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This 2023 Summer Edition features guidelines for the built environment CUDA's summer newsletters are topic specific containing past posts from the website. For more on this topic, or any other, use the search button on left hand menu of the website.

Whole Building Design Guide

Joining the dots between all aspects of the built environment is not easy task. So the Whole Building Design Guide is a welcome resource. It is a collaboration among stakeholders and government agencies in the US. It could be titled, Building Design as a Whole. This web-based resource has everything you need to know. The online resource has been reformatted and updated...

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A UD approach to all building types: A guide

What does it mean to take a universal design approach to designing all building types? In a nutshell, it means designing for as many people as possible. It's not a one-size-fits-all approach either, although some say it is. The concept of universal design has come a long way from its roots in barrier-free-design. It covers everything from tangible objects to customer service ...

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Norway: A guide for universal design is not enough

Guides give guidance, but you need to know the point of universal design. Knowing the point is a key success factor in taking a universal design approach. This is what the Chief Architect of St Olav's Hospital in Norway said about the way the hospital precinct was designed. The point is inclusion - it's about society, not just design. This is what is lost in access compliance - few people know the point of it. ...

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Specifications for universal design

Universal design is a thinking process that aims for the most inclusive design solutions possible - designing universally. It is a process that improves through iteration. This means that you can't specify a standard, which is for one point in time, because it stops the process of continuing improvement. But we don't live in a perfect world and some people ...

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Design for Dignity Guidelines

The Design for Dignity guidelines cover all the elements in a major urban renewal project. The guide is based on the principles applied in the development of Barangaroo South in Sydney. It covers public domain, wayfinding, commercial and retail precincts, and workplaces. Stakeholder engagement is also covered. The pictures clearly explain the do's and don'ts and why the details matter. ...

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Singapore Universal Design Guide

The Building and Construction Authority in Singapore has updated its Universal Design Guide for Public Places - one of the initiatives under their "Action Plan for Successful Ageing". The document is structured into chapters, each dealing with a particular aspect of the built environment such as arrival at the building, and wayfinding and information systems. The guide includes Top 10 ...

London's inclusive design standards

The London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) is similar to the Sydney Olympic Park Authority. They are both focused on maintaining the benefits of hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Sydney claimed the title of "most accessible games ever" and then the title went to London. Inclusive design is now a priority in all developments related to the Olympic precinct, and ...

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Your Home Guide - 6th edition

Your Home is in its 6th edition (2022) published by the Australian Government. It has a section on the livable and adaptable house. This guide is especially helpful for home renovations and modifications as well as new builds. Accessible, universal design features for all housing are in the 2022 edition of the National Construction Code. These features are similar to the ...

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Building accessibility: explaining why

There are good reasons why revolving doors are not a good idea for a lot of people. But how many designers know this. Unless the building code says don't do it we will continue to see these in new buildings. The New Zealand Government produced a useful guide to support their building code. It covers building accessibility and explains why ...

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