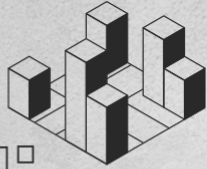




# Digitisation for Compliance and Decarbonisation

Prof Chris Knapp PhD RAIA

*Research Director, Building 4.0 CRC*



building  
**4.0** crc

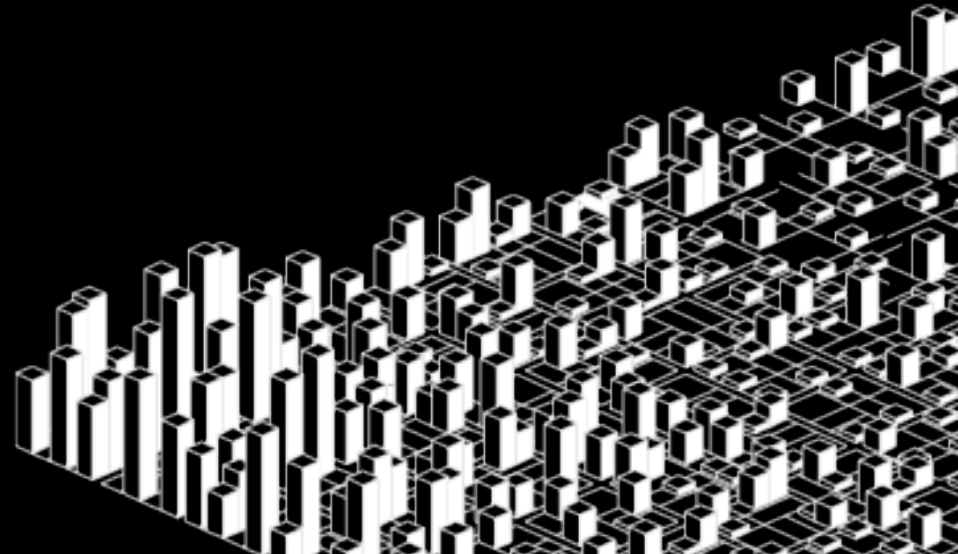
Prof Chris Knapp PhD RAIA

—  
Research Director

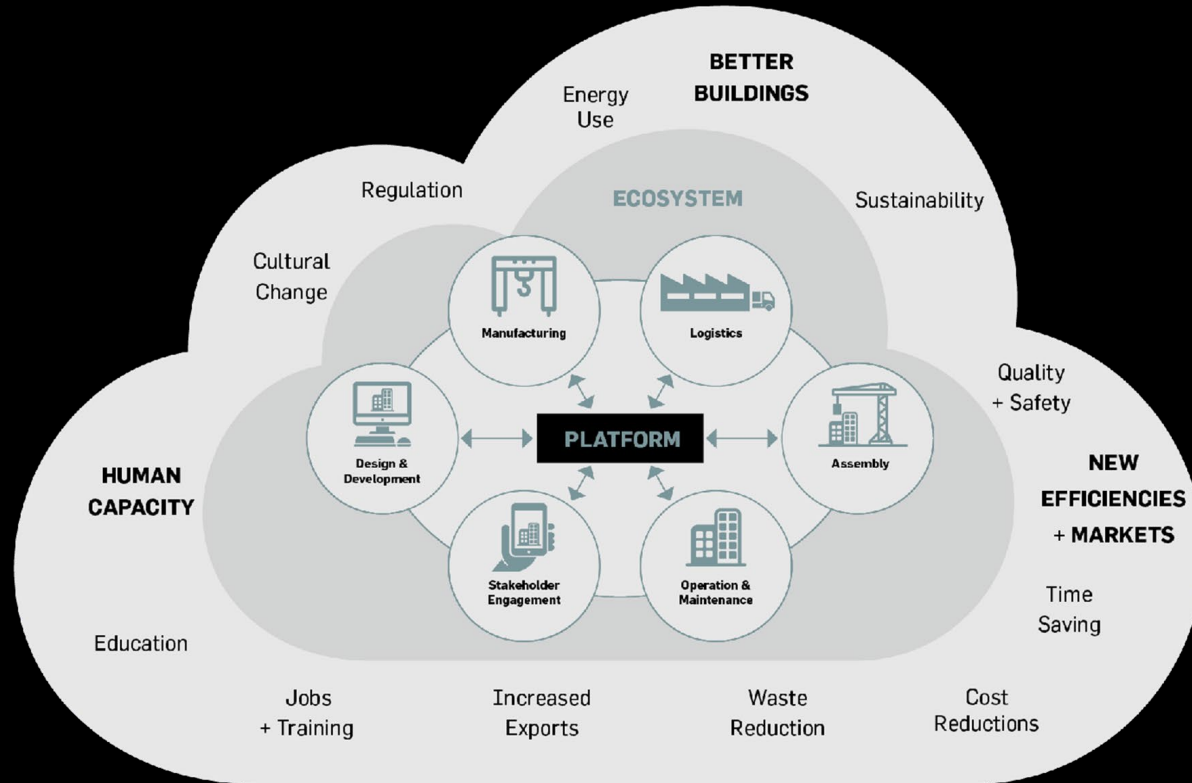
9 August 2023



Better buildings through increased digitalisation, industrialisation, culture change, and sustainability



