

UCI CEE

Affiliates

AFFORDABLE SUSTAINABLE STRUCTURES

Quarterly Meeting Event, May 2023

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How can we provide low-cost sustainability with less moving parts?

WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
CHILDREN'S CENTER
Port au Prince, Haiti

An aerial photograph showing a vast area of destruction in Haiti following the 2010 earthquake. The landscape is covered in a dense layer of rubble, including twisted metal, broken concrete, and debris from destroyed buildings. The colors are muted, with greys, browns, and some faded reds and blues from damaged structures. The text is overlaid in a large, white, sans-serif font, centered on the image.

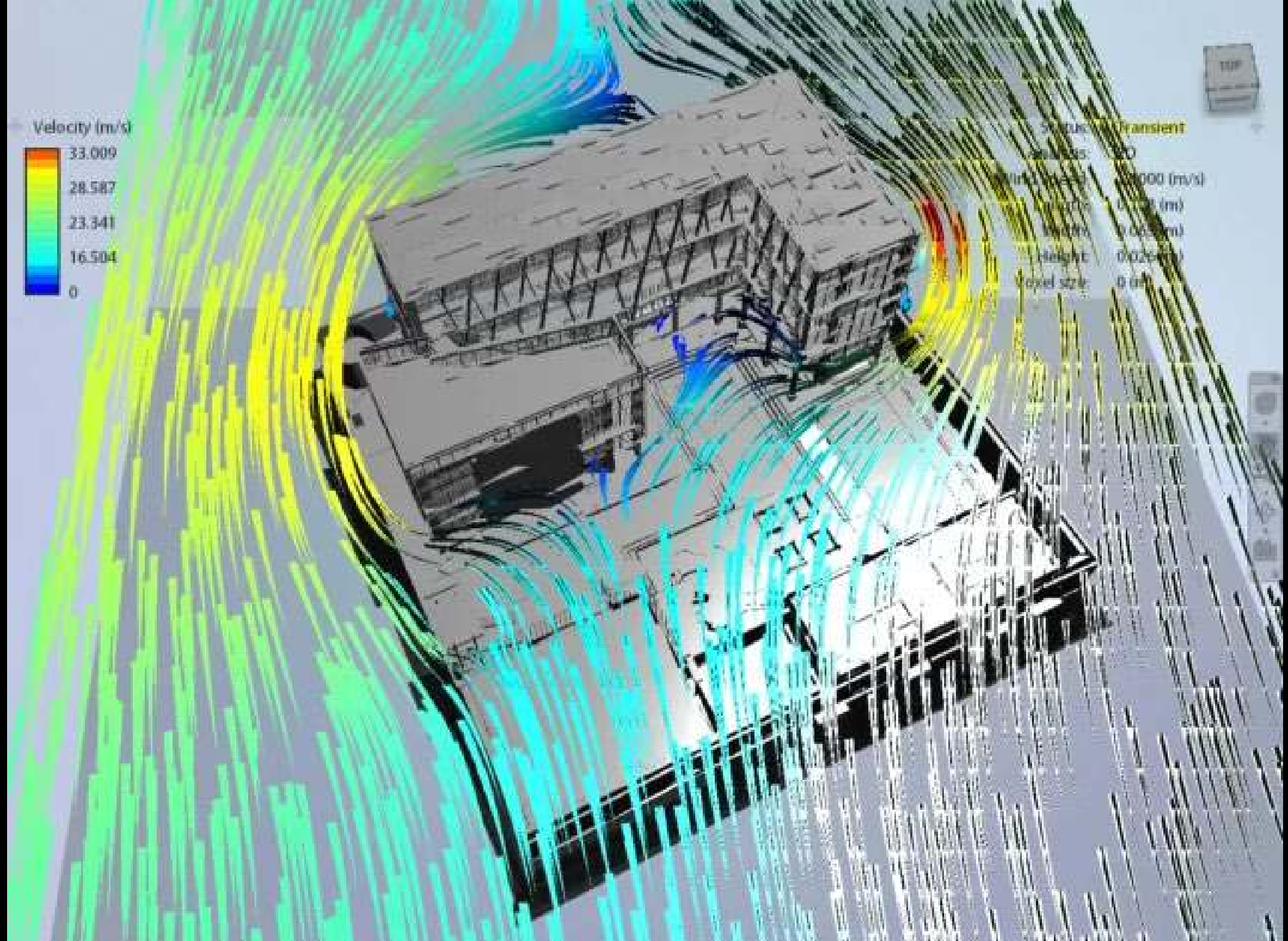
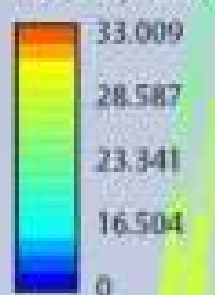
In January 2010, a massive
earthquake hit Haiti, killing over
230,000 people and leaving
1.5 million homeless







