

**RAE case studies
on Engineering
Design for
Sustainable
Development:**

**De Montfort
University**

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Context

- Institute of Energy & Sustainable Development
- MSc + PhD
- students:
 - practising professionals
 - engineers, architects, planners, managers . . .
 - 2/3 are distance learners
- main IESD MSc is 'Climate Change & Sustainability'
- implications for background knowledge, delivery media, pedagogic approach and language

Approach

- CD delivery of case study + source materials
 - distance learning
 - modem access
 - poor library access
- Adobe pdf
 - multi-platform format: Windows, MacOS, Unix
 - free, robust, widely-used reader software
 - predictable layout (unlike HTML)
 - page-based
 - good range of pedagogic tools
 - modular
 - suits intranets + broadband Web as well as CD

Topics and focus

- energy
- built environment
- human factors
- originally 4 case studies:
 - individual space
 - building
 - settlement
 - national

Individual space + building studies now combined

Progress

- CS1 based on DMU Queens Building
- case study behind schedule, but approaching completion
- still expect to complete 3 case studies
- already being used in teaching
- very positive reaction from students
- staff reaction has changed from polite scepticism to enthusiasm

Use

- deliberately *not* integrated so far
- no formal site visits, but sites accessible