# B4.0 CRC - BUILDING THE FUTURE INDUSTRY

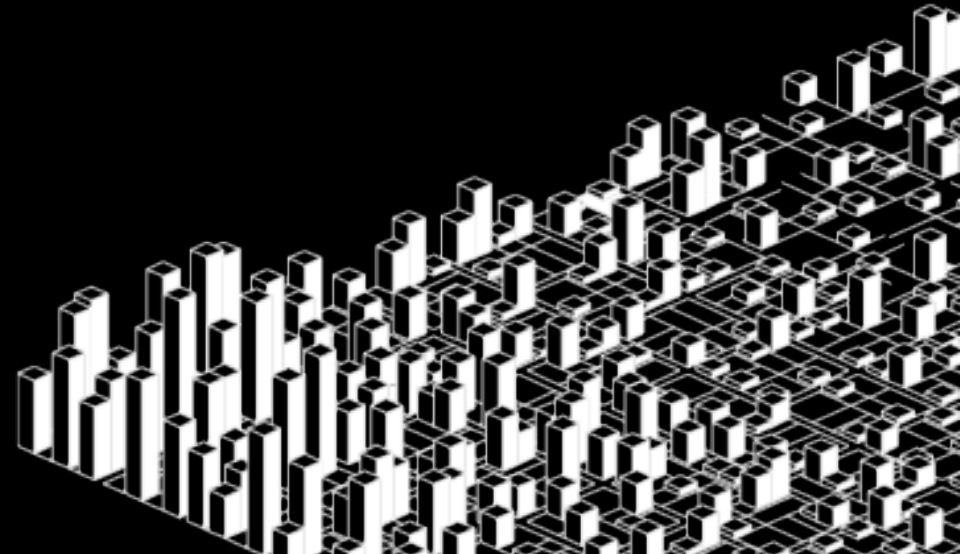


7 YEARS

3 UNIVERSITIES

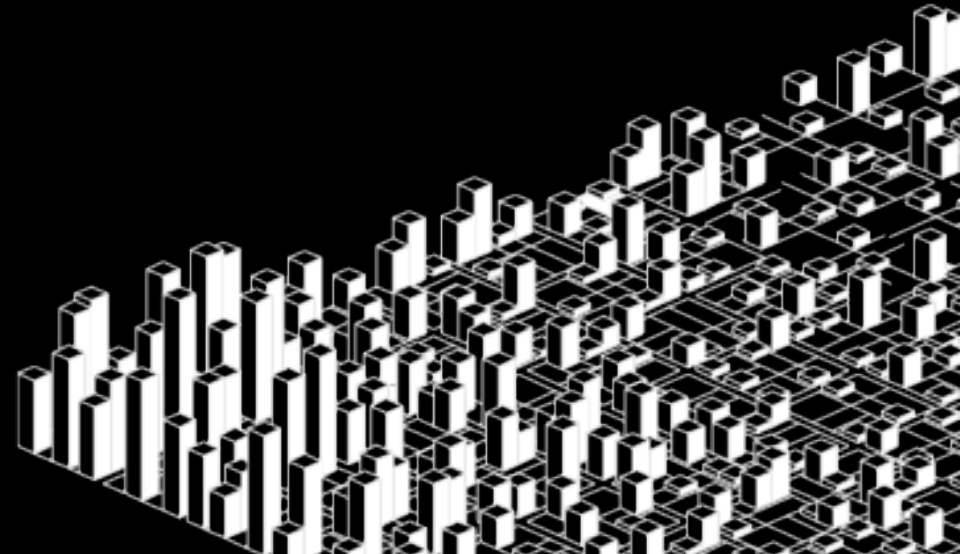
~30 INDUSTRY PARTNERS

\$130M TOTAL RESEARCH VALUE



SINCE JULY 2020:

- 32 COMPLETED PROJECTS
- 18 ACTIVE PROJECTS
- 44 PIPELINE PROJECTS



# Projects: pipeline, active, completed

## Sustainability

- Project 5 – Automatic Compliance & Energy Rating System
- Project 11 - Environmental Credentials for Building Technology Platforms
- Project 18 - Long-span Low-Carbon Floor Systems (Scoping Study)
- Project 19 - Hybrid Timber-Steel Structural Systems for Mid to High Rise Buildings
- Project 27 - Environmental Decision-Support for Structures
- Project 35 - Prefab Housing Solutions for Bushfire & Disaster Relief
- Project 37 - Aust Timber Fibre Insulation Scoping Study
- Project 39 – Hybrid Timber-Steel Extension
- Project 46 - Data analytics for structural fibre resources optimisation
- Project 48 - Shared Interest Project: Circular Economy
- Project 50 - Automation of energy rating tool
- Project 54 - HVAC in a post-covid world
- Project 59 - Strong Floor
- Project 68 - Post and Plate CLT Scoping, Optimisation, and Testing
- Project 72 - PassivHaus Tower Performance Evaluation

## People, Practices & Culture

- Project 02 - Auto-Tracking of Materials for Supply Chain Logistics and Provenance
- Project 09 - Implementing DfMA & Lean Construction Principles
- Project 14 - Building Products Supply Chain Naming Conventions and Standards
- Project 15 - Resource optimisation Studies: Forest to Building
- Project 21 - Regulatory Reform for Industrialised Building
- Project 29 - Workplace Safety
- Project 33 - Remote Compliance Inspections
- Project 56 - Training and Optimising CRC Research in Construction
- Project 58 - Construction Wellness
- Project 60 - Mass Timber Wellness
- Project 66 - Future of Construction Education

## Digitalisation

- Project 01 - e-Planning / e-Approvals Phase 1
- Project 04 - Computational Design & Optimisation Tools for Prefab Building Systems
- Project 06 - Field data collation to support real-time operational management
- Project 12 - VR/AR Technologies in Vocational Education / Training
- Project 16 - Fire Safety in Advanced Building Systems
- Project 22 - Design Automation methods for Steel Framed Buildings Phase 1
- Project 38 - Victorian Govt Digital Build
- Project 42 - Workflow Automation Tools for Home Designs
- Project 44 - Generative Architectural Design Engine
- Project 53 - Automated Design Optimisation and AI Tools for Prefab Systems (Ext to 4)
- Project 55 - Smart Contracts / Smart Finance in construction industry
- Project 57 - Wind Comfort Simulation and New Engineering Design Process
- Project 62 - Digital Building Approvals
- Project 71 - Automated Resolution of BIM Clash Incidents
- Project 73 – LLM for Material Tracking and Part Library

## Industrialisation

- Project 03 - Projects to Platforms
- Project 08 - Prefab, Integrated Wall Systems - Scoping Study
- Project 17 - Implication of Industry 4.0 for the construction industry: smart prefab
- Project 19 - Hybrid Timber-Steel Structural Systems for Mid to High Rise Buildings
- Project 20 - Sys & methods for robustness of mid-rise Light Gauge Steel (LGS) buildings
- Project 23 - Prefab: Barriers & opportunities in the Australian housing market
- Project 24 - Robust and Fire-resilient Light Gauge Steel Systems for Mid-Rise Buildings
- Project 25 - Framework of steel fabrication & processing in the OSM & prefabrication
- Project 26 - New materials for windows of the future
- Project 28 - Componentised Internal Wall Systems for multi residential applications
- Project 31 - Demystifying Volumetric Construction: A Study of the Bathroom Pod
- Project 32 - Acoustic Flanking performance of mid-rise Light Gauge Steel (LGS)
- Project 34 - Acoustic flanking (Scoping Phase 1)
- Project 45 - Prefab Wall Integrated System Demonstration House & Market Study
- Project 61 - Productivity
- Project 63 - Componentised Internal Walls – Extension and Prototyping

# Projects: pipeline, active, completed

## Sustainability

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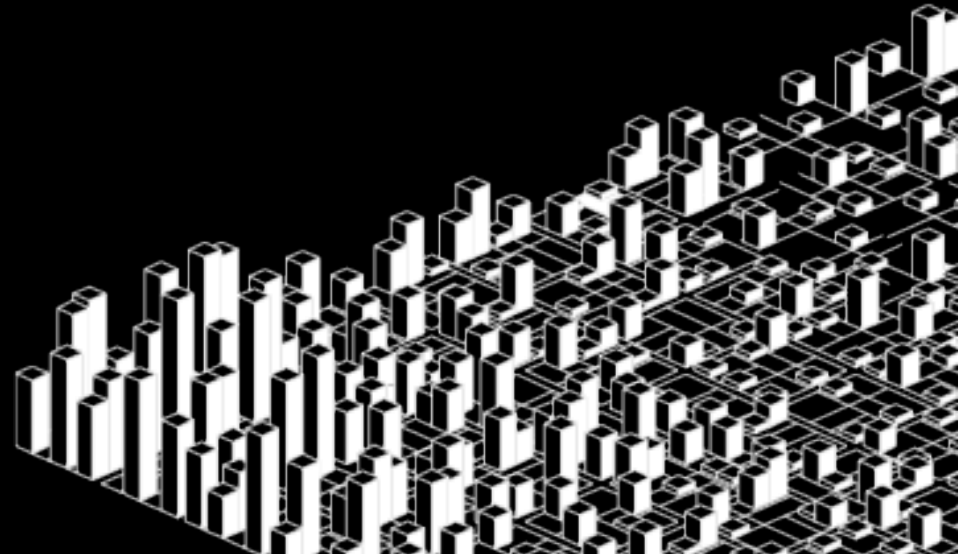
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# Selected B4.0CRC Decarbonisation Projects


- Project #2
- Project #5/#50
- • Project #18
- Project #27
- Project #48



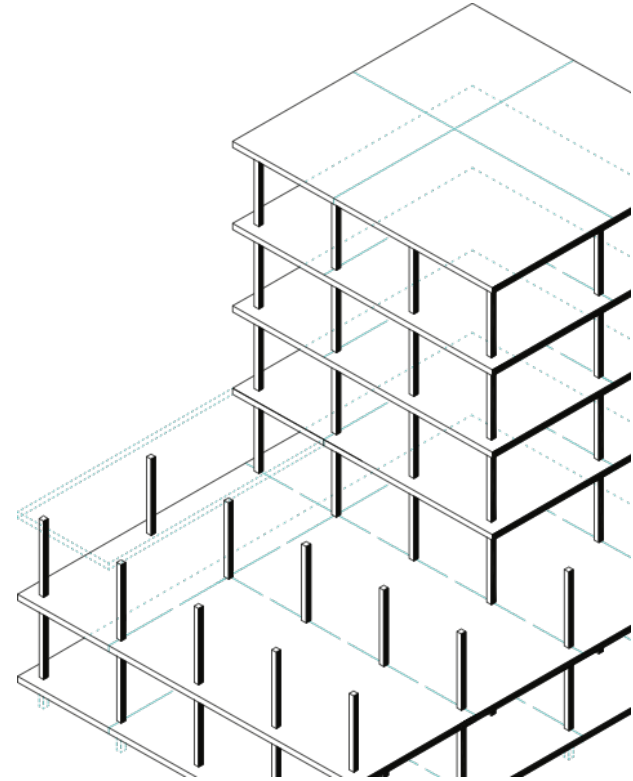
# Auto-Tracking of Materials for Supply Chain Logistics and Provenance

- Project #2





building  
4.0 crc



# PROJECT OVERVIEW

- **Project Aim**

This scoping study aims to understand the state-of-the-art traceability in the construction industry and key stakeholders' perspectives and recommend future research.

- **Project Lead**

Dr Wen Li (University of Melbourne)

- **Research Team**

Dr. Guilherme Luz Tortorella; Prof. Robin Drogemuller; Dr. Aravinda Sridhara Rao; A/Prof. Joseph Liu; Dr. Yihai Fang; A/Prof Tim Rose; Dr. Sara Omrani; Prof. Alistair Barros; Prof. Tuan Ngo; Mr. Declan Cox; Ms. Negar Adebi; Mr. Noor E Karishma Shaik; Mr. Siyu Chen; Mr. Xin Ma; Mr. Tendai Makasi

- **Public report will be released soon**



# THE CONTEXT

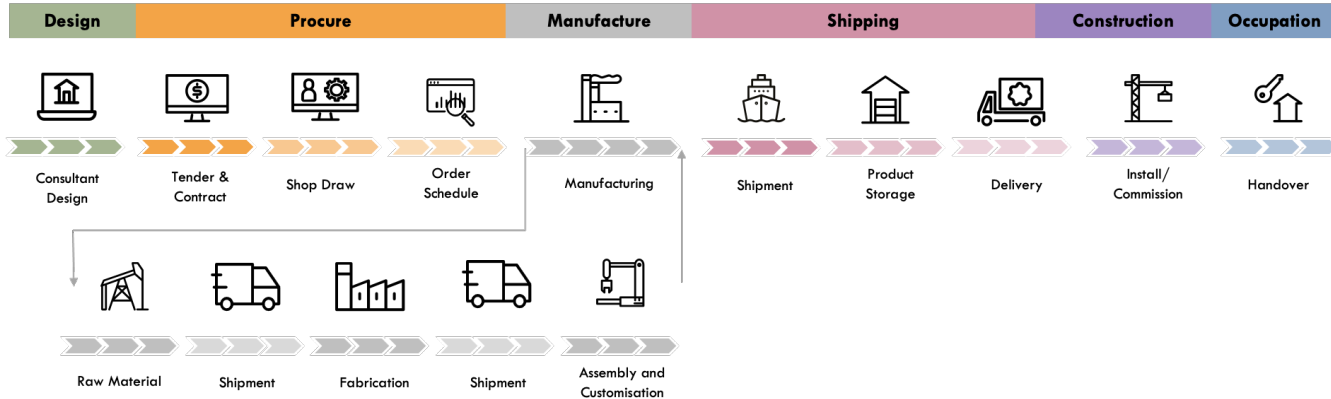
## Traceability – The ability to track and trace

Traceability is **Challenging** due to the nature of the construction supply chain:

- *Make-to-order*
- *Unstable*
- *Highly fragmented*
- *Geographically dispersed*

Traceability is also **Beneficial** for construction industry as it contributes to:

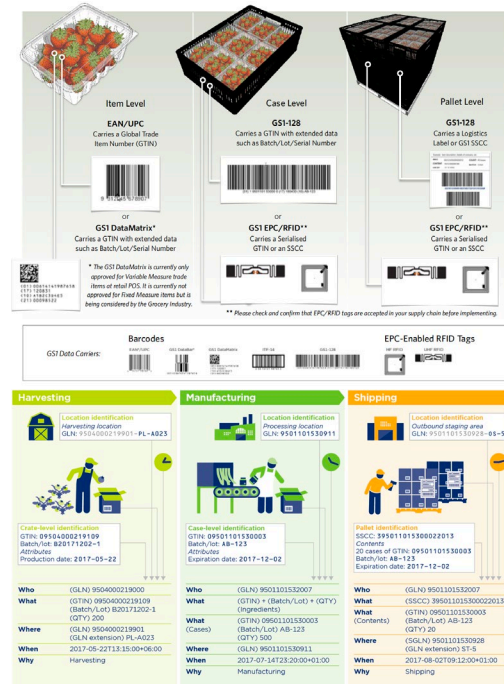
- *Building compliance & safety*
- *Project efficiency*
- *Sustainability*
- *Building performance*



# LESSONS LEARNT FROM THE FOOD INDUSTRY



- **Key Drivers** for traceability includes safety and quality, optimizing process efficiency, improving sustainability performance, and increasing consumer confidence.
- **Comprehensive legislation, regulations, and international standards** mandating traceability exist in the food industry.
- International organization, **GS1**, plays a pivotal role in traceability, providing standards for identifying, capturing, sharing, and using information related to a product.
- The GS1 12 Identification Keys contains information describing the critical tracking events, being carried with **mature technologies** like barcodes, RFID, and QR codes.
- Digital traceability has potential in providing high resolution and quality data for **assessing carbon footprint and improving sustainability performance**.



# SUPPLY CHAINS IN BUILDING DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION

















Supply chains in building projects differ from other industries:

- the complexity and inter-related nature of construction projects and their legal context, normally undertaken by a **temporary consortium of firms**;
- unique activities such as excavation, where the “supply activity” is a **removal activity**,
- the active role of the Demand Chain participants in checking and approving the results of Supply Chain activities,
- the heavy use of a **flexible mix** of “supply only”, “service only” and “supply and service” **subcontracts**,
- and the role of the **lead contractor** (construction systems integrator) in creating and managing a production facility which **can change dramatically** throughout the single contract.



# STATE-OF-THE-ART IN TRACEABILITY TECHNOLOGY

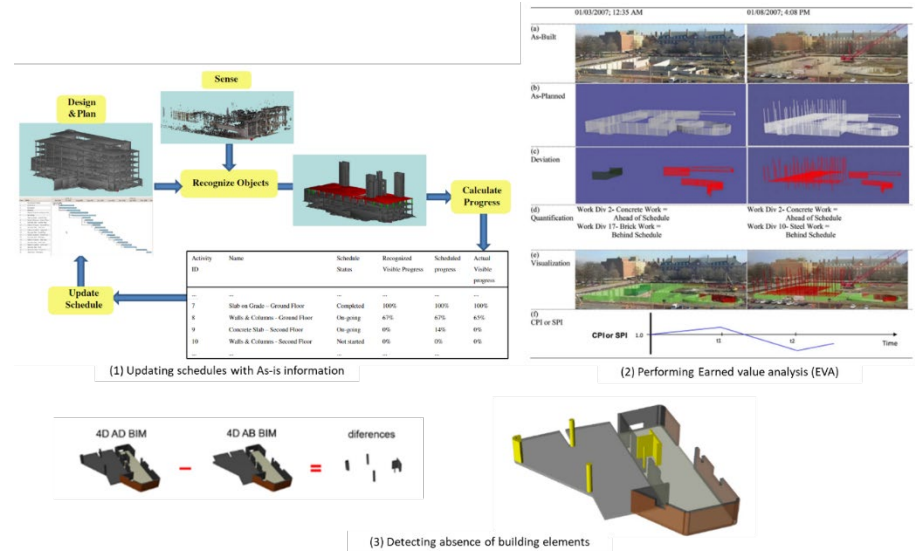
- The available technologies are relatively advanced, and the commercial solutions would easily cater to most construction processes.
- Cost and associated factors may limit organizations from adopting such technologies.
- Many technologies require tedious setup, frequent sensor repositioning for unblocked line-of-sights when tracking on site.
- Design models, schedules, site layout plans, are essential information for material tracking onsite but often not available in an integrated information platform

	 QR Code	 Barcode	 Active RFID	 Passive RFID	 NFC	 BLE	 GPS
 Cost-Effective	\$	\$	\$\$\$	\$	\$\$\$	\$\$\$	\$\$\$
 Real-time tracking	⊘	⊘	⊘	⊘	⊘	✓	✓
 Power Consumption	⊘	⊘	✓	⊘	✓	⊘	✓
 Scanning Range	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low	Unlimited
 Storage capacity	3 KB	> 100 bytes	2 KB	4-8 KB	48 Bytes – 8 KB	NA	Unlimited
 Continuous scanning	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	At regular intervals	Real-time data
 Two-way Communication	⊘	⊘	⊘	⊘	✓	✓	✓
 Labour Intensive	✓	✓	✓	×	✓	✓	✓
 Popularity	Very high	Very high	High	High	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate



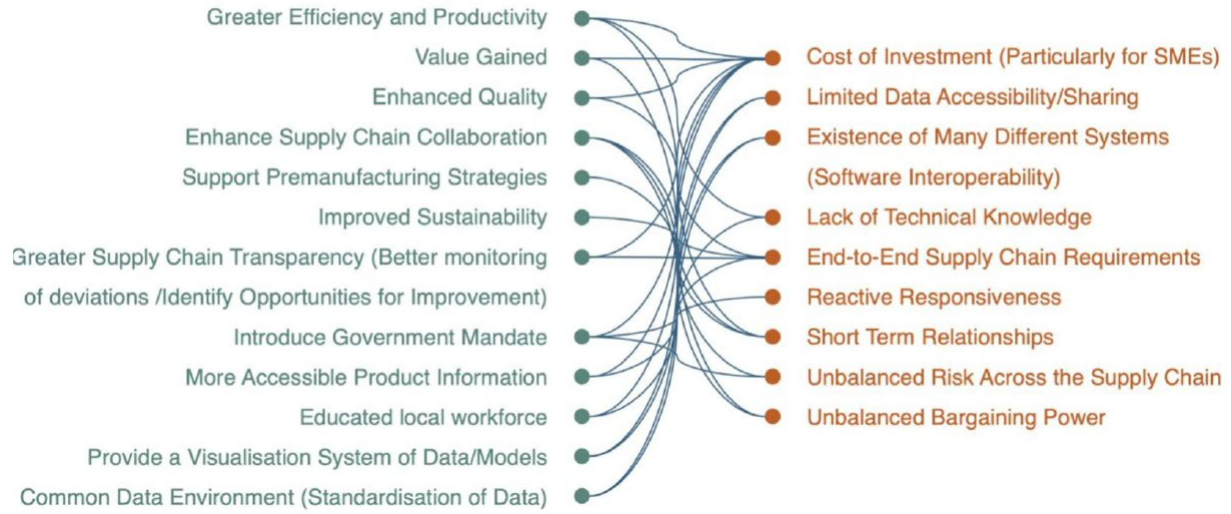
# STATE-OF-THE-ART IN TRACEABILITY TECHNOLOGY

- BIM can act as a “repository” for storing some results of demand chain management.
- The ISO 19650 series of standards cover the current requirements for integrating BIM into building projects.
- However, many things are not captured in BIM, such as regulatory requirements and temporary works, so BIM is likely to remain a useful adjunct to demand chain and supply chain management for the foreseeable future.



# STAKEHOLDER'S PERSPECTIVES

**Drivers and Benefits**   **Barriers and Challenges**



# KEY FINDINGS

1. Fragmentation is a primary barrier to traceability.
2. Tender processes inhibit long term supply relationships and therefore long term solutions.
3. Product information is not easily maintained due to intermediate fabrication/modification steps.
4. Sensor technology is abundant and mature, but requires customisation to suit construction materials.
5. Tracking needs to be integrated with BIM/data in order to be useful.
6. Lack of digitisation is a hurdle (for example, mills process & output parts with hand-written labels).
7. Construction manufacturers don't see a benefit in digitising.
8. Contracts are competitive and closed, so lack of transparency inhibits tracking availability.
9. There is not a champion driving creation of traceability protocols in the ecosystem.
10. Discrepancy between labelling the packaging vs labelling the product. Will materials be substituted without validation; who inspects?
11. Adoption of a decarbonisation framework requires thinking of the building as a product, not a project.

# FUTURE RESEARCH AGENDA 1



## 1. Roadmap for Sector-wise Transformation:

This research direction aims to understand the construction supply chain further, examine how we can leverage digitisation as a traceability solution for a streamlined workflow, and develop roadmaps for digitalising the construction supply chain in Australia:

- Identify the **influential contextual variables** (e.g., company size, tier level, product family, etc.) for the digitalisation of the construction supply chain.
- Verify how to **deploy behavioural changes** (i.e., sociocultural factors) required for a successful digitalisation across the construction supply chain.
- Structure **roadmaps for digitising** the construction supply chain in Australia.

# FUTURE RESEARCH AGENDA 2

## 2. Digital Traceability Solution Development:

This research direction aims to develop cost-effective technological solutions for automated material tracing for the construction supply chain.

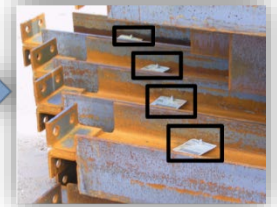
- Develop **cost-effective product identification methods** for tracking highly critical building elements like steel, timber, concrete, wall panel, façade, cladding, etc.
- **Integrate** with central building information management models and platforms for sharing product traceability information.
- Explore the possibility of **Blockchain technologies** for tracking, contracting and transferring.



Barcode labels



RFID tag



# FUTURE RESEARCH AGENDA 3

## 3. Education and Training:

Through scoping study, it was analysed that the digital traceability solutions are new and innovative, so **technical knowledge and skills gaps** are perceived to understand and operate it:

- Review current curriculum design and develop course materials for construction supply chain management. A few key considerations are identified related to traceability and the construction supply chain:
  - 1) Risk;
  - 2) Digital Technologies;
  - 3) Sustainability;
  - 4) Lean construction
- Develop workshops and training programs for upskilling.

# FUTURE RESEARCH AGENDA 4

## 4. Pilot Study & Living Lab:

Through interviews conducted in scoping study, it was found that **industry partners are hesitant to invest** in digital traceability solutions because of being unsure whether the proposed solution will aid in project performance. So, this project idea will focus on testing/**trailing the proposed digital traceability solutions** in the construction supply chain to check their feasibility and effectiveness:

- Turn an actual building project into a **living lab** by deploying proposed digital traceability solutions
- Benchmark digitalised supply chains with a **comparative** conventional one by monitoring supply chain-related KPIs (Key Performance Indicators), such as lead time, productivity, project delays, etc.
- Use digital traceability information to **conduct carbon footprint and life cycle assessment** of a construction project or building product.

# Automatic Compliance and Energy Rating System

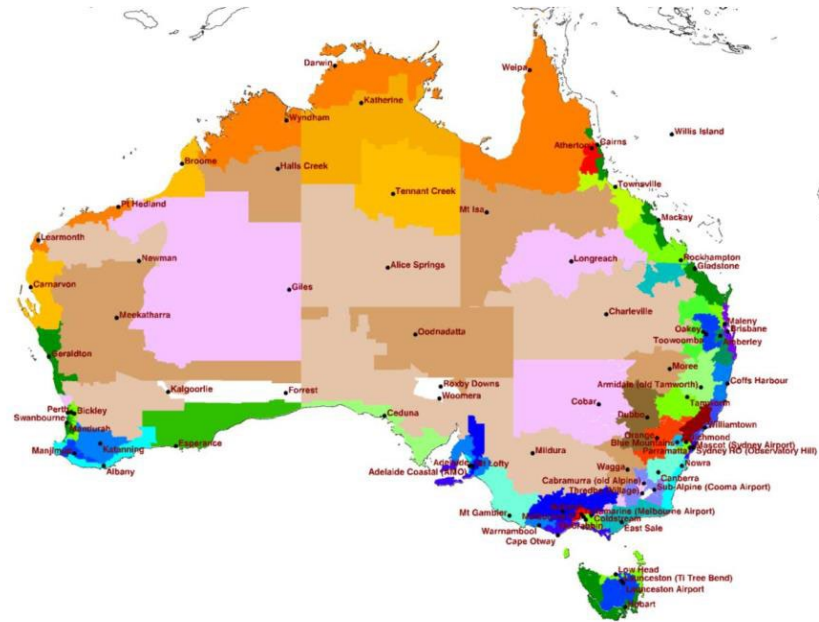
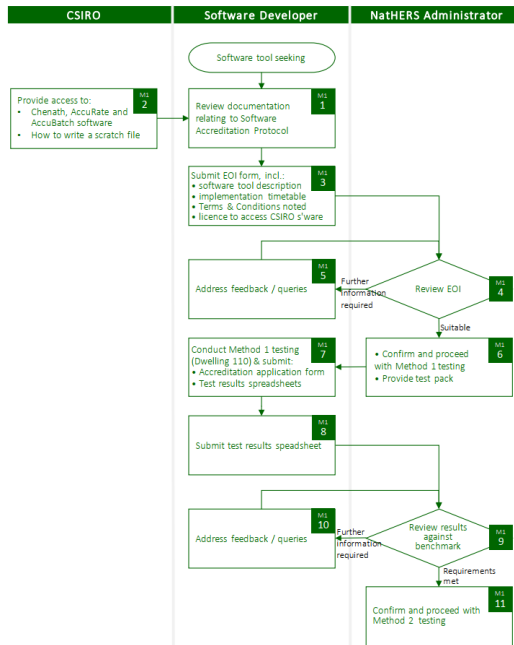
- Project #5





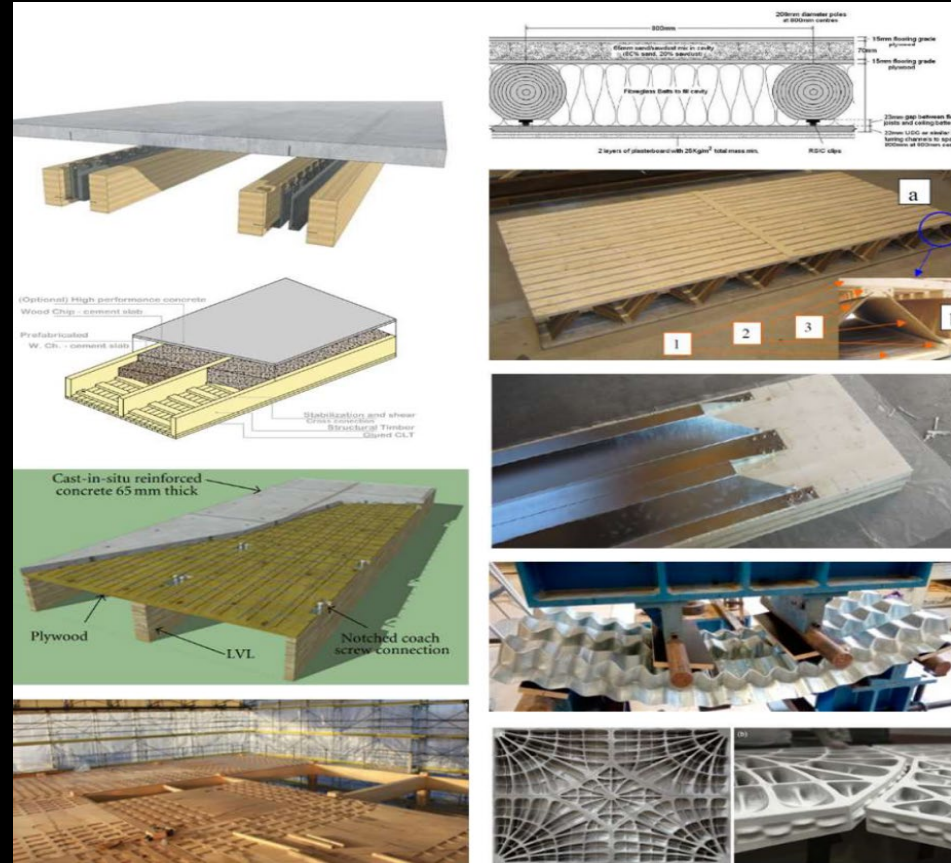


FIGURE 2: EXISTING NATHERS SOFTWARE TOOLS - LEFT TO RIGHT - ACCURATE (CSIRO), FIRSTRATE5 (SUSTAINABILITY VICTORIA), B.E.R.S. PRO (ENERGY INSPECTION) & HERO



# Long Span, Low Carbon Floor Systems

- Project #18



crc# 18

**Long Span, Low Carbon Floor Systems (Scoping Study)**

Project Overview

13.10.21

Lendlease

Sumitomo Forestry

Building 4.0 CRC

Future Building Initiative

Monash University

University of Melbourne

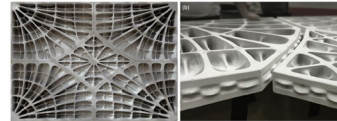
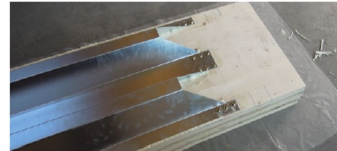
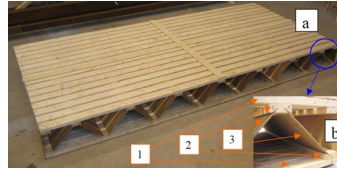
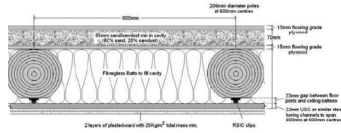
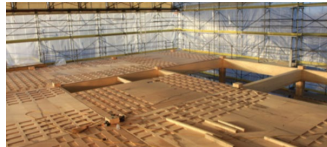
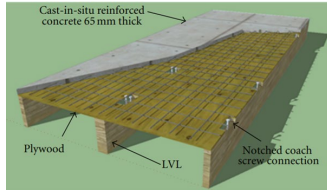
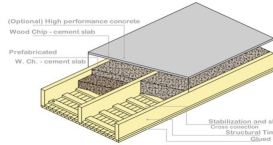
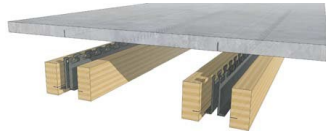


*objectives* Understand the research and market developments in long span, low carbon floor systems  
Provide a framework to inform future design work in the development of such systems.

*methods* Market search and literature review  
Benchmarking to **identify, evaluate** and **compare** existing systems according to a number of selected criteria.

---

## *project objectives + methods*



floor system design

*literature review*



		TIMBER	TIMBER + CONCRETE		TIMBER + STEEL
			POURED IN-SITU	PRE-CAST CONCRETE	
SLAB	CLT/XLAM			20. MHPub	
	DLT	19. Hoesbacher			
CLOSED CASSETTE	SANDWICH	22. Store Expo			
	REVERSE SANDWICH	26. Kältebay 27. Ligatur			
OPEN CASSETTE	I BEAM RIBS	28. Kältebay 29. Hoesbacher 30. Hoesbacher			33. Tac-Steel
	TRUSSES	31. Hoesbacher 32. Hoesbacher			
	SOLID RIBS	38. Store Expo			
PANEL + BEAM	PANEL + BEAM	43. Daxenru. House 45. Crew TCC		45. Crew TCC	

*element typology*



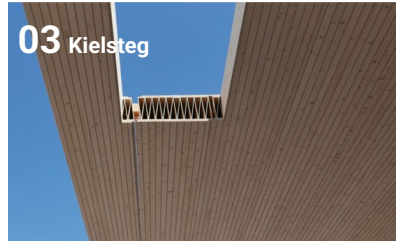


01 Daramu House

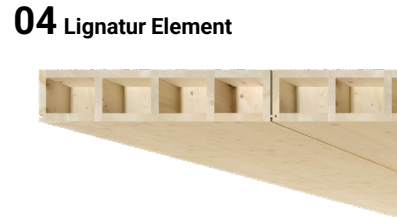


02 Stora Enso CLT open rib panel

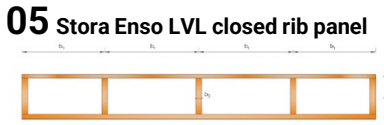
CLT rib panels by Stora Enso 4



03 Kielsteg



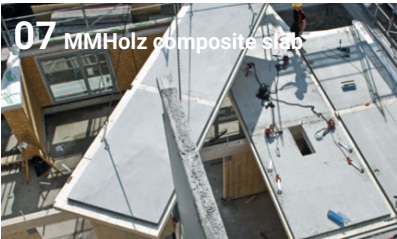
04 Lignatur Element



05 Stora Enso LVL closed rib panel



06 Hasslacher Brettstapel



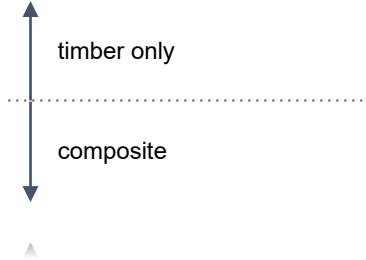
07 MMHolz composite slab



08 CREE



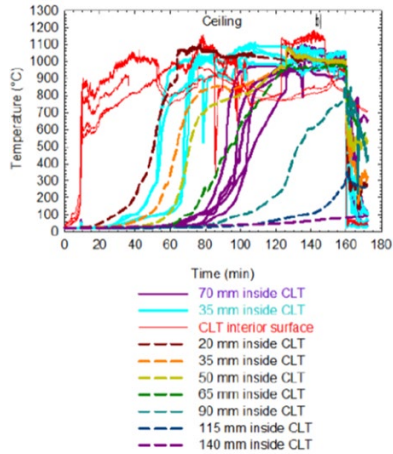
09 Tecslab



*systems selected*



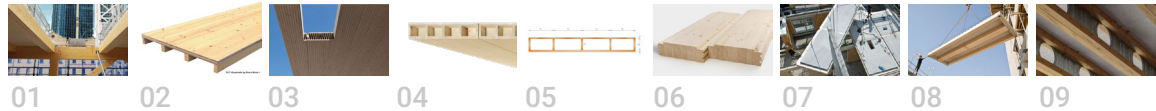




+

#	System	SLS structural design	ULS structural design
1	Lendlease: Daramu house updated		
2	Stora Enso: CLT Rib Panel Cassette		
3	Kielsteg: Plywood/OSB Curved Web Rib		
4	Lignatur: Closed Rib-deck		
5	Stora Enso: iVL Closed Rib-Panel		
6	Messlacher: Glue Laminated Timber Floor System		

method



01

02

03

04

05

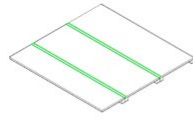
06

07

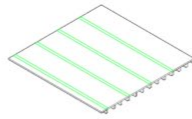
08

09

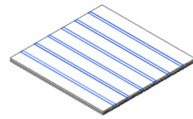




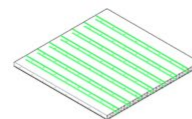
01\_Dararu House ●●●



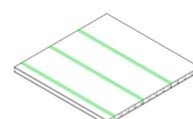
02\_StoraEnsoCLT ●●



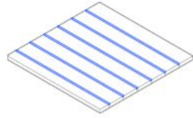
03\_Kiehlsteg ●



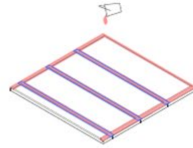
04\_Lignatur ●●●



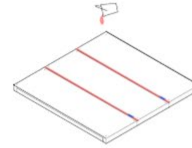
05\_StoraEnsoLVL ●●



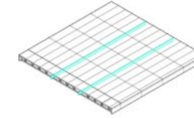
06\_Hasslacher ●



07\_MMHo1z ●



08\_CREE ●●



09\_TecSlab ●●



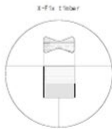
Lapped + screw



Cover plate + screw



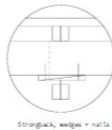
Angled screw



X-fix tiebar

Typical connections

specific to system



Strongback, wedges + nails



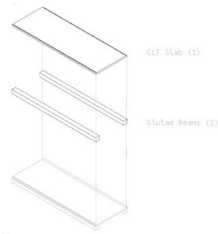
Steel pin



Tension cup

Connection Type	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09
Lapped + screw	●●●	●●	●	●●●	●●	●	●	●●	●●
Cover plate	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Cross screws	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
X-fix tiebar	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
Strongback, wedges + nails									✓
Steel Pins				✓					
Tension Cup								✓	
Net Trade							●	●	
Expansion Considerations			✓	✓		✓			

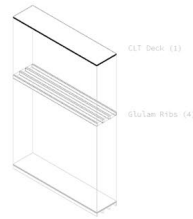
## element to element connection



CLT Slab (1)

Glulam Beams (2)

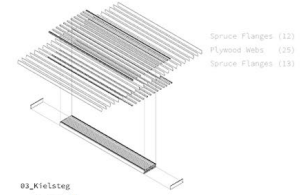
01\_Darumu House  
3 Components per Element  
2 Types of Component



CLT Deck (1)

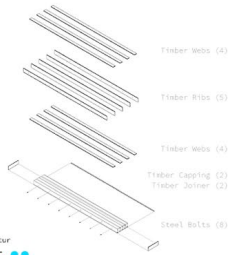
Glulam Ribs (4)

02\_StorageEso CLT  
5 Components per Element  
2 Types of Component



Spruce Flanges (12)  
Plywood Webs (25)  
Spruce Flanges (18)