Velocity (m/s)



Status: **Transient**
Analysis: 10
Time step: 0.000 (m/s)
Time: 0.000 (m)
Time: 0.000 (m)
Height: 0.020 (m)
Voxel size: 0 (m)



3:56

+ Queue

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RESEARCH NEWS

The Wisdom Of Trees (Leonardo Da Vinci Knew It)

December 26, 2011 · 12:01 AM ET

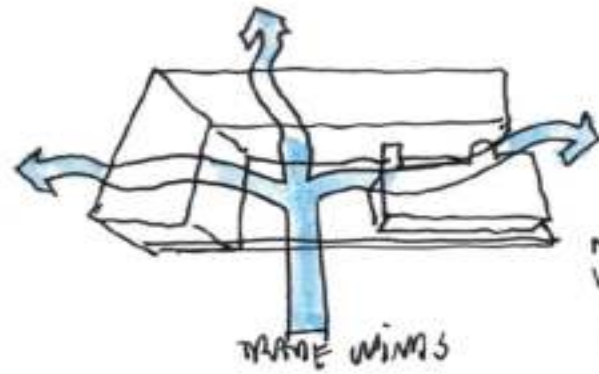
Heard on Morning Edition



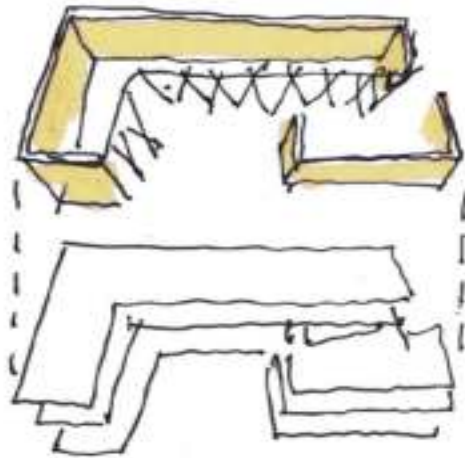
JOE PALCA



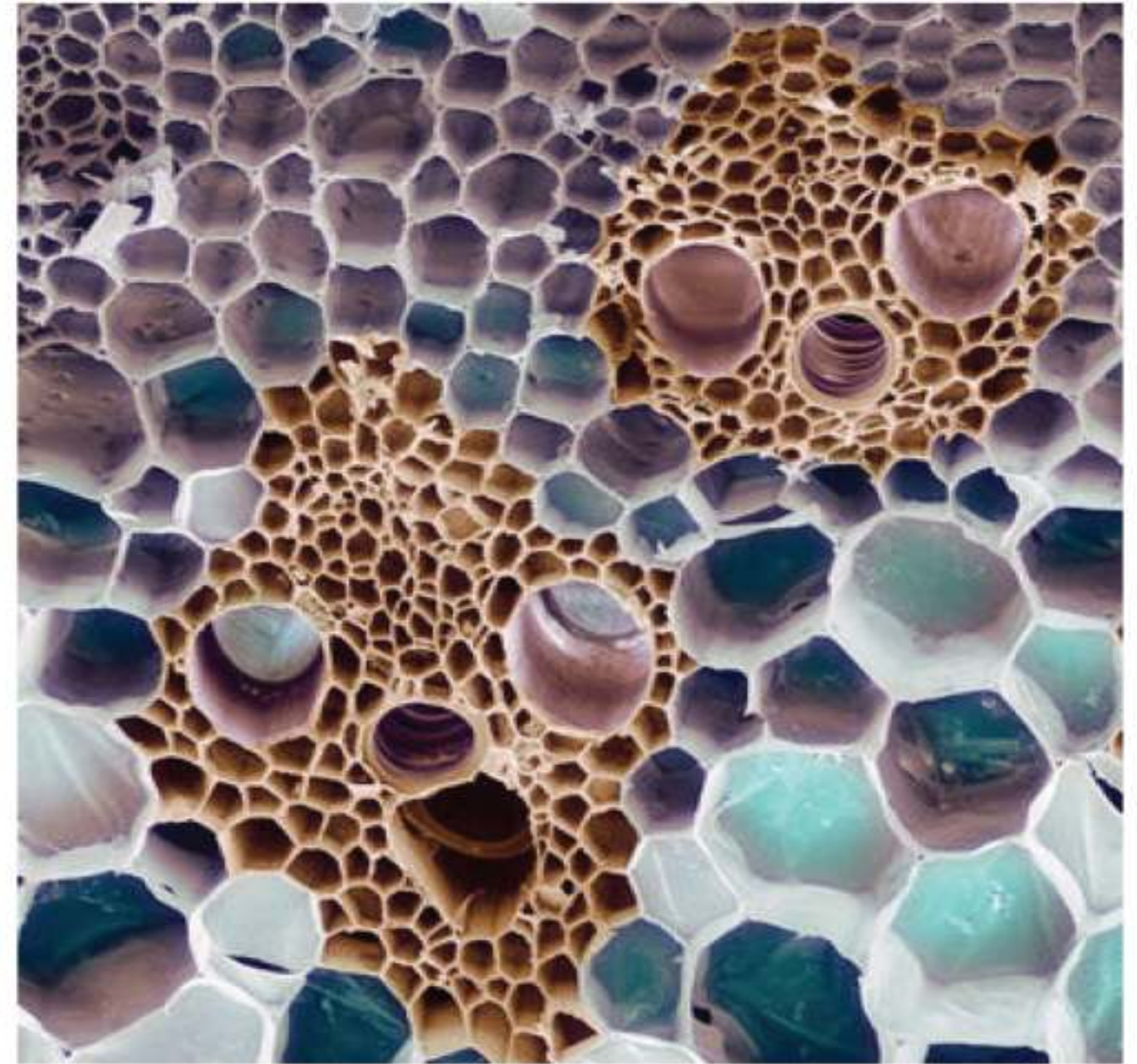
Leonardo DaVinci noted that when trees branch, smaller branches have a precise, mathematical relationship to the branch they sprang from.



NATURAL
VENTILATION
(CATCHER'S
MITT)



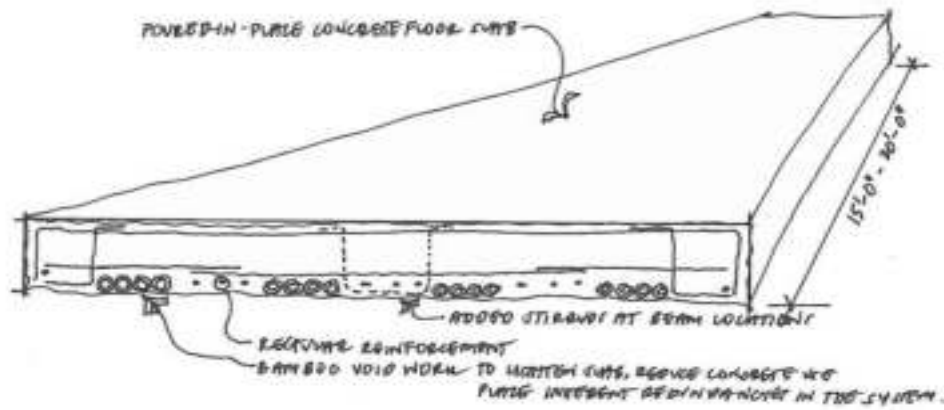
SHADING
SYSTEM
(BOUNDARY
LAYER)



