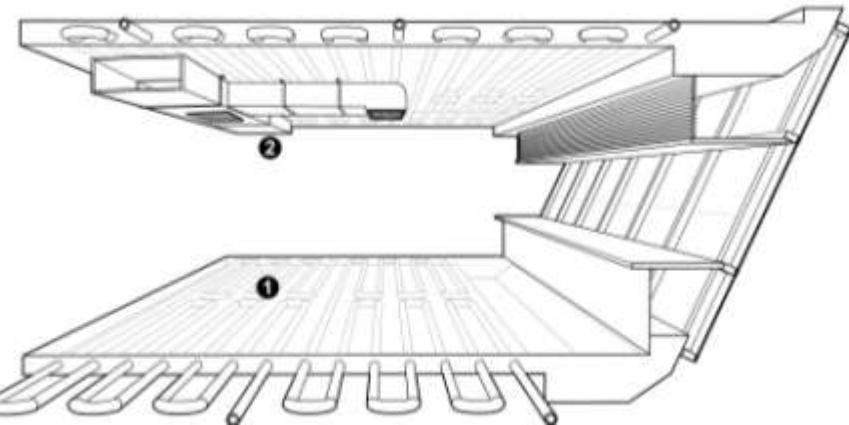
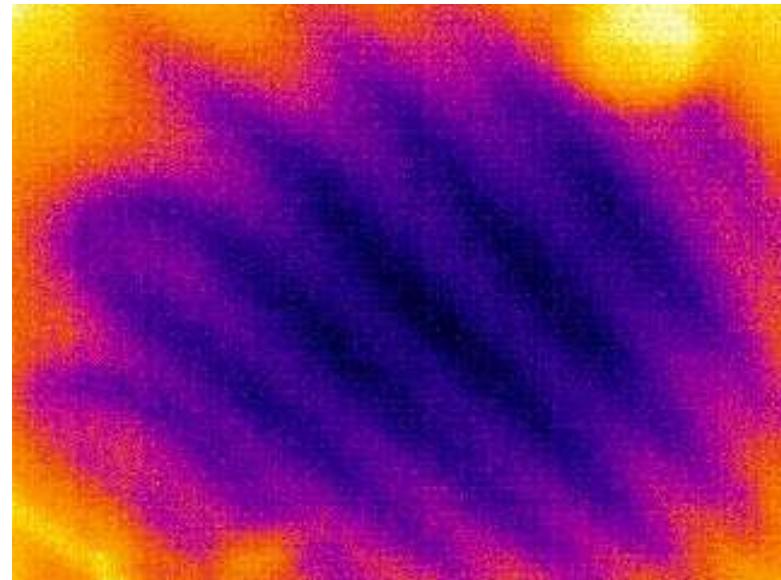


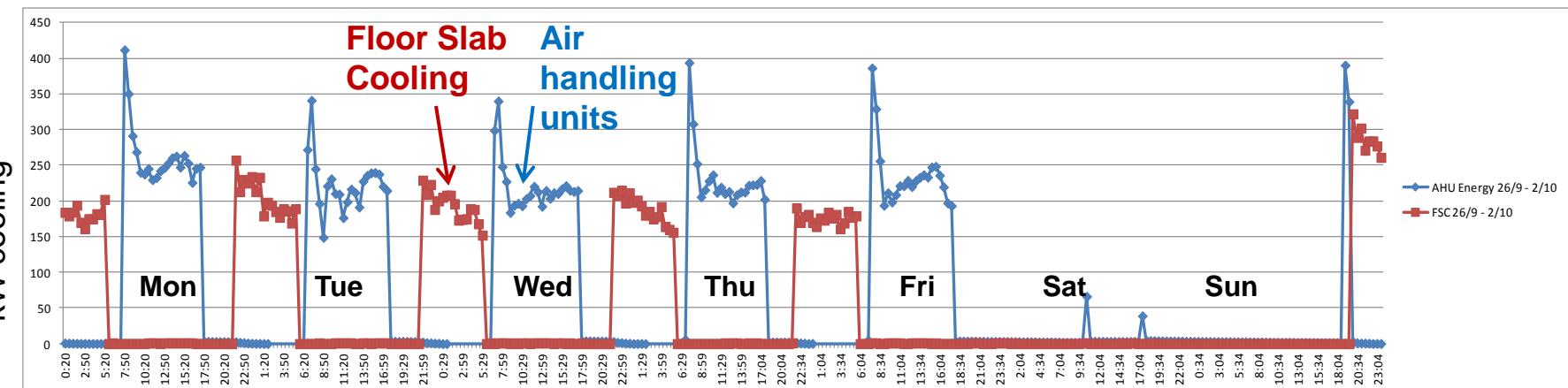
Illustration courtesy of:

Greening Asia – Emerging Principles for Sustainable Architecture.

Copyright: Nirmal Kishnani, 2012. Publisher: FuturArc

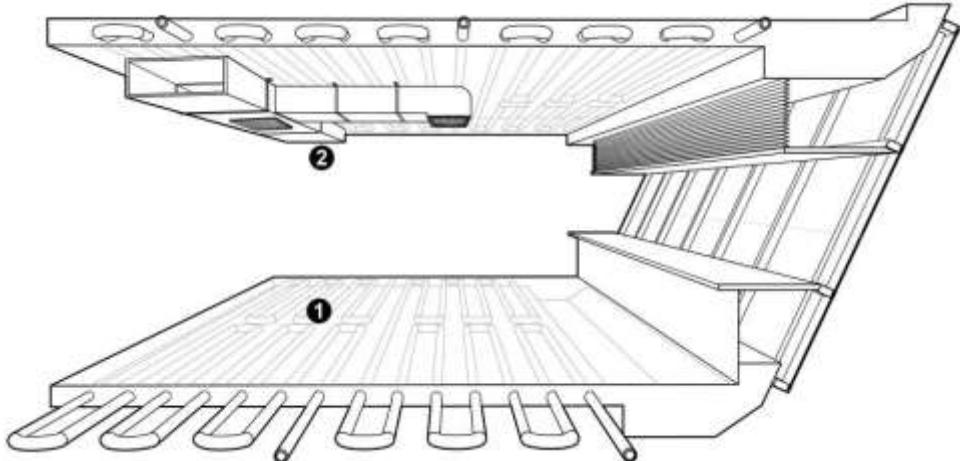


Thermographic image of floor slab cooling in ST Diamond  
Picture courtesy of: PS Soong, Pureaire





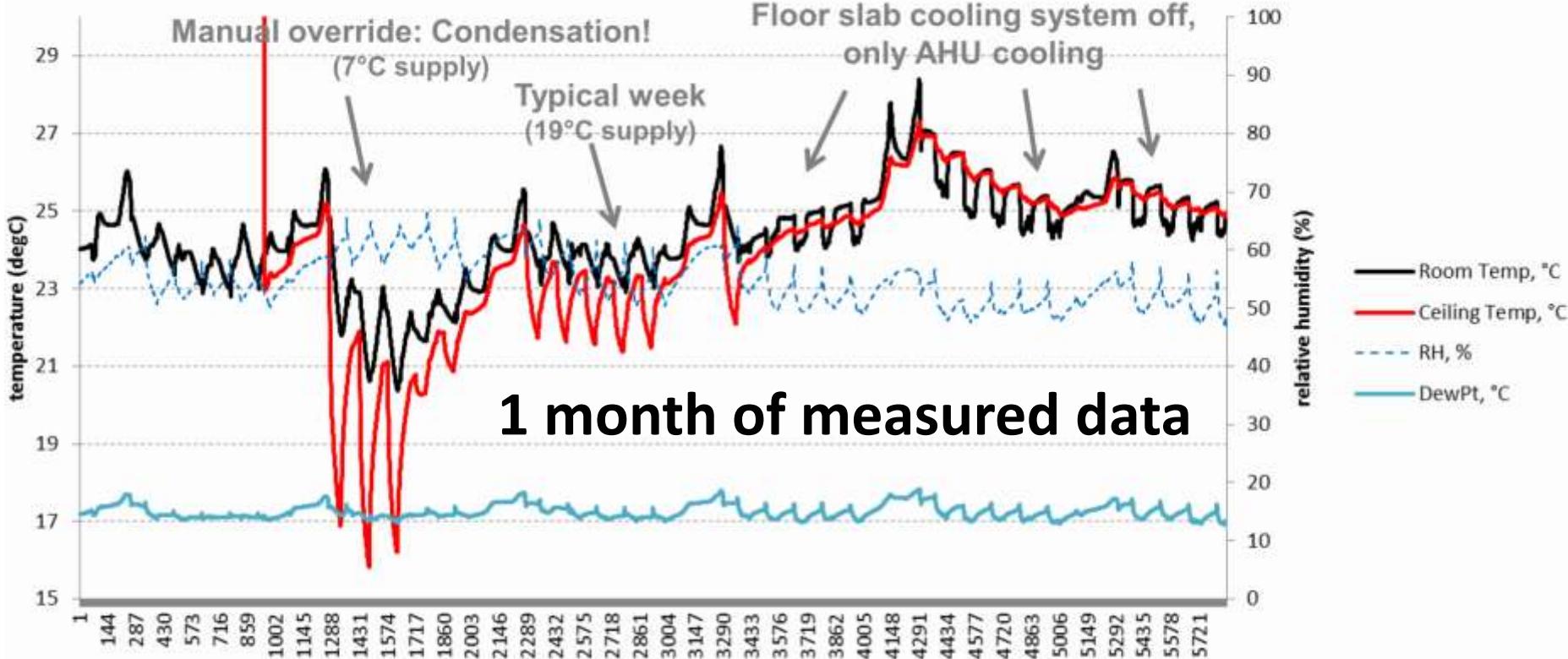
**ST Diamond Building:** Floor slab cooling measurements