03\_Kielsteg  
52 Components per Element  
3 Types of Component



Timber Webs (4)

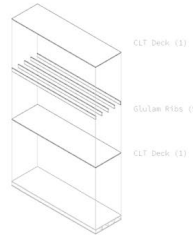
Timber Ribs (5)

Timber Webs (4)

Timber Capping (2)  
Timber Joiner (2)

Steel Bolts (8)

04\_Lignatur  
25 Components per Element  
6 Types of Component

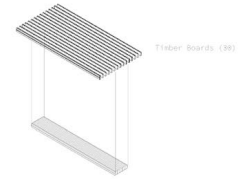


CLT Deck (1)

Glulam Ribs (5)

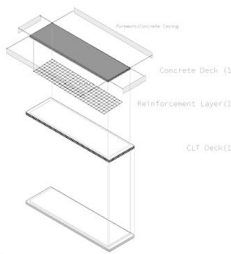
CLT Deck (1)

05\_StorageEso LVL  
7 Components per Element  
2 Types of Component



Timber Boards (98)

06\_Maschlacher  
30 Components per Element  
1 Types of Component

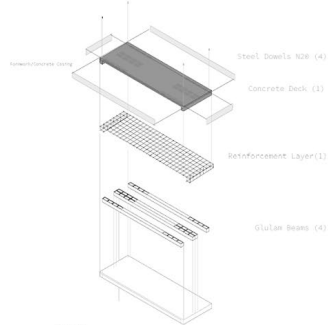


Concrete Deck (1)

Reinforcement Layer(1)

CLT Deck(1)

07\_HHHz  
50 Components per Element  
3 Types of Component



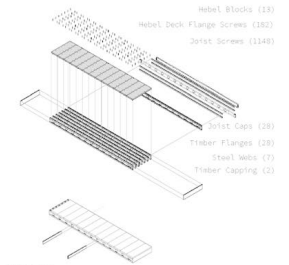
Steel Dowels M20 (4)

Concrete Deck (1)

Reinforcement Layer(1)

Glulam Beams (4)

08\_CREE  
59 Components per Element  
4 Types of Component



Hebel Blocks (18)

Hebel Deck Flange Screws (182)  
Jolix Screws (1248)

Jolix Caps (28)

Timber Flanges (28)

Steel Webs (7)  
Timber Capping (2)

09\_TecSlab  
332 Components per Element (140 Inc. screws)  
7 Types of Component

factory production





System ID	Quantitative	Quantitative	Quantitative	Quantitative	Quantitative	Quantitative
	Production	Production	Design	Design	Design	Design
	Floor area per truck delivery	Total lifts 8x8m x 8 storeys (unloading + lifting)	Material volume per 8x8m	Floor Depth with Services (1D reticulation)	Floor Depth with Services (Partial 2D reticulation)	Floor Depth with Services (2D reticulation)
	NORMALISED RANK (1-9)	NORMALISED RANK (1-9)	NORMALISED RANK (1-9)	NORMALISED RANK	NORMALISED RANK	NORMALISED RANK (1-9)
1 Daramu House	6	1	8	3	1	1
2 Stora Enso CLT Open Rib Panel	6	4	3	2	1	1
3 Kielsteg Closed Curved Rib Panel	1	6	4	5	4	4
4 Lignatur Close Rib Panel	4	9	1	1	1	5
5 Stora Enso LVL Closed Rib Panel	1	2	1	2	2	5
6 Hasslacher Timber Slab	1	8	7	5	4	4
7 MMHolz Timber-Concrete Slab	9	2	9	6	6	6
8 CREE Timber-Concrete	8	1	5	3	4	7
9 TecSlab Cassette	9	4	2	9	9	9

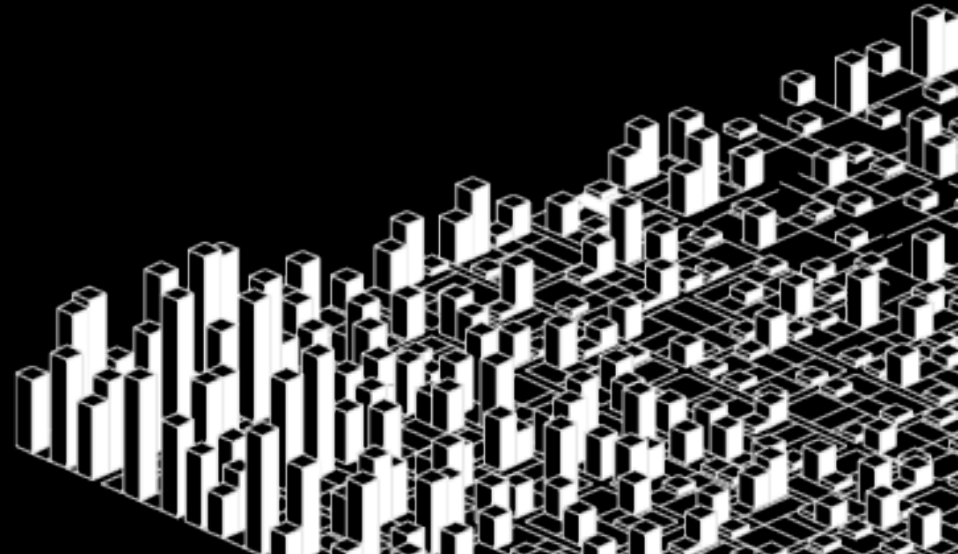
Mixed (Quant + Qual)	Qualitative	Mixed (Quant + Qual)	Mixed (Quant + Qual)	Mixed (Quant + Qual)	Mixed (Quant + Qual)
Design	Design	Design	Design	Design	Design
Dimensional + Geometric Flexibility	Aesthetic Potential	Factory Processes	Site Installation	Varied Connection Design	Element to Element Connection
TIERED RANK (1-3)	TIERED RANK (1-3)	TIERED RANK (1-3)	TIERED RANK (1-3)	TIERED RANK (1-3)	TIERED RANK (1-3)
1	1	1	1	2	1
1	1	1	1	1	2
2	2	3	2	1	3
2	1	2	3	1	1
1	2	1	1	1	2
2	2	2	2	1	3
2	2	2	1	2	3
3	1	2	3	3	2
3	3	3	3	2	2

*normalised ranks per criteria + qualitative tiered system*

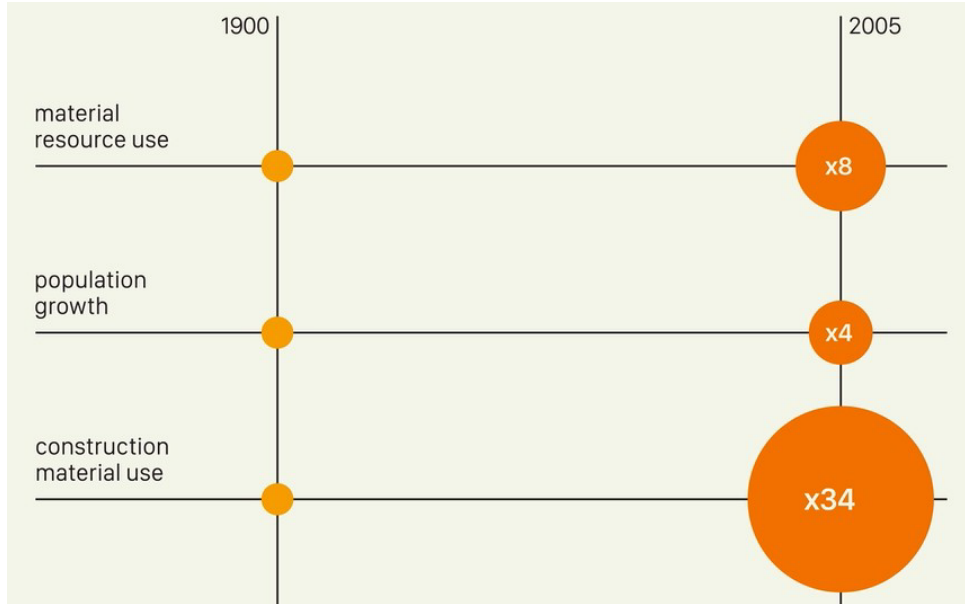


# Circular Economy Roadmap for the Construction Industry

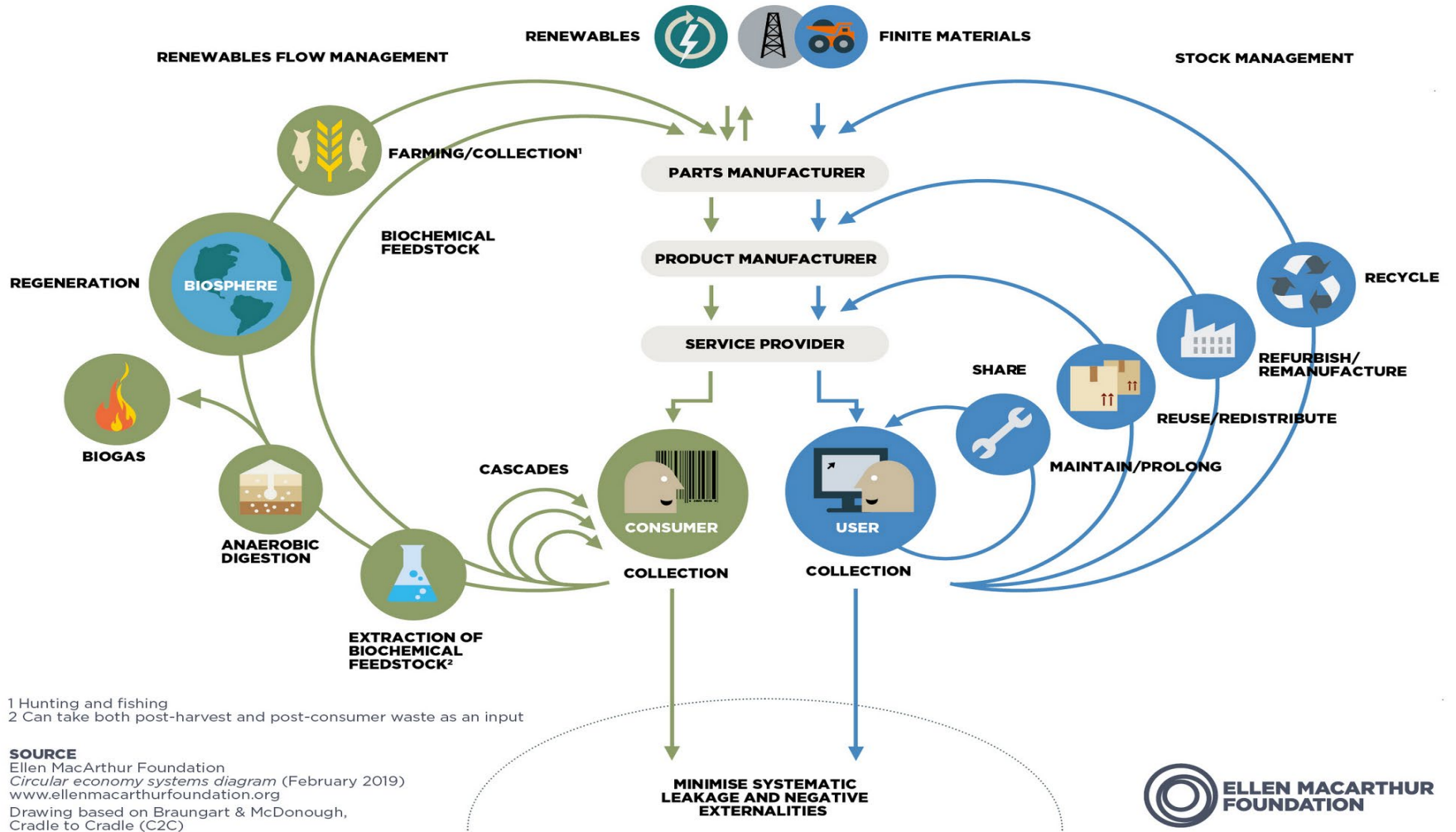
- Project #48



# BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION IMPACT



Sources: OECD, World Bank, UN websites, GlobalABC, One Planet SBC



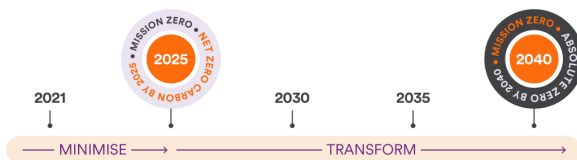
1 Hunting and fishing  
 2 Can take both post-harvest and post-consumer waste as an input

**SOURCE**  
 Ellen MacArthur Foundation  
*Circular economy systems diagram* (February 2019)  
[www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org](http://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org)  
 Drawing based on Braungart & McDonough,  
 Cradle to Cradle (C2C)









# MISSION ZERO ROADMAP



## LENLEASE AUSTRALIA SUMMARY

	INITIATIVES		OUTCOMES
 <b>Fuels we burn</b> SCOPE 1	Use alternative fuels in and electrify construction activities	2021 ————— 2030	Zero use of fossil fuels in construction
	Remove reliance on fossil fuels in building services design	2021 —●————	100% all electric designs for Lendlease developments
	Retrofit assets under management to remove reliance on fossil fuels	2021 ————— ●	100% base build fossil fuel free assets
	Minimise and set strategy for zero emissions from refrigerants	2021 ————— ●	Zero emissions from refrigerants by 2040
 <b>Power we consume</b> SCOPE 2	Drive energy efficiency & set energy use intensity targets	2021 ————— ●	Achieve energy intensity targets
	Optimise onsite renewable energy generation	2021 ————— ●	All developments, assets & off grid sites with onsite renewables
	Optimise energy storage and smart grid analytics	2030 —●————	All developments, assets & off grid sites with energy storage
	Purchase and / or generate offsite renewable electricity	2021 —●————	100% renewable electricity purchase or dedicated generation
 <b>Materials and services we buy</b> SCOPE 3	Collaborate with suppliers & designers to eliminate embodied carbon	2021 ————— ●	Lead industry transformation in embodied carbon in materials
	Set annual embodied carbon standard using circular economy principles	2021 ————— ●	100% of projects meeting zero embodied carbon design standard
	Request embodied carbon reduction & elimination from suppliers	2030 —●————	All supplier contracts include zero carbon requirements
	Measure and report scope 3 emissions	2021 —●————	Publish scope 3 emissions from 2025
 <b>Tenant emissions</b> SCOPE 3	Work with residents & tenants to purchase renewable electricity	2021 ————— ●	100% renewable electricity use by 2030 (tenants) 2040 (residents)
	Progressively remove fossil fuels for tenant & residents in existing assets	2030 —●————	100% fossil fuel free assets
	Provide onsite renewable electricity & storage to residents & tenants	2021 ————— ●	All assets include resident & tenant onsite renewable energy & storage
	Provide electric vehicle charging points at assets under management	2030 —●————	EV charging available at all assets & developments
	Measure, report and reduce waste	2021 ————— ●	Zero emissions from waste to landfill



THANK YOU

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