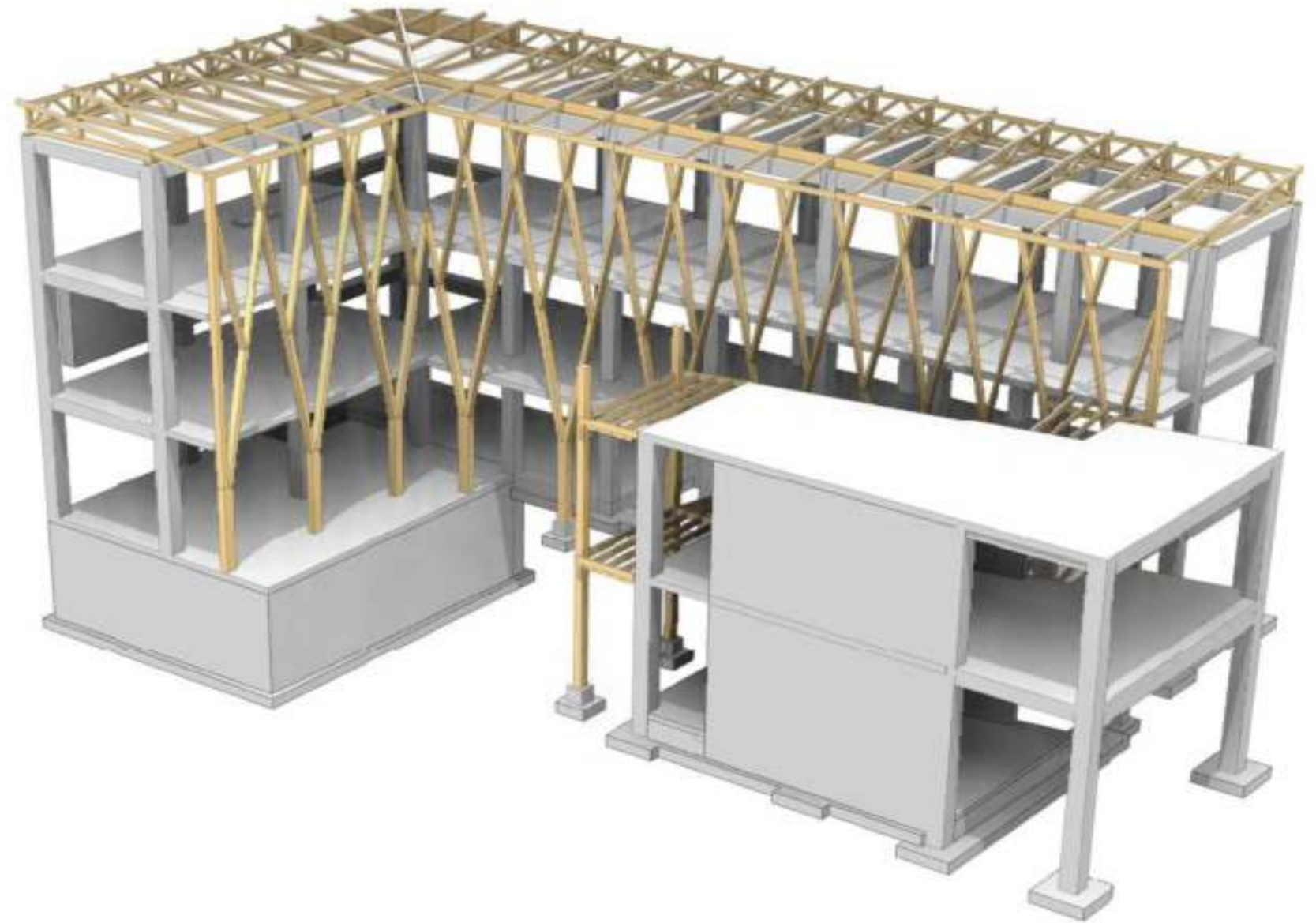
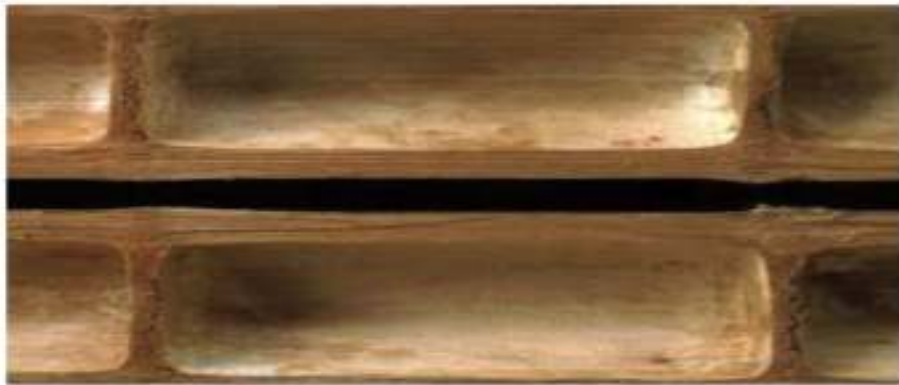
Building Cladding System

