

William Whistler to be Big 5 Conference Speaker:

Project Case Studies: Optimizing Building Envelope Integrity with Concrete Wall Systems: Louvre Abu Dhabi and the 'Green Building of the Year 2104'

Date: November 23 3 -4PM

Location: Sheikh Saeed Hall



OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE: The ability to improve the building envelope in residential and commercial buildings is one of the least contested, generally agreed, and lowest cost paths to sustainability, according to a leading expert on green building. Speaking ahead of his participation at this year's Middle East Concrete event, Managing Director of Green Building Solutions International William Whistler said that the need to develop proper envelopes is being exacerbated by rising global temperatures.

"In this harsh climate in which temperatures are rising globally, our 24-hour, 365-day-a-year air conditioned living means that we are building refrigerators in an oven. This has a huge impact on buildings and is extremely detrimental in terms of energy and human health," he said.

"The impact of having proper envelopes, especially in the GCC, is also massive in terms of the amount of the resources we use in construction and the savings that come from not expending the time, energy, and materials to build poor envelopes in the first place," he added.

The building envelope is the elements of the outer shell of a building and is crucial in maintaining a dry, heated, or cooled indoor environment. However, one of the important takeaways Whistler said he wants visitors to the show to leave with is the benefits that improving building envelopes can have across the industry.

"In my work, I find examples all the time of the consequences of building envelopes that are not up to the task. I saw a job recently where residents hadn't moved in yet and they already have water condensing on the floor because of the envelope," he said.

As a strategy towards sustainability, Whistler added that his comments were not aimed at criticising, but said instead that he hoped people would recognise the opportunity to improve standards within the built environment and combat climate change.

Whistler, who holds a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from Pratt institute in New York and a Master of Arts in Urban Design from Oxford Brookes University, will be one of the highlights of Middle East Concrete when the show opens its doors at Dubai World Trade Centre in November.

Having been registered Architect with the American Institute of Architects in 1979, his remarks will be complimented by leading industry experts from throughout the GCC and beyond.

Middle East Concrete is the only event dedicated to concrete in the Middle East and is co-located with PMV Live. Both shows will be held from 23-26 November, alongside The Big 5 International Building and Construction Show.

If you are already registered as Big 5 Attendee, log into the website and visit the URL of Mr. Whistler's talk:

http://visitors.genie-connect.com/thebig52015/#!speakers_-39/i=6694252952158208&c=speakers