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# Ecolibrium

THE ECOLIBRIUM  
ANNUAL  
**AIRAH**  
AWARDS  
SPECIAL

## Law and order

Dramatically reimagining  
a heritage classic.



# THE GOOD DESIGNER

Based in Gurgaon, India, Barry Wormald, F.AIRAH, is the Principal at Think BiM Technical Services. He recently attended the launch of the Global Cooling Prize on behalf of AIRAH.



Barry Wormald (left), F.AIRAH, with his Fellowship certificate.

## Responsibilities

I am an owner of the business and responsible for our business development, including looking at new areas to venture, setting of technical standards, and general business promotion.

I am also responsible for mentoring my team, which is the area I get most enjoyment from my job, seeing them grow and develop from when they joined us.

As consultants, we all have a responsibility to our clients to provide the best advice, depending on their needs/brief, and deliver the best product to suit their requirements, and provide comfort conditions at least energy cost to suit the clients' budget.

## Specialty

I am a mechanical engineer, and would consider my specialty is innovative and simple good design, problem solving, and providing guidance to young engineers.

I also believe if you first apply common sense, then aim for simplicity, the best result will be achieved.

## What are you passionate about?

I am passionate about good design, and consider the current trend of green

accreditation needs to be revisited, as the requirements relate more to what used to be considered good practice rather than sustainable design. They should be starting points and not targets.

I see so many accredited buildings that are inefficiently designed, and can be significantly improved without excessive effort, which highlights issues with the accreditation systems. I recently suggested to one party that the energy consumption should be taken out of the green accreditation points and treated separately to be given more priority and specialist attention!

I have been in the industry through manual drafting, AutoCAD 2D drafting and now 3D drafting, and consider this has given me a good insight into the problems with inefficiency in the construction industry, which I am passionate to improve.

I believe if we address these two points, then the environment will be automatically improved.

## Challenges

Working in India is the most challenging thing I have ever done, and will ever do, as it poses different challenges at all levels, even down to basic communication.

The next most challenging issue in this industry is fee levels, which are continuously being reduced, making it difficult to give the level of service required on a project, and I have seen this lead to increasing conflicts on projects at all levels as everyone tries to pass on responsibilities, as they have excluded areas from their scope.

It is a continuous challenge to convince clients about the importance of services in buildings, and get them to understand the benefits of good design, as the services cannot be seen, and there is so much confusion created by bad designers.

## Professional development

I present at a lot of technical conferences, and lecture at universities/institutes of technology – it's amazing how smart and inquisitive young engineers are, which

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makes it important you know what you are presenting. As well as keeping myself up to date, I really enjoy the challenge of answering the many tricky questions they ask!

## What words do you find inspiring?

"There's a problem" or "It can't be done". These words are what motivates me to not only find a solution, but provide innovative cost-effective solutions.

## Favourite destination

Home when I am returning from anywhere!

The most interesting place I have worked in is Armenia, and the most relaxing place I have been to is Cyprus.

## What are your plans for the future?

To pass on my knowledge and experience to young engineers in the hope they can make a difference to the construction industry, and keeping trying to change the mindset of many clients.

## Could you tell us a little bit about the Global Cooling Prize?

The Global Cooling Prize is a worldwide competition to spur the development of more energy-efficient cooling technology.

The aim of the prize is to encourage climate-friendly innovation by defining where we stand today; create a community of innovation to provide solutions; define outcomes – performance required; and to create certainty of demand.

With a theme of "Cooling for all – without warming the planet" it's all about developing more sustainable air conditioning.

Up to US\$2million is being offered to help develop the winning submission, plus substantially more when it goes into production. ■