Source: Greening Asia – Emerging Principles for Sustainable Architecture.

Copyright: Nirmal Kishnani. 2012. Publisher: FuturArc

### ST Diamond Building: Level 6, West, Hamidah room (8 Sept - 18 Oct, 2012)



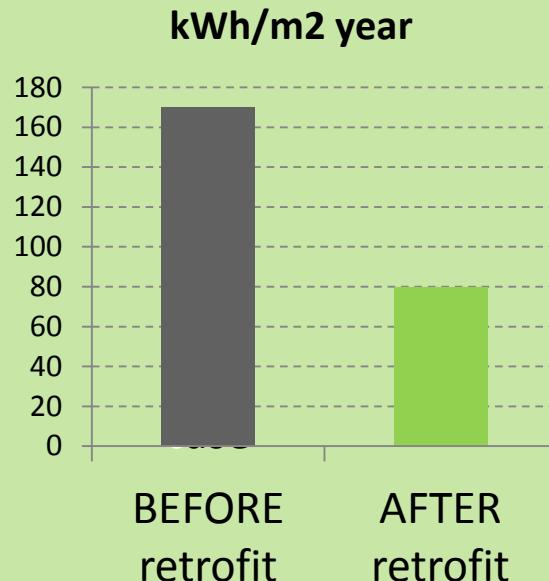
# 3-minute video



Sustainable Features of ST Diamond Building.  
Available at YouTube:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3H\\_sXCtDayc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3H_sXCtDayc)

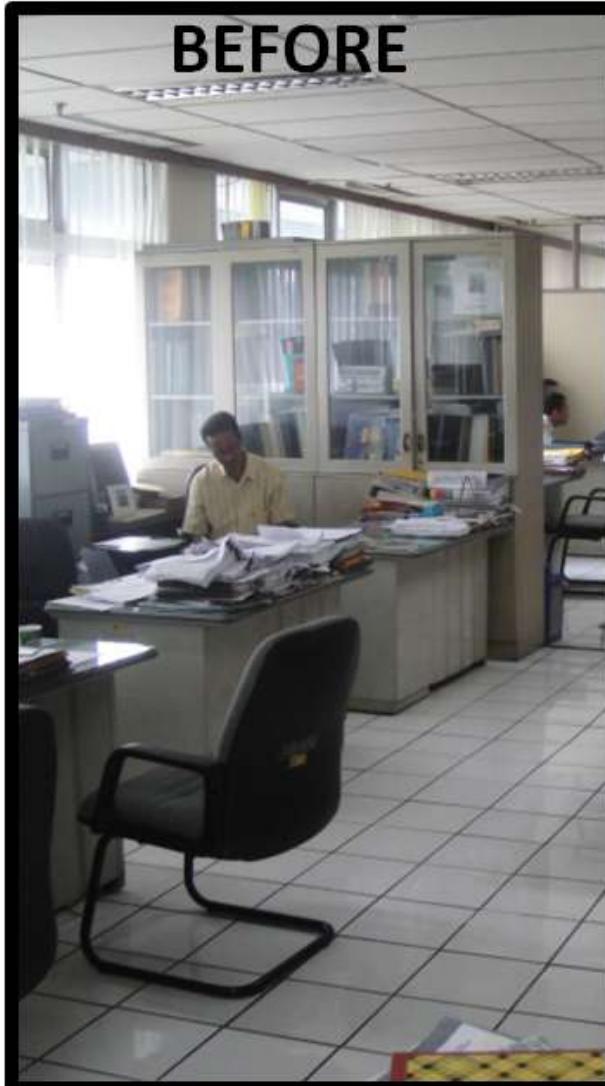
## Case study no. 3



Energy Efficient Retrofit case study

### EECCHI OFFICE RETROFIT (JAKARTA, 2011)

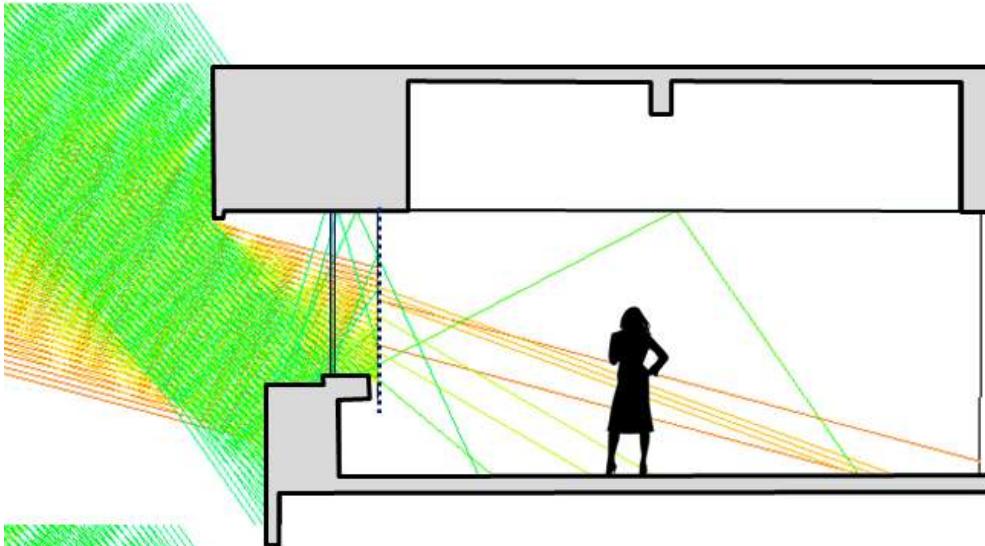
# 53% Measured Energy Savings



<b>Energy</b>	
170	80
kWh/m <sup>2</sup> yr	
<b>Comfort</b>	
26-31	24-26
temp (°C)	temp (°C)
75	55
RH (%)	RH (%)
<b>Noise</b>	
57	45
dB	dB
<b>Daylight</b>	
No	Yes
<b>View out</b>	