The second skin keeps the heat off the concrete core while admitting natural ventilation. High surface area, low emissivity, porous surfaces are used in nature to manipulate boundary layers as a survival strategy.

Be locally attuned and responsive: use readily available materials and energy, cultivate cooperative relationships, leverage cyclical processes, use feedback loops



Wood is precious and no longer available locally for construction. Bamboo is an emerging resource with great potential: it will be used as leave-in place formwork for slabs, and as a low-emissivity second skin on facades.



The project leverages local materials in a redundant concrete structural frame designed to IBC 2009 Standards, and repetitive details promote quality and labor up-skilling.















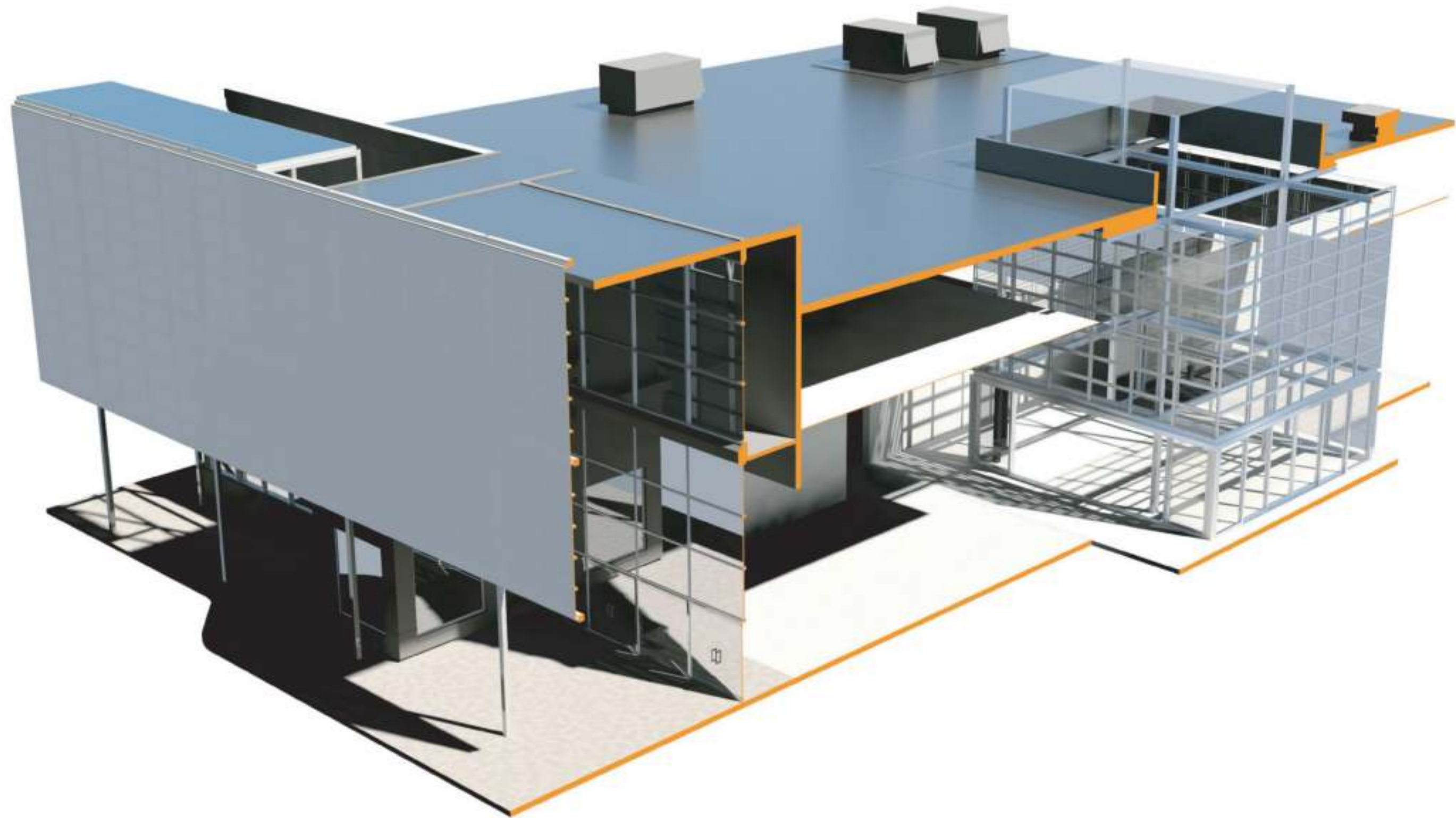
Is the most sustainable, cost
effective strategy to not build
at all?



