

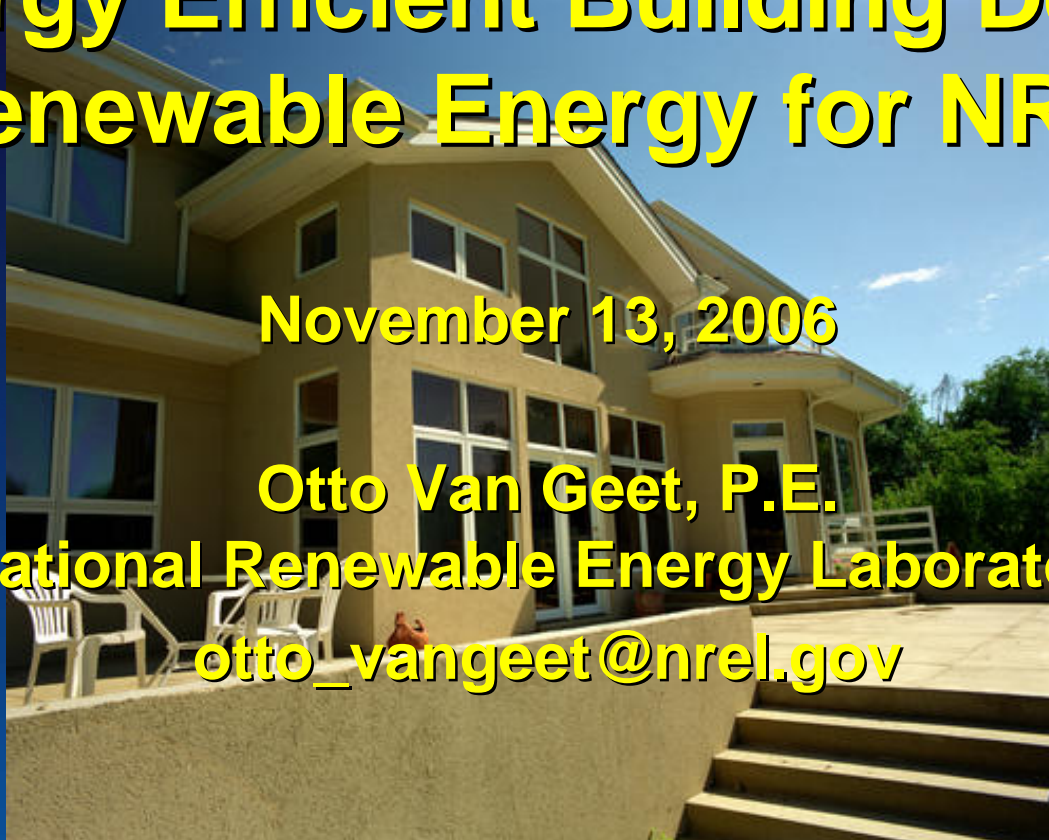
# Energy Efficient Building Design Renewable Energy for NREL

November 13, 2006

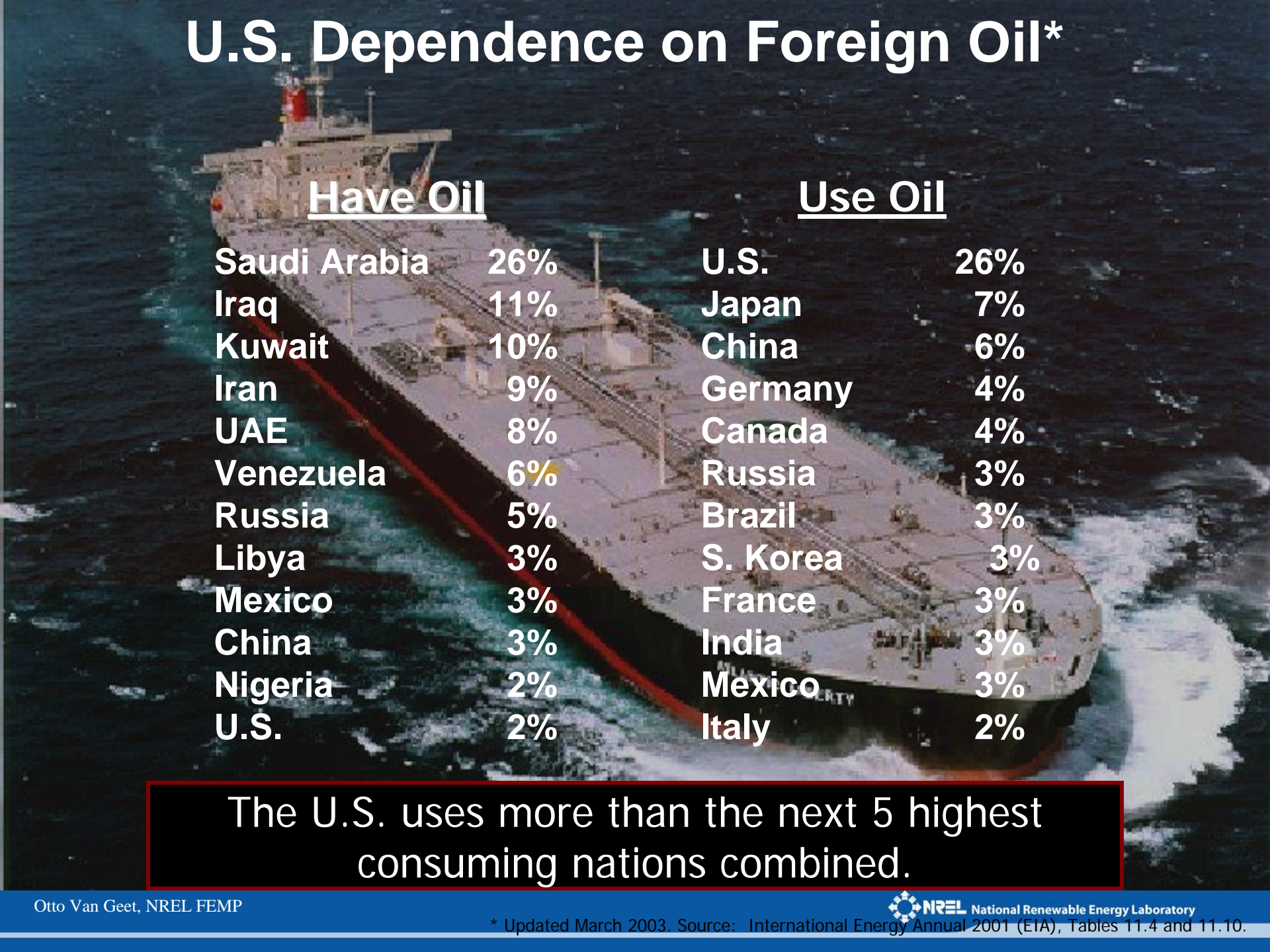
Otto Van Geet, P.E.

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

[otto\\_vangeet@nrel.gov](mailto:otto_vangeet@nrel.gov)



# U.S. Dependence on Foreign Oil\*

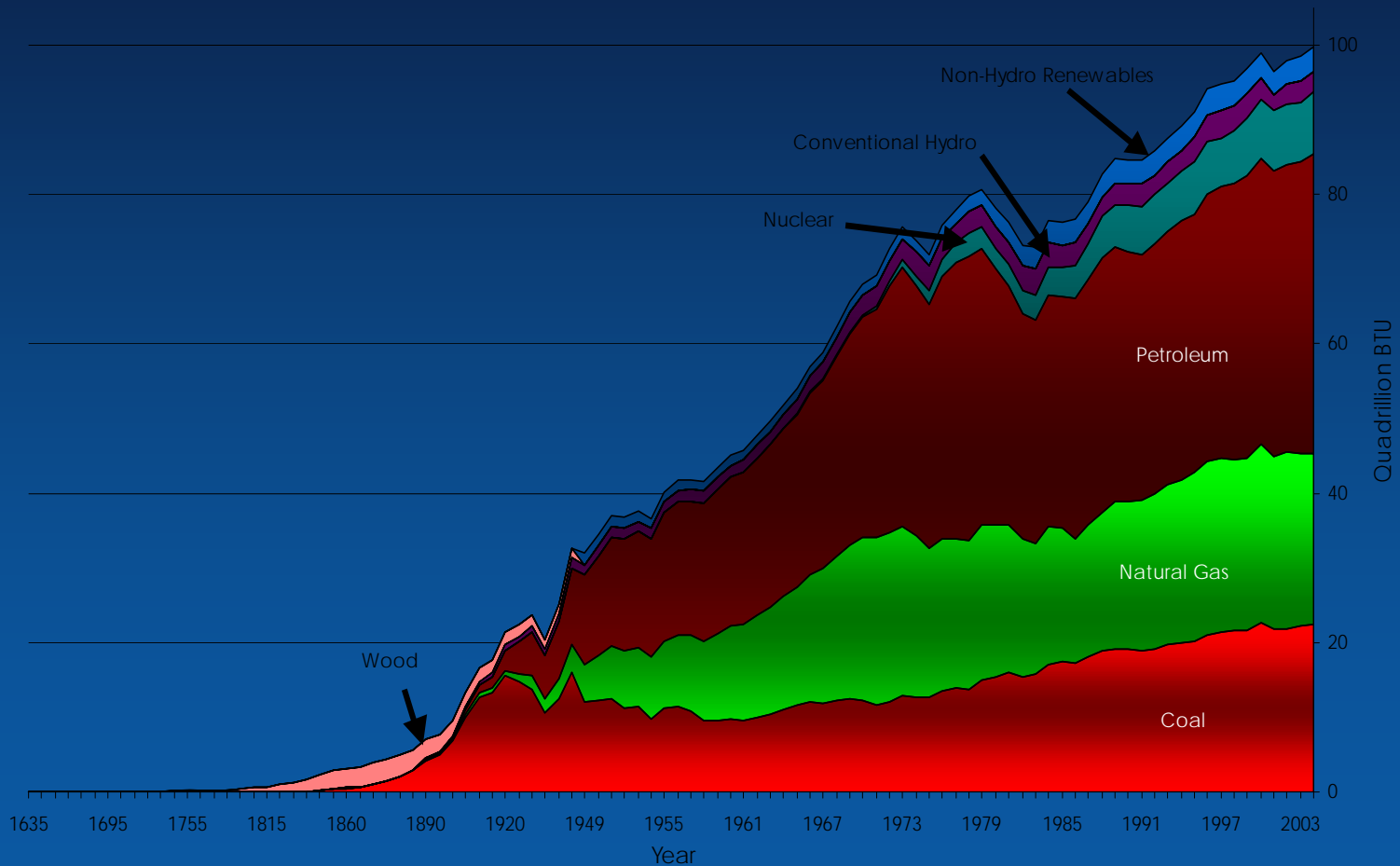


| <u>Have Oil</u> |     | <u>Use Oil</u> |     |
|-----------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| Saudi Arabia    | 26% | U.S.           | 26% |
| Iraq            | 11% | Japan          | 7%  |
| Kuwait          | 10% | China          | 6%  |
| Iran            | 9%  | Germany        | 4%  |
| UAE             | 8%  | Canada         | 4%  |
| Venezuela       | 6%  | Russia         | 3%  |
| Russia          | 5%  | Brazil         | 3%  |
| Libya           | 3%  | S. Korea       | 3%  |
| Mexico          | 3%  | France         | 3%  |
| China           | 3%  | India          | 3%  |
| Nigeria         | 2%  | Mexico         | 3%  |
| U.S.            | 2%  | Italy          | 2%  |

The U.S. uses more than the next 5 highest consuming nations combined.

# Trends in U.S. Energy Use

U.S. Energy Consumption by Source:  
1635-2004



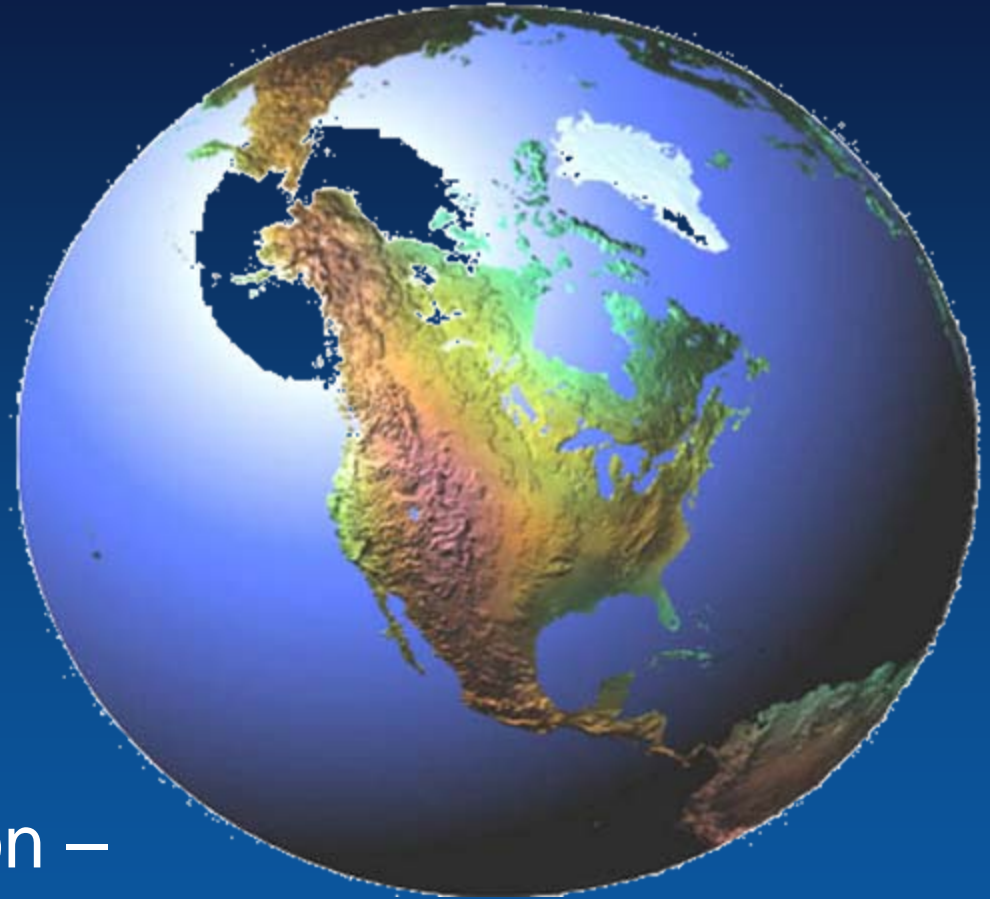
Source: Annual energy review and long term historical data. Energy Information Administration. 2005.



# Humanity's Top Ten Problems

Robert Smally, Nobel Laureate

- Energy
- Water
- Food
- Environment
- Poverty
- Terrorism/War
- Disease
- Education
- Democracy
- Population (6.3 billion – 2003; 9-10 billion – 2050)



Don't ever forget the bottom line – what we do matters!



# The Vision

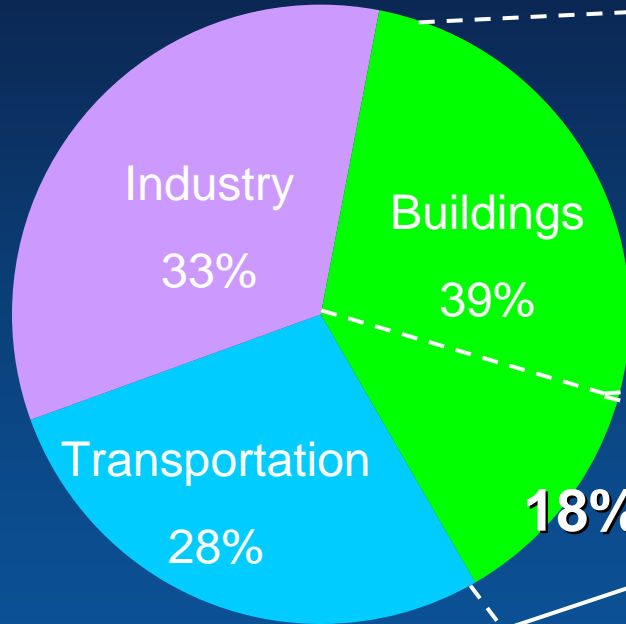


Vehicles and Fuels + Energy Smart Buildings + Renewables =

A renewable energy community

# Building Energy Use

Buildings use  
70%  
of electricity



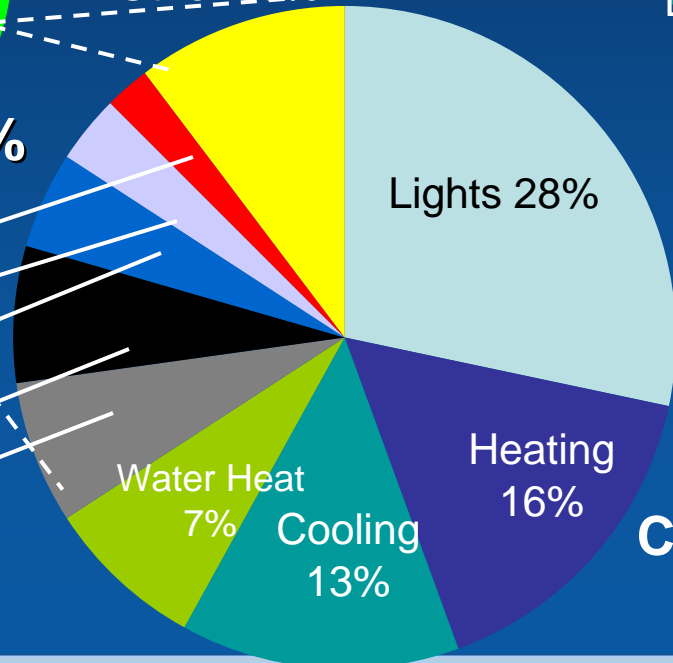
**21%**

Buildings

39%

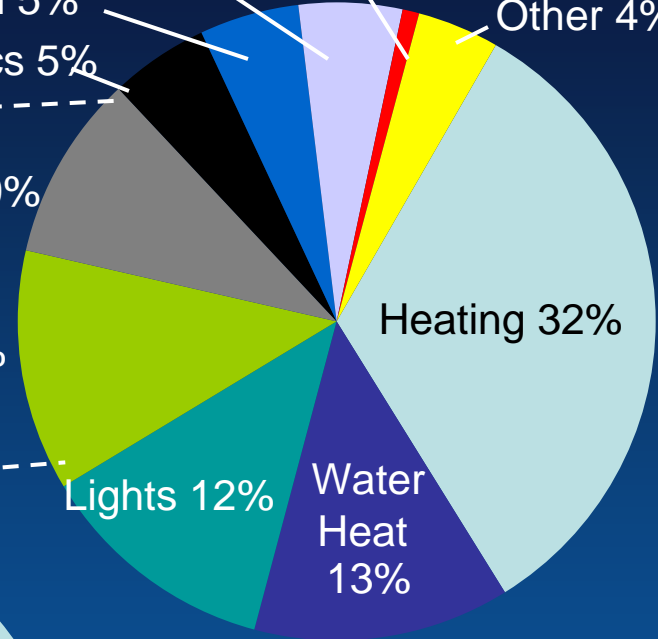
**18%**

- Cooking 2%
- Computers 3%
- Refrigeration 4%
- Ventilation 7%
- Office Equip 7%



- Cooking 5%
- Wash 5%
- Electronics 5%
- Computers 1%
- Other 4%

- Refrigeration 9%
- Cooling 10%



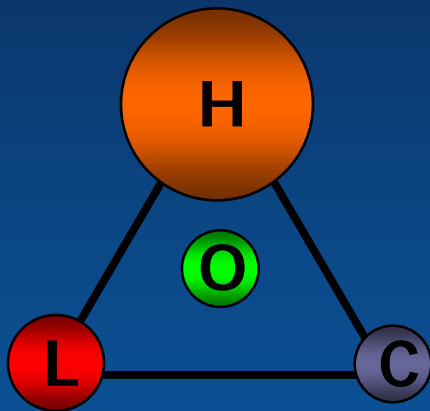
**Residential**

**Commercial**

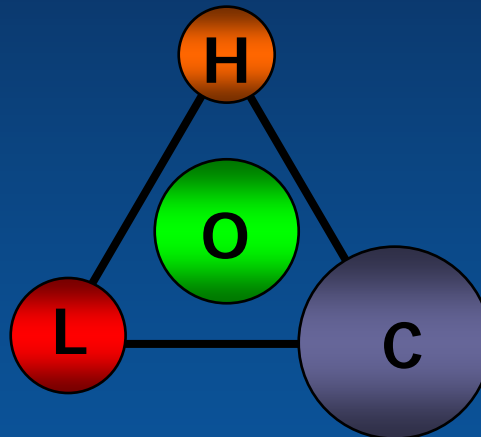
Source: 2004 Buildings Energy Databook with SEDS distributed to all end-uses

# Integrated Design Problem

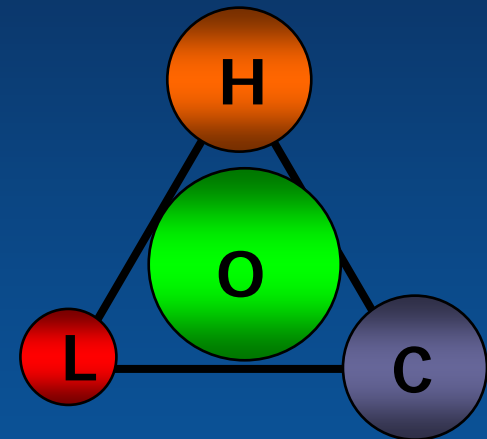
Skin-Load  
Dominated (small  
building in a cold  
climate)



Internal-Load  
Dominated (large  
building in any  
climate)



Ventilation &  
Process-Load  
Dominated (any  
climate)



H = Heating load

L = Lighting load

C = Cooling load

O = Other, including ventilation & plug loads



# Energy Efficiency then Renewables

- Every \$ spent on efficiency saves at least as much as \$2 spent on renewables
- Do simple thing first, lighting, HVAC
- Climate sensitive design (passive solar)
- Long axis of building faces south, south glass with overhangs, 7 – 12% glass area of building floor area
- Limit east, west and north glass

# Lighting Tips

- Turn off lights when not needed
- Install motion sensors on exterior lighting
- Install motion sensors or timers on interior lighting
- Do not turn on lights when daylight is sufficient
- Install task lighting in kitchens and offices
- Use 4-ft fluorescent fixtures with electronic ballasts in work areas (garages, laundry rooms)
- Replace incandescent, halogen, and spotlight bulbs/fixtures with CF bulbs/fixtures

# Compact Fluorescents

- Use 1/4 to 1/3 the energy of incandescent
- Last 10 to 15 times longer than incandescents
- Come in a variety of sizes, wattages, and shapes
- Can buy them anywhere





# Compact Fluorescent Lamps Replacement Example

- Replace four 100-W incandescent bulbs burning four or more hours per day with four 23-W fluorescent bulbs
- Save about 452 kWh and \$82 over 3 years
- If all U.S. houses did the same, the amount of energy saved in 1 year would equal to the amount of energy consumed by 7 million cars

source: "Power\$mart." Alliance to Save Energy, 1998.

# Furnace Tips

- Look for heat inefficiencies
- Clean units/registers/filters
- Install ducts in conditioned space
- Seal ducts if ducts are accessible
- Insulate ducts in unconditioned spaces
- Install setback thermostats
- Purchase new furnace or boiler with high annual fuel utilization efficiency AFUE (>90%)



# Thermostat Tips

- Set thermostat as low (for heating)/high (for cooling) as possible
  - Save 3% of total heating energy for each degree decrease in thermostat setpoint
- Cranking the temperature past the desired level will not heat/cool the house faster



# Parasitic Losses

- Idle appliances waiting to receive signal from remote control (idle TVs and VCRs cost \$30/yr/household in the U.S.)
- Any appliance with a digital clock
- Cordless telephones
- Computer and home office equipment that is left on all the time
- Purchase Energy-Star appliances with “sleep” features or turn off/unplug appliances when not in use



# A thought...

- Buildings mortgage the energy and environmental future of this country



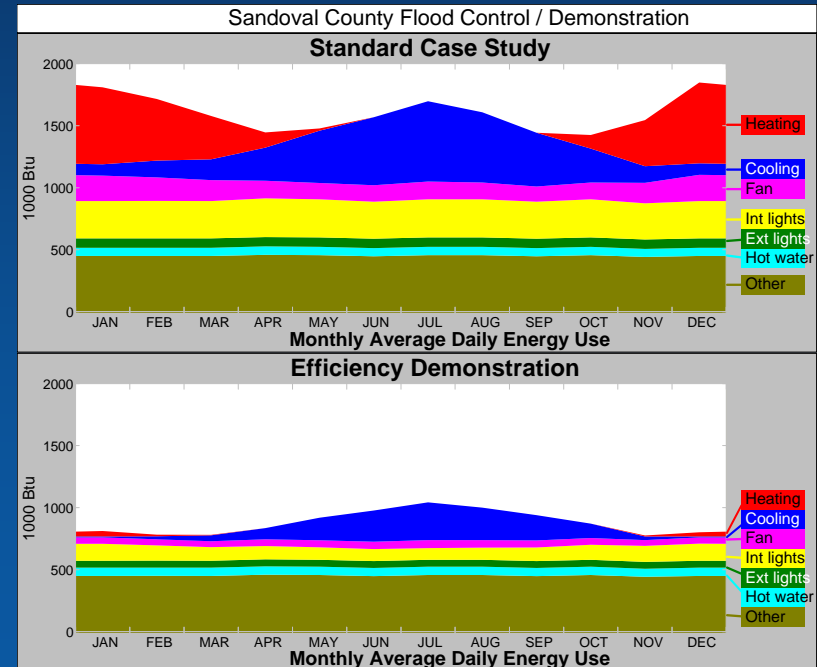
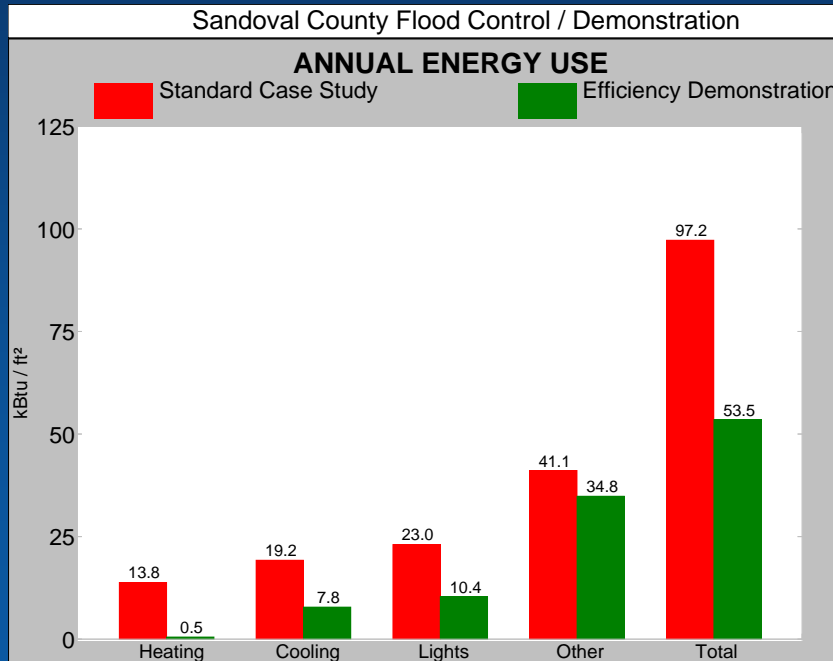
# Design Considerations

- Integrate energy efficiency and renewable energy early
- Use hourly energy simulations
- Architecture should work with the building's energy needs

# Gather data for Intelligent Decision Making...

## Energy Modeling

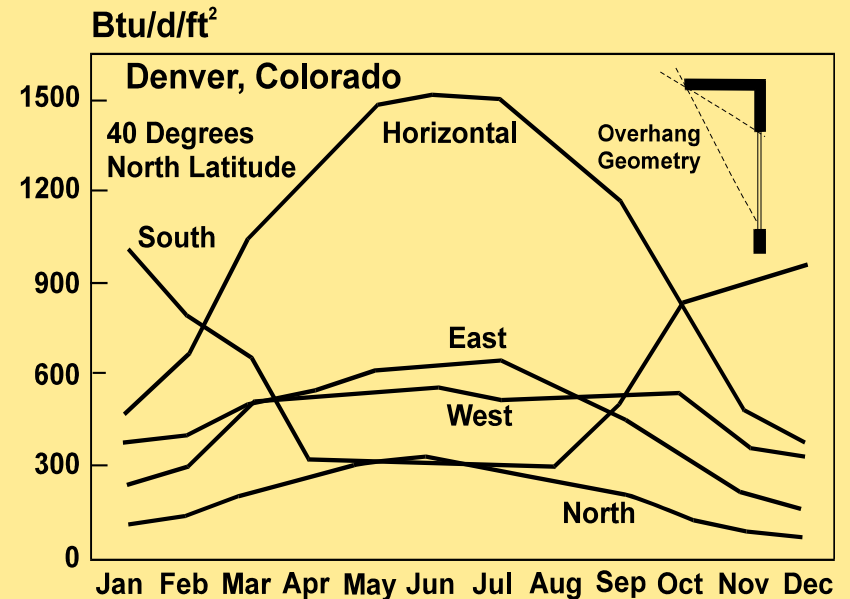
- Considers building energy consumption during design phase to optimize energy use
- Several programs: eQuest, DOE2, Energy 10, etc.
- <http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/highperformance/toolbox.html>



# Glazing Orientation is Important

South glazing is uniquely capable of providing heat in winter and blocking heat gain in summer

### Solar Radiation Transmitted Through Clear Double Glazing



Source: Balcomb, J. D. (1994). *Integrated Design*.

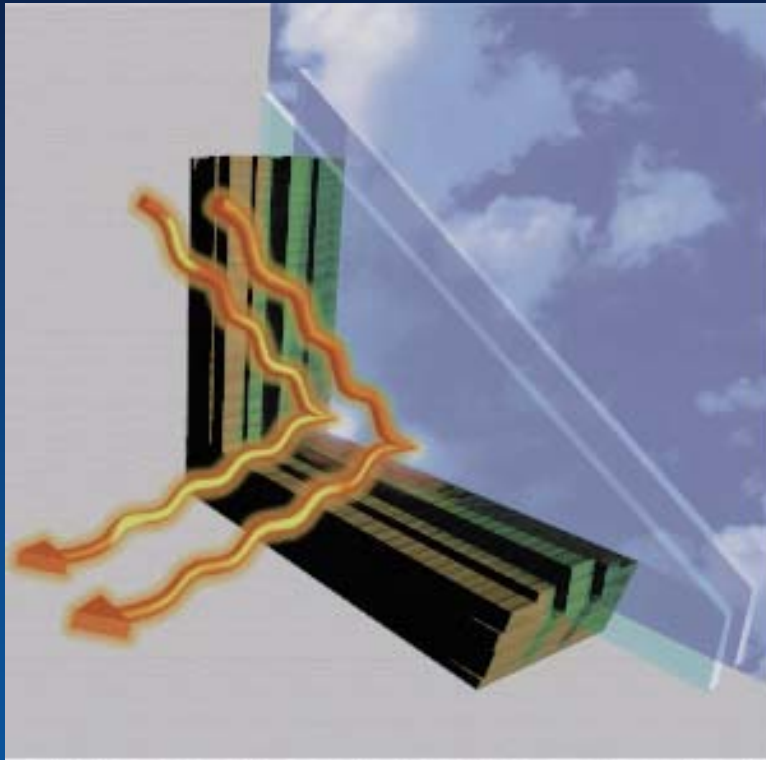
# Glazing Considerations

- Climate
- Application
- Orientation
- Technology

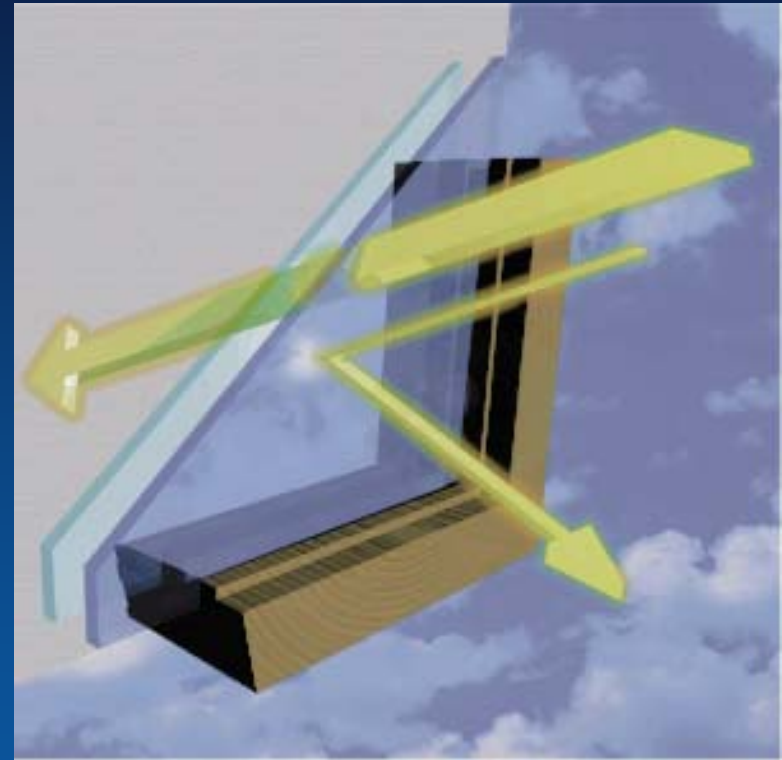
- Insulative Properties
  - Heat flow due to temperature difference (U-value)
- Solar Heat Gain Coeff.
  - Fraction of solar radiation that enters a building thru the window as heat gain
- Visible Transmittance
  - Fraction of total light transmitted in the visible portion of solar spectrum
- Visual Reflectivity
- National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC)
- <http://www.nfrc.org/>



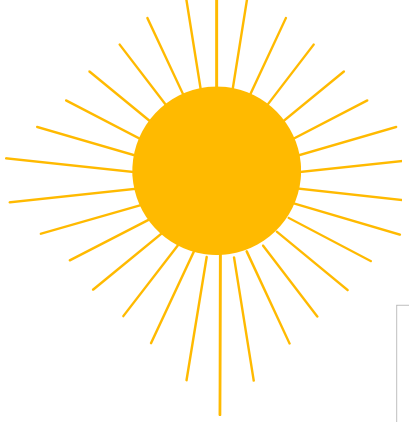
# Low-E Windows



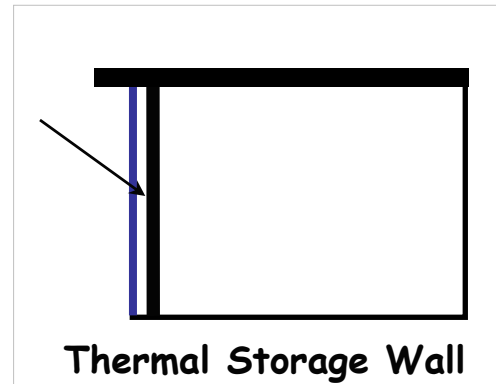
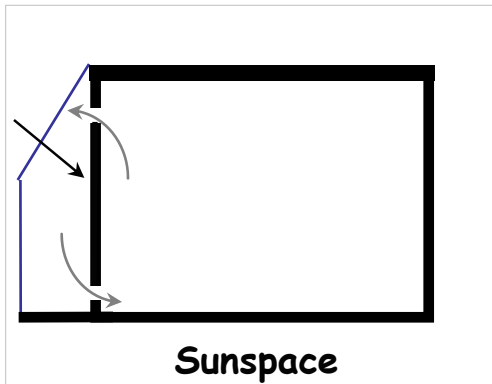
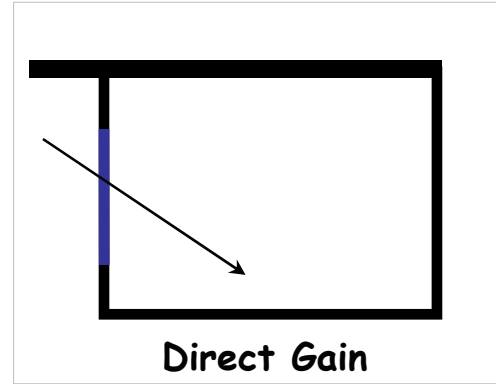
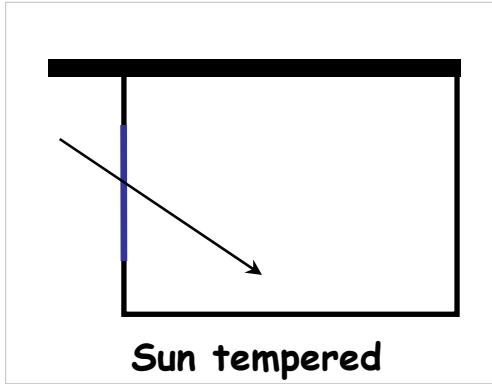
Cold-Climate Window



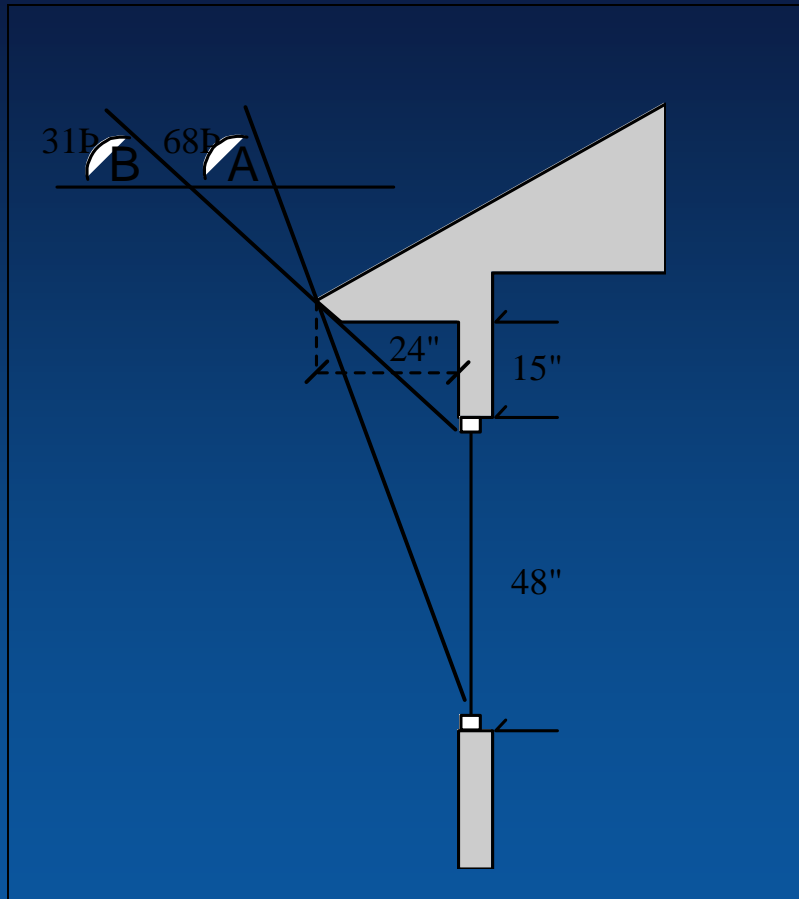
Warm-Climate Window  
East and West facing



# Passive Solar Strategies



# Shading Geometry

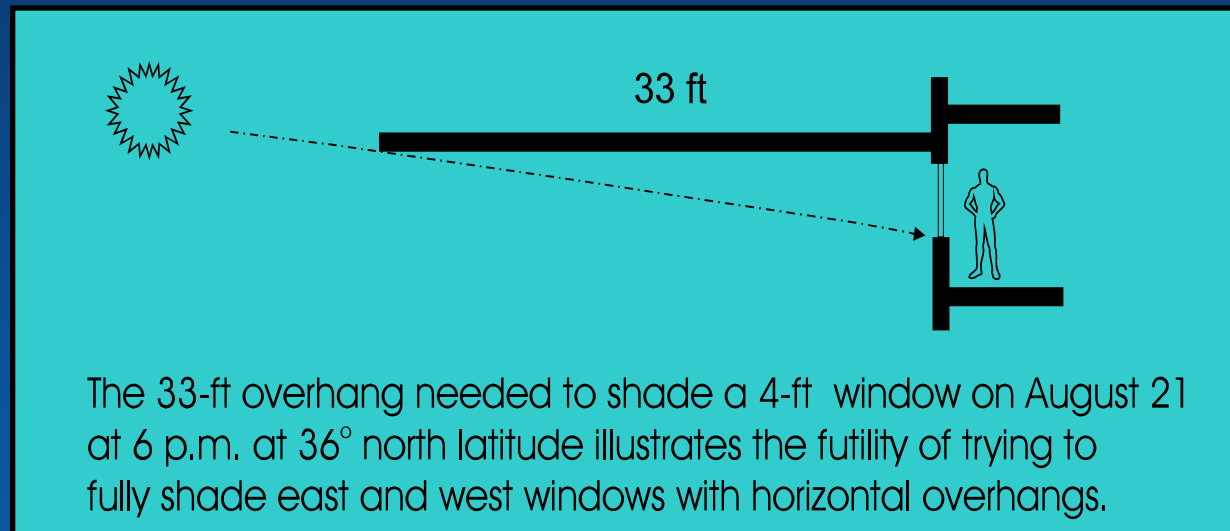


A.  $68^\circ$  angle with horizon fully shades the window in the summer ( $76.6^\circ =$  sun's altitude @  $40^\circ$  N latitude on June 21)

B.  $31^\circ$  angle with horizon allows full exposure of the window in winter ( $26.6^\circ =$  sun's altitude @  $40^\circ$  N latitude on Dec. 21)

# Shading Orientation

- South facades
  - Simple overhangs
- North facades
  - No shading
- East & west facades
  - Minimize windows
  - Vertical fins
  - Awnings

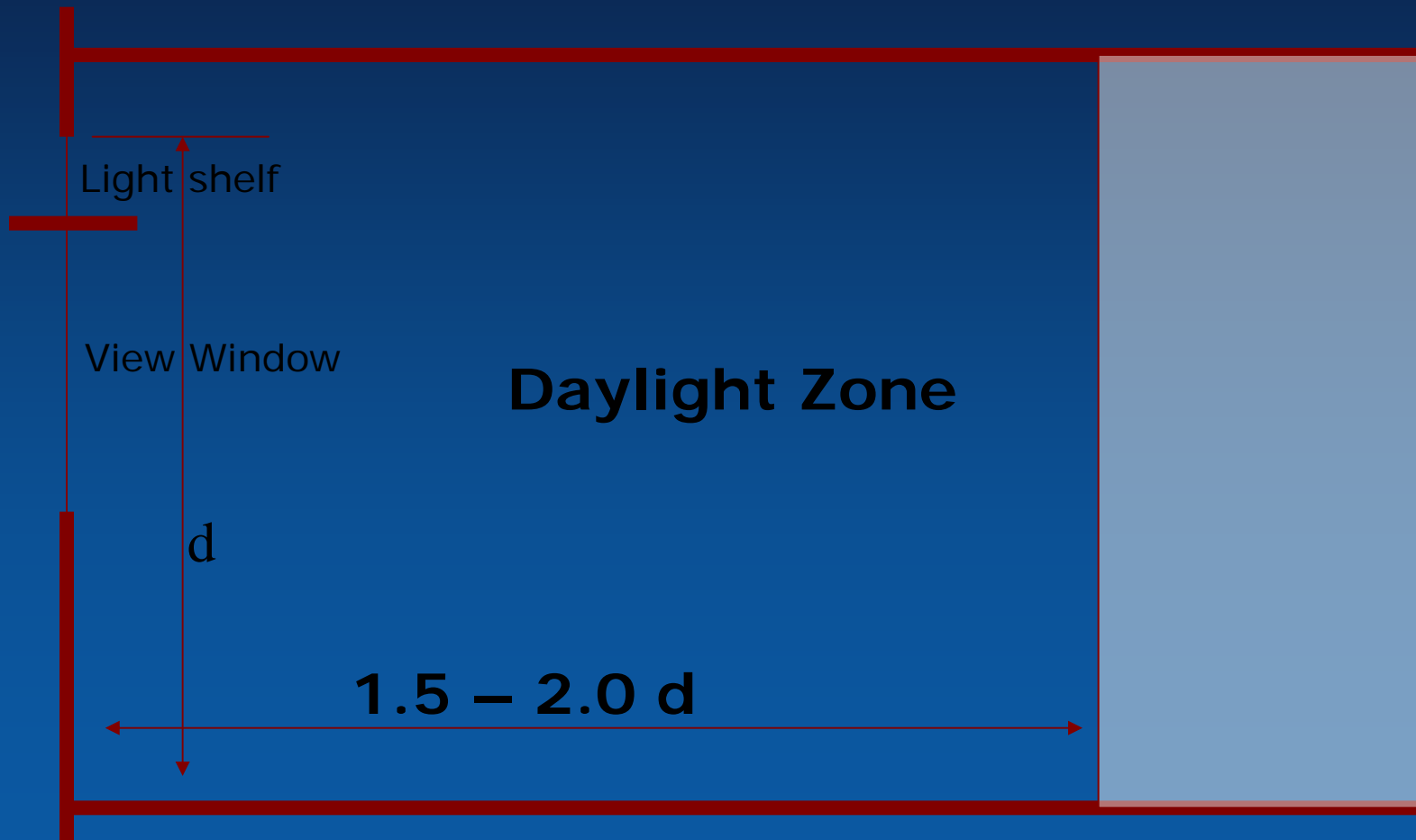


# General Rules for Buildings

Long axis of building faces south

- All windows have  $U < 0.35$
- Minimal **East and West** Windows
  - Should have low SHGC ( $< 0.40$ )
- Maximize **South** Glazing with high glass for daylighting
  - Design overhangs to shade surfaces in summer
  - 7 – 12% glass area of building floor area
  - 7% for low mass to 12% for high mass construction
  - Use high SHGC ( $> 0.50$ )
- Use **North** glass for daylighting and view glass
  - SHGC does not have big energy impact

# How far can you throw daylight?





# Passive Solar Design



West side



East side



South side



Inside

Carlisle\Prythero residence,  
Lakewood, CO

# Tierra Concrete Homes



45% savings





# Van Geet Residence



90% savings (modeled)





- 9300 ft
- 9600 HDD
- 0 CDD
- 3000 sqft.
- 4 bedroom; 3 bath
- 1.0 mile to power grid
- ASHRAE 2001 1<sup>st</sup> Place Technology Award winner
- Winner of CRES Housing Award



## Glazing Selection

- Determined by simulation
- South and East:  
 $U=0.31$ ;  $SC=0.75$ ;  
 $SHGC=0.64$
- All others:  $U=0.30$ ;  
 $SC=0.47$ ; $SHGC=0.41$
- 151 sq. ft. south glass, 12% glass to floor area
- Trombe wall integrated with view glass



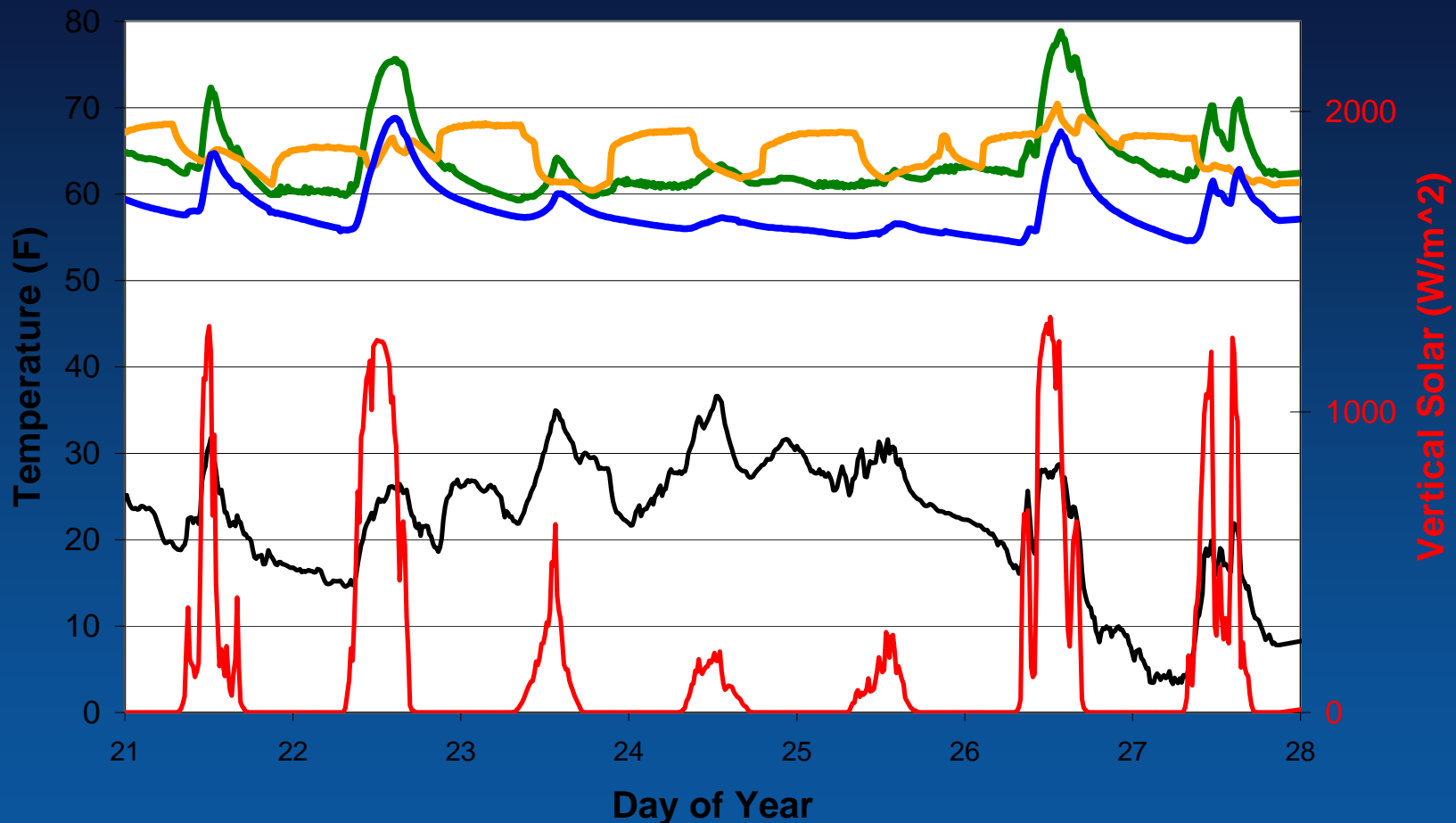
- Reach temperatures of 100°F inside house
- Cavity temperatures reach 160°F
- Provide delayed heating (6-8 hour delay)
- Double clear for Trombe walls, 144 sq. ft.
- Selective surface
- 16.5% glass and Trombe to house, 14% if garage included

## Trombe Walls





# Performance Jan. 22-28, 2000



— Master BR — North BR — Downstairs Living — Outdoor Temp — Vertical Solar

# Energy Efficient Appliances



- Low energy DC refrigerator (500 Wh/day-80% savings)
- Compact fluorescent fixtures or better (T-8)
- Switches to manage parasitic or phantom loads
- Energy Star appliances
- Horizontal Axis cloth Washers (1/2 energy, water, and soap)

# Van Geet Summary

- Less cost to build (wrt running utility line)
- 77% reduction from MEC1995 house as designed, 89% reduction as operated
- 87% of electricity from PV
- \$200 average fuel (100 gallons propane average)

# Solar can be attractively integrated into homes

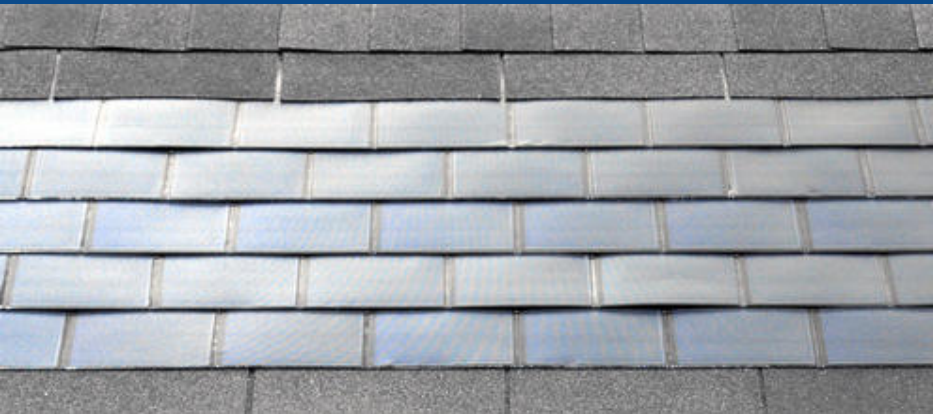


# Solar can be attractively integrated into homes



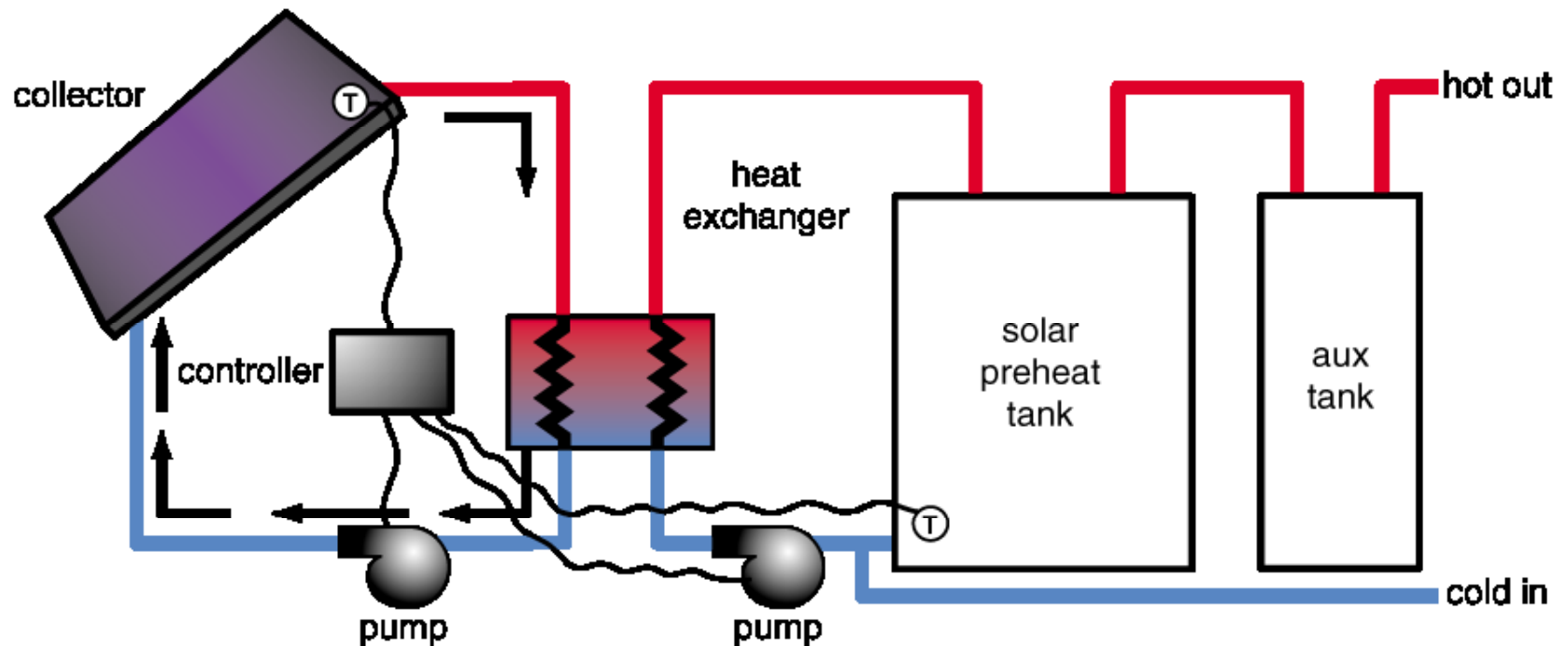


# Examples of integrated solar roofing products



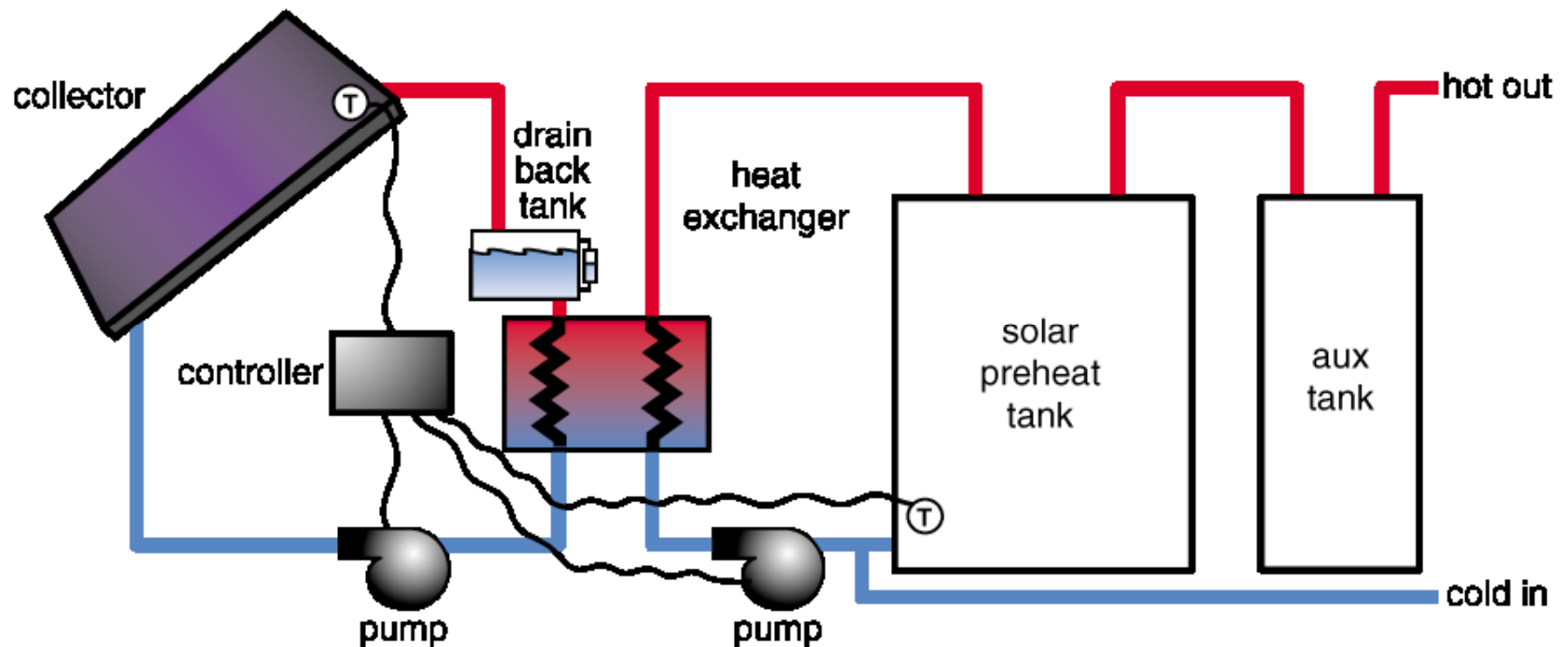


# Active, Closed-loop (antifreeze), Indirect System



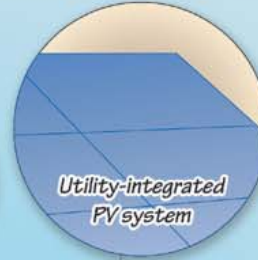
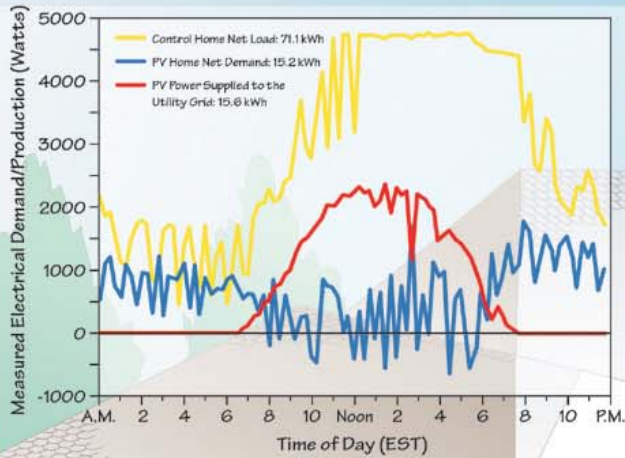
- Excellent freeze protection
- Good hard water tolerance
- High maintenance requirements

# Active, Closed-loop, Drain-back, Indirect System



- Good freeze protection
- Overheat protection
- Good hard water tolerance
- High maintenance requirements

# Zero Energy Building



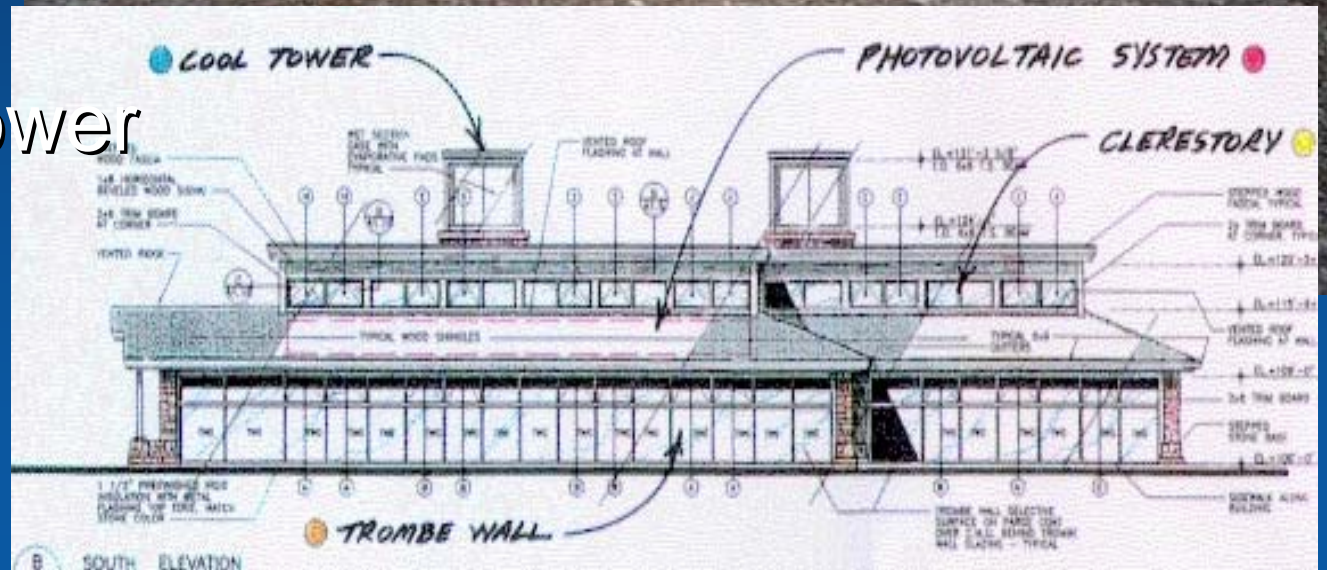
# Zion National Park Visitor Center





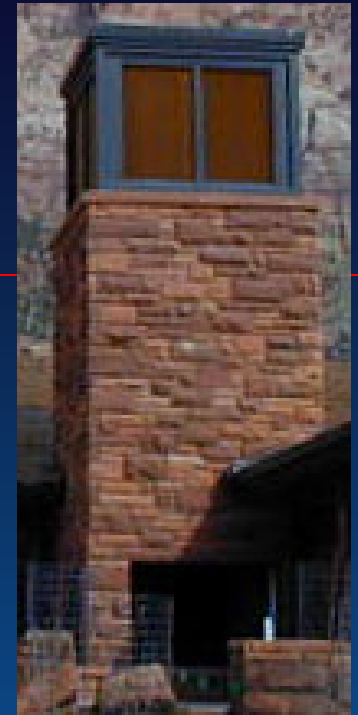
# Zion National Park Visitor Center

- 70% energy cost savings and 30% capital cost reduction
- 10% PV power



# Zion Energy Features

- Daylighting
- Downdraft evaporative cooling
- Trombe wall
- Radiant heating
- Roof photovoltaic (7.2 kW)
- Operation without grid power



# What to look for...

- General Rules for Buildings
- Long axis of building faces south
- All windows have  $U < 0.35$
- Minimal **East and West** Windows
  - Should have low SHGC ( $< 0.40$ )
- Maximize **South** Glazing with high glass for daylighting
  - Design overhangs to shade surfaces in summer
  - 7 – 12% glass area of building floor area
  - Use high SHGC ( $> 0.50$ )
- Use **North** glass for daylighting and view glass
  - SHGC does not have big energy impact
- Motion and Daylight Sensors to harvest daylighting



# What to look for... part II

- Good Insulation Packages (foam), including below slab
- Energy Star Appliances, minimize “ghost” loads
- No incandescent lights
- HVAC sized for the building, type appropriate for climate (Evap cooling in SW, etc)
- Low-Energy is in the Building, not the HVAC system.
- Pay for added building costs with reduced HVAC.

# What to look for... and how to accomplish

- Low Maintenance design (Stucco, Masonry, clad windows, metal roof, etc.)
- Use simulations to design building
- Low water use design
- Who else can help you with the design?
- How will project be funded?
- Consider solar electric – PV
  - \$4.50 Xcel Rebate
  - 30% Federal Tax Credit (\$2000 cap residential)
- Consider solar hot water

# Discussion & Questions

Which of these strategies would you consider for your next building?