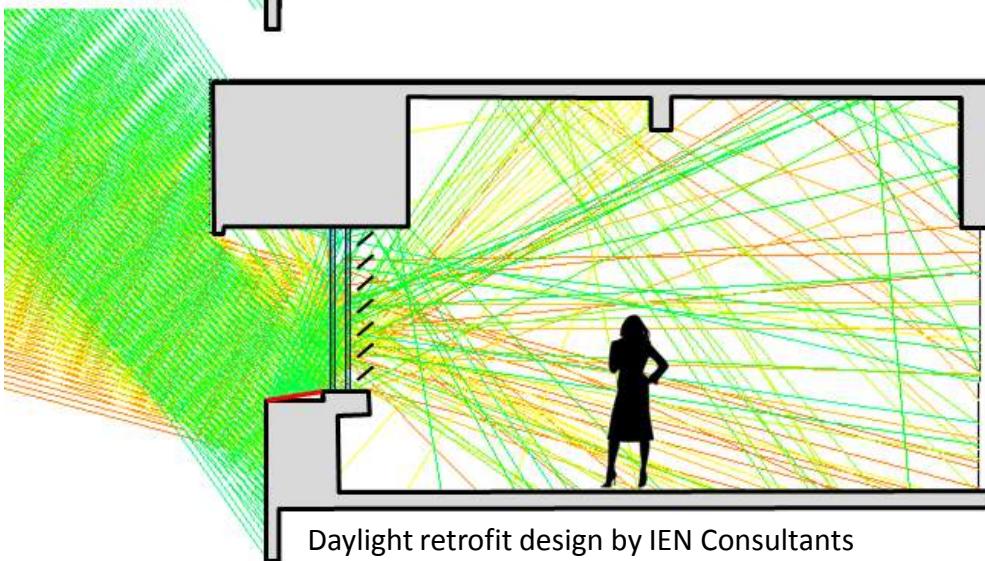


# Retrofit & Improved Thermal Comfort



## BEFORE RETROFIT

- Vertical blinds blocking most of the daylight
- Suspended ceiling

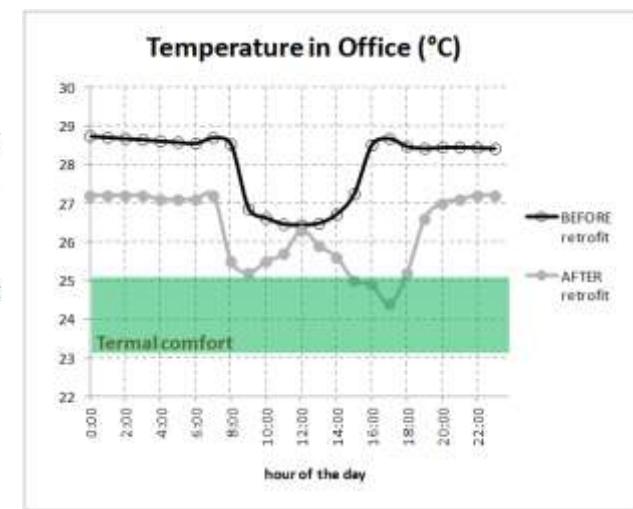


Daylight retrofit design by IEN Consultants



## AFTER RETROFIT

- Mirror lightshelf on external ledge reflecting diffuse daylight onto the high ceiling (suspended ceiling removed)
- Perforate venetian blinds
- Extra window pane



