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Advanced Bird-Safe Glazing Design

Rory Back, R&D Incubator Technical Manager NSG Group 13th June, 2023 High-Rise Northern Exposure, Helsinki







Ecosystems

Pest Control
Natural Fertilisation
Coral Reef Guano
Seed Distribution
Seed Distribution
Pollination
Food Chain
S

Communities

Food Production
Scavenging
Seasonal Migration
Environment
Aesthetics
Birdsong

Pull Factors	Push Factors
🗑 Sustainability 🔂 🖺 Eco-Development 🐨	Legislation Client Demand



Legislation & Building Codes

- European bird conservation organisations producing similar recommendations
- EU 'Birds Directive' does not yet directly legislate building requirements
- The American Bird Conservancy (ABC) develops Birdfriendly Building Design documentation for North America
- Northern American cities are beginning to include bird safety guidance in building codes
- Legislation types: Model, Mandatory, Voluntary, Guidelines





US States and Canadian Provinces with cities that have adopted bird safety building legislation

Performance Based

- Requires bird-friendly products to be tested for effectiveness
- Allowable products must meet a maximum allowable Threat Factor
- Threat Factor determined by percentage of choices made by birds during flight testing, and from installed testing
- New York Local Law 15:
 - Products must have Threat Factor ≤ 25
 - The policy requires that new builds and major renovations consider bird safety
 - The ABC is working with the U.S. Green Building Council on a scheme to give LEED certification credits for incorporating design strategies that reduce bird collisions

Prescriptive

- No testing required
- Prescribes bird friendly marker requirements
- 1st or 2nd surface; 2"x 4" rule; approved marker application list
- Toronto Green Standard:
 - Bird friendly glazing required on the first 16 meters of building above ground
 - No testing or threat factor requirements
 - 1st surface marking required
 - 5 mm diameter/width high contrast pattern
 - 50mm x 50mm spacing
 - Approved markers include Ceramic Frit, Acid Etched, UV Coatings, Applied Film









Human vs. Avian Vision





Source: (*) Nature Communications, (†) Nature Reports, (†) American Bird Conservancy

The 2" by 4" Rule











Magnetron Sputter Coating Deposition Method



Comparison of Reflection





Testing and Validation: Flight Tunnel

Test pane (left), control pane (right)



Flight tunnel at Hohenhau, Austria

WIN' Test

- Birds have two choices during testing - fly towards the test glass on the left, or towards to control float glass on the right
- Only 6.1% flew towards the test glass
- Results under 10% are classed as "highly effective" Bird Safety Glass
- Tested monolith, solar control on surface #2, and lowemissivity on surface #3
- Testing performed by Martin Rössler, Biologische Station Hohenau-Ringelsdorf
- Also tested at Powdermill Avian Research Center, USA

Pilot Installation: Mere Sands Nature Reserve





Solina Observation Tower & Gondola Station







Thank you for your attention

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