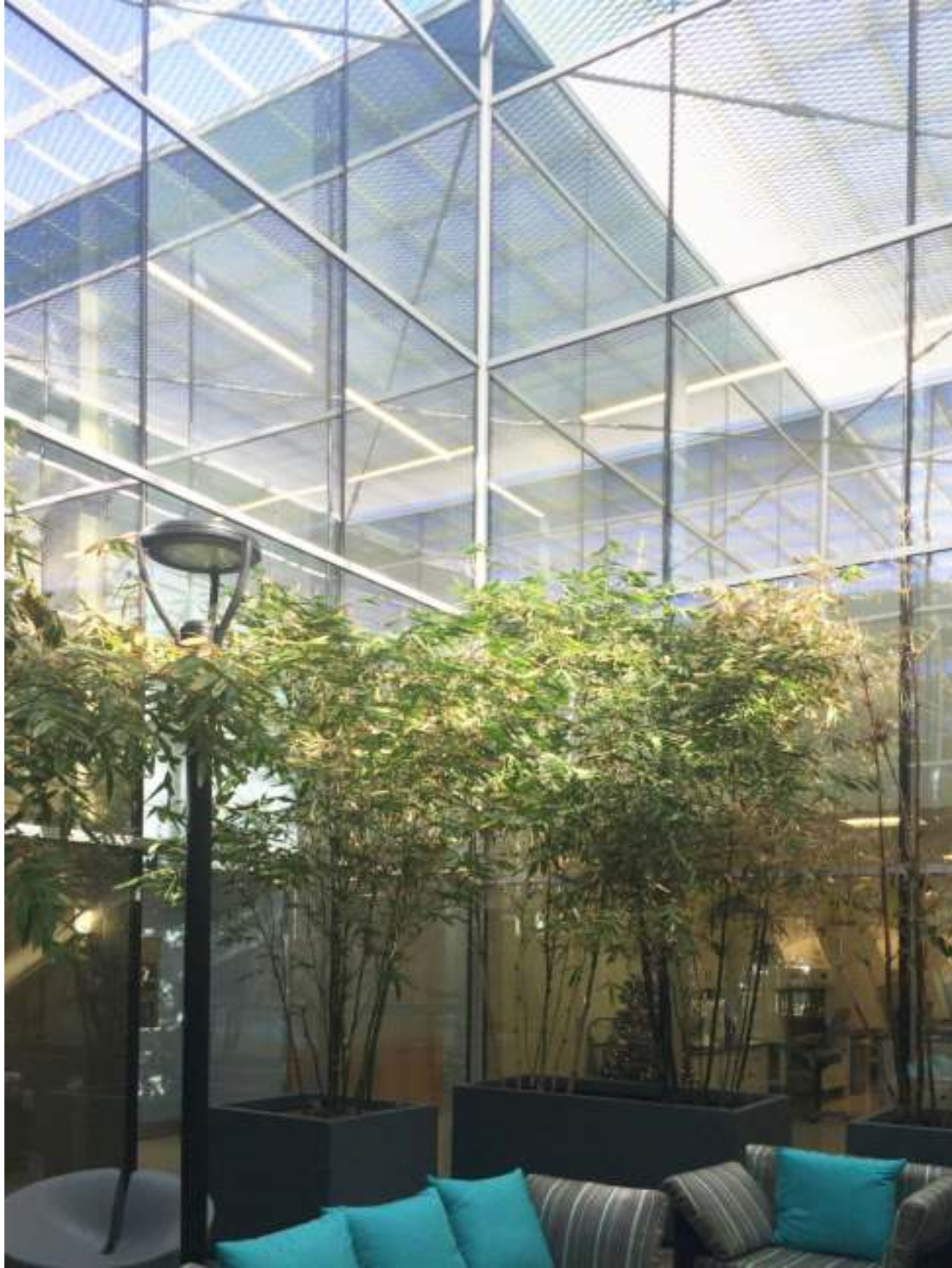
BEFORE: Great Outdoors Big Box

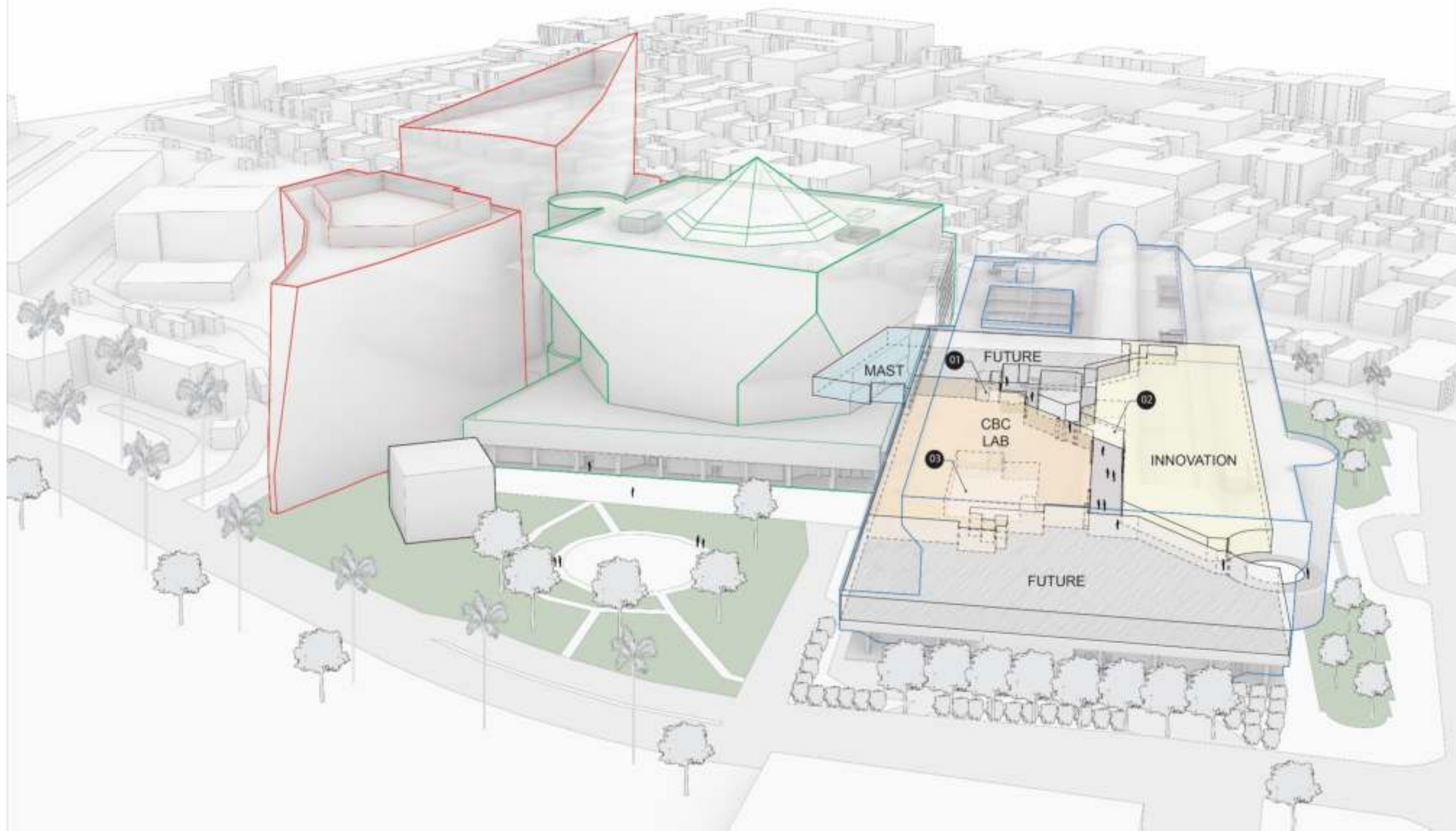














Can cost effective, low
embodied carbon approaches
...also heal us?



LOBBY



WORKPLACE



HYBRID STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
MASS TIMBER WITH EXPRESSED STEEL BRACE FRAMES



Volume of wood products used:
480 m3 (16,836 ft3)



Avoided GHG emissions:
770 metric tons of carbon dioxide



U.S. and Canadian forests grow this much wood in: 1 minute



Carbon stored in the wood:
360 metric tons of CO2



Total potential carbon benefit:
1140 metric tons of carbon dioxide



Offset:
217 vehicles



Offset:
97 homes



A MASS TIMBER SOLUTION





Chalk River Campus, Ontario

STRUCTURAL SYSTEM COST COMPARISON – BUSINESS HUB

Item	Mass Timber Structure	Steel Structure
Structural Costs	\$2.9M	\$2.9M
Foundation Changes (additional piles)	+\$125K	
Foundation Changes (Weight difference of structure)		+\$125K
concrete slab topping	+175K	+\$310K
Pour stop + membrane	+80K	
Intumescent paint + fire proofing		+130K
Drywall column wraps		+200K
Ceilings and Bulkheads		+350K
Temporary protective measures	+85K	
Schedule Impact		+225K
TOTAL	\$3.36M	\$3.84M



Largest IPD project Canada: 2021



DEMOUNTABLE HEAVY TIMBER CONSTRUCTION



Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation