



Architects, Engineers, Construction Managers

WHAT DID YOUR PLATFORM SAY?

The architects, engineers, and members of the construction community that gathered for the May 1&2 Platform kickoffs shared ideas which pointed towards the inherent chasm between design intent and design outcomes. This set of building professionals are traditionally engaged during discreet phases over the course of the longer retrofit design, delivery, and operations process of a building, and they acknowledged that integration among them is central to achieving energy goals. These professionals highlighted how the installed performance or operational performance of a building is often under the control parties not involved in the design process and how this is a priority for change. This and similar issues were prioritized by this Platform. Additionally, this group discussed the importance of providing resources in the form of first expenditures to this community to enable a high-performance and well-conceived retrofit result: curtailing resources up front will lead to reduced quality during construction and operations. Lastly, service providers focused on the limitations they confront with the tools available to them to predict energy performance; the two main priorities in this vein are to create faster and more reliable predictive tools.

TOP PRIORITIES

- Hold energy users accountable for their energy consumption.
- Introduce modeling that is faster, more accurate, and less expensive and a call for creativity and innovation to surmount the challenges.
- Base design decisions on accurate building energy performance data.
- Overcome the over-emphasis on initial cost at the expense of life cycle cost.
- Ensure that building codes and behavior support integrated strategies for achieving energy efficiency performance.

ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

- Reduce the complexity of retrofit financing from a construction standpoint.
- Transition the market into true integrated design, project and delivery and demonstrating the correlation between occupant performance and a high performance building.
- Avoid cost-cutting of critical energy conservation measures followed by obtaining money to underwrite retrofit projects.
- Train building operators to use and optimize sophisticated technologies for energy efficiency.