## Case study no. 4



Innovative daylighting facade for highrise building

### **MMK OFFICE TOWER (KUALA LUMPUR, 2015)**

# Innovative façade daylighting

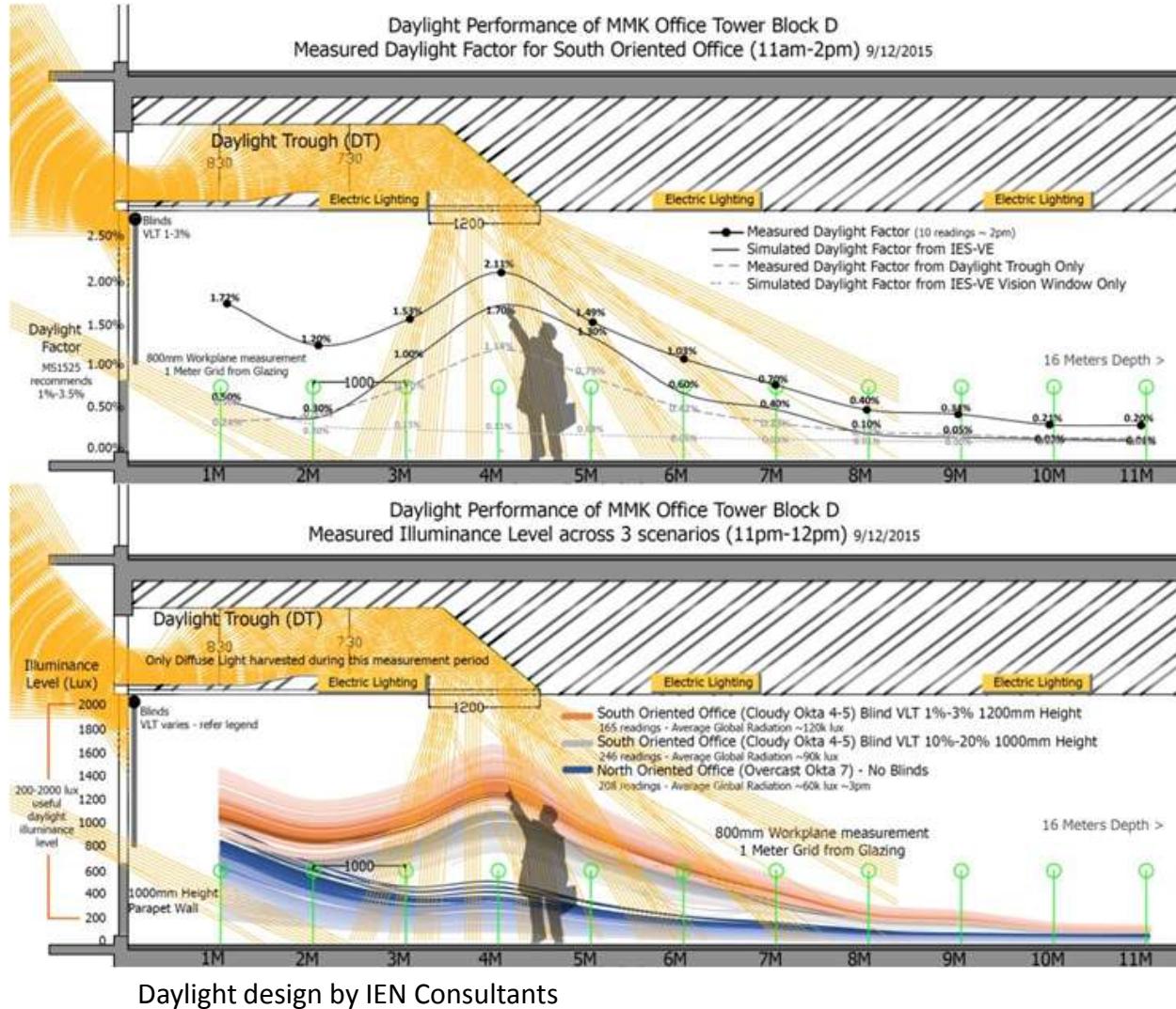
The MMK high rise office tower @ Damansara Perdana, Malaysia

**Innovative daylight duct  
from facade**



Daylight design by IEN Consultants

# 7 meters daylight with blinds down



Measured daylight show that the first **7 meters** can be daylit, even when the blinds are fully engaged



## Case study no. 5



ZERO Energy Bungalow

### **EARTH BERM HOUSE** **(KUALA LUMPUR, 2016)**

# INNOVATION: Night Sky Cooling

Bungalow 100% natural cooling, no air-conditioning

The roof  
at night!



What is the coolest place  
of the building?

To be completed next month!

Similar design by Design Unit Sdn. Bhd.

# CONCLUSION

“Expensive **not** to go green”

**Buildings are  
Like a Leaky Bucket**



**with lots of  
unnecessary wastages**

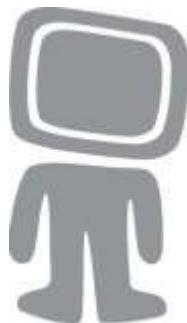
Plug the holes, and you are  
well on the way to a green  
energy efficient  
inexpensive building



Thank you



How I commute in Kuala Lumpur  
(video [link](#))



## Gregers Reimann

Managing director, IEN Consultants

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Singapore | Malaysia | China

# Appendix slides

# Energy Efficiency consultancy

## Senior Consultant curriculum



*Nationality:* Danish 

*Language Skills:* EN | DA

*Based in:* Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

*Education:*

- MSc Energy Engineering (Technical University of Denmark)

### **Gregers REIMANN**

**Roles:** Energy Efficiency Consultant

Gregers is the managing director of IEN Consultants, the pioneering green building consultancy in Malaysia, with offices in Singapore as well as China. He specialises in building designs that have good daylighting, are highly energy efficient and have excellent thermal and visual comfort.

