



CPD LIVE

Free CPD education online

This CPD seminar entitles you to 1 formal CPD point. Please be aware you are required to manage your own CPD records. We will provide you with your participation certificate and CPD evaluation based on our attendance records post event and your completion of the below questionnaire.

The below answer sheet is for your own self-assessment.

Please keep your completed questionnaires and answers on file for your record.

These do not need to be sent to the AIA or to CPD Live. CPD-Live will send you a Refuel certificate.

BLINDS & THE PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABILITY

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1) Define the concept of 'embodied carbon' as it applies to blinds and window coverings.

Embodied carbon refers to all the CO₂ emitted during all phases of production, including extraction, transportation, manufacturing, etc.

2) How can blinds help to improve energy efficiency, and therefore reduce carbon emissions?

According to the US Department of Energy, 76% of sunlight that enters standard double-pane windows becomes heat and 30% of heating energy is lost through windows. By blocking this sunlight and preventing this heat loss, blinds are able to limit the need for artificial heating/cooling and reduce energy consumption.

3) What are some of the potentially harmful by-products of the blind manufacturing process?

The manufacturing of PVC blinds can create toxic by products such as hydrochloric acid, vinyl chloride, mercury, cadmium, lead and, dioxin.

4) What is 'Sick Building Syndrome' and do blinds ever contribute to it?

Building in which occupants complain of symptoms like headache; eye, nose, throat irritation; and nausea. Blinds made with materials containing residues of harmful substances have been known to contribute.

5) How can automation help improve the efficiency of blinds, and therefore reduce energy usage and cut carbon emissions?

When blinds and other window coverings are automated and controlled via a Building Management System, their operation can be optimised. In this way, it is possible to ensure they are drawn during the brightest, hottest parts of the day and therefore it is possible to minimize the need for air conditioning.

6) What key Environmental Certifications should specifiers look out for when choosing blinds?

Certifications include Global GreenTag, Health Product Declaration, LEED, GECA, Ecospecifier, Greenguard, Life Cycle Analysis (LCA), C2C - Cradle to Cradle, ISO 14001, Green Tick, etc.

AACA Competency Codes: 1. Design: Project Briefing 1.2, 1.4 / 3. Design: Conceptual Design 3.3, 3.4, 3.7 /
4. Design: Schematic Design 4.2, 4.4, 4.6, 4.7