Key project references during his 10 years of working in Asia include the Setia City Mall (first green certified shopping mall in Malaysia), the new IKEA in Kuala Lumpur (ongoing), ST Diamond Building (2012 ASEAN Energy Award winner) and the GEO Building designed to be a zero energy office building. Other green projects include the KLIA2 airport terminal, the KL Eco City, the Pertamina Energy Tower – the first skyscraper designed to be ZERO energy – and energy efficiency building retrofit works incl. daylight retrofitting of the Asian Development Bank in Manila.

Gregers has also been a technical reviewer for the EU Energy-Efficiency Buildings project and is newly appointed Chairman of the “Energy Efficient Buildings” committee under the EU-Malaysian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (EUMCCI).

Gregers regularly contributes to green building articles and frequently guest lectures at universities internationally. He has a keen interest to pursue innovative and integrated design solutions bridging the gap between architects and engineers. Gregers is also ‘walking the talk’ with respect to green living habits, which includes commuting to work by a foldable electric bicycle that combines easily with public transport.

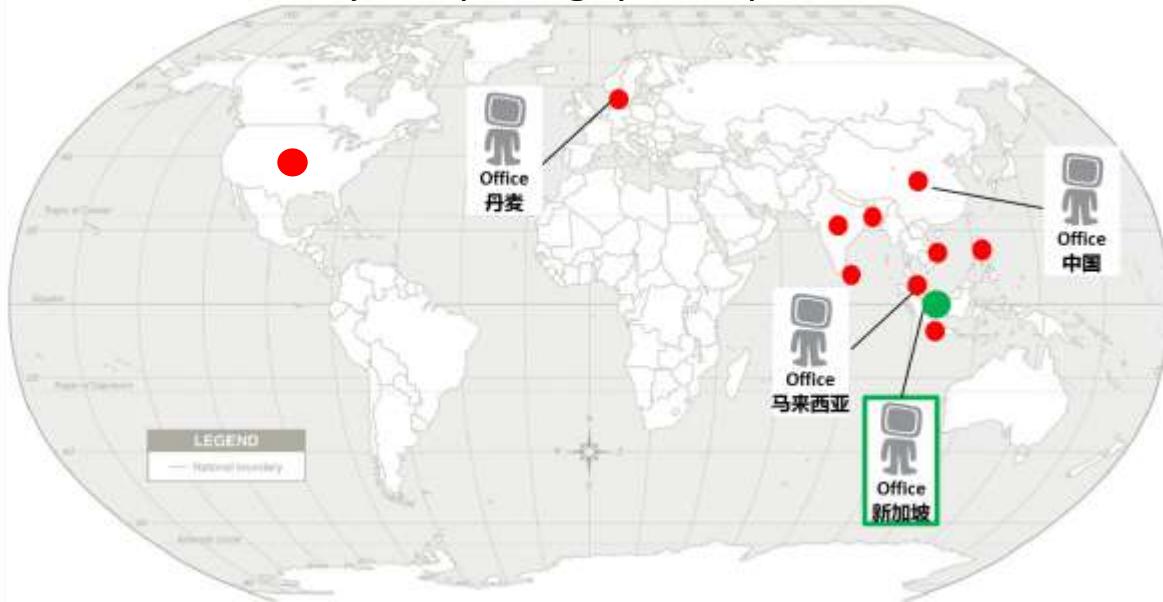
# IEN Consultants

3.2 million square meters  
of green building space



Gregers (MD) Poul (Founder)

Malaysia | Singapore | China



## IEN Consultants Expert Staff



### IEN Consultants

Hover the cursor over a person's head to see a short presentation and click to see a detailed personal description or click on a name in the list below.

We are a diverse group of individuals

**5 different degrees  
6 different nationalities  
4 LEED AP  
8 GBI Facilitators**