Chapter 5 Technical Solutions

Building Structures



Building Structures

Sloped 2D trusses: they connect with the 3d truss at 1 point and with the foundation at 1 point also , they support the curtain wall Curtain wall: holds smart glass Cover: protects the main truss

Prismatic truss arch: a 3D truss made of triangles arranged into prisms and it holds the entire structure

> Foundation at each sloped truss shaped as shown here

Horizontal bands: connect the sloped trusses and give the structure integrity



Figure 5-2: structure cutaway model

Figure 5-3: Connection detail 1

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Figure 5-4: Connection detail 2

Woodland exhibit



Woodland exhibit









Site section



Ecosystem details



Figure 5-13: supertree Plan



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Figure 5-14: Skin layers covering supertrees

1.Biomass boiler:

Animal & plant waste is collected and burned at a biomass burner in Heat exchanger tubes the waste treatment area, energy produced is sent to the energy center while the flue is ejected De-ashing screw the super trees.

2. Filter ponds:

Storm water and sewage water is filtered at the filter ponds, sludge is used as a fertilizer and water used for irrigation.

REUSE OR DISPOSAL / DRAINAGE OF TREATED WATER Optional: Sub-surface Irrigation for additional productive green zone

3. Supertrees:

The supertrees are made of hollow tube concrete columns that are covered with wall panels to give it a fan shape, then its is covered with metal rods to mimic tree branches and finally planting panels to hold the vines. Solar panels are fitted on the core head. Their heights range from 25-50 m and some function as exhaust for flue while others generate power and collect water. They are also fitted LED lights that glow at night.

Ecosystem details



Section: the foundation is made of concrete piles that range depending on the height of the super tree

Figure 5-15: supertree elevation 4. Energy center:

Located under the artificial mountain in the montane

bio dome (orange area).

Figure 5-16: supertree section

Energy comes from biomass boilers, supertrees and the main electric grid if needed. The energy center houses the chillers, coolers, heaters and water tanks to control the temperature, humidity and sun radiation in each exhibit by controlling:

1. Deployable shades



Figure 5-17: Deployable shades

Natural cooling system

2. Smart glass

Is naturally opaque but becomes transparent when a current runs through it, the control system decides the transparency depending on the radiation needed

3. Evaporative cooling pads

Straw pads fixed with fans cool the air entering the exhibit by increasing its humidity. Water Supply

(look at part section)





Figure 5-18: Smart glass



Figure 5-19: evaporative pad mechanism 4. Hot air vents and fans:

Figure 5-20: evaporative pad components hot air rises because it is lighter than cold air. Fans at the top of the exhibit help suck

the hot air out to speed up the process.

5. Fog and mist system:

sprinklers fixed near the plants and visitors cool the air by increasing the humidity. Water is supplied from the ground tank.



7. Geothermal cooling: Figure 5-21: Fog system sprinkler

The animal areas are mainly underground to help keep the tempratures cool in the summer and warm in the winter by taking advantage of the ground as a thermal 1 blanket (look at woodland section)

HVAC Cooling system

Hydronic radiant floor cooling :

Why did I choose this system?

Cooling the exhibits' entire huge air volumes would be a waste when it is only needed at the visitor level. So cooling from below is more sustainable.

System details:

It is a air-water system that uses plastic tubes full of cold water embedded in the concrete to cool the floor and surrounding area (concrete core system). Water is cooled using a cooling tower at the roof and chiller at the basement in the HVAC room.

It separates the tasks of ventilation and thermal space conditioning by using the primary air to fulfill the ventilation requirements and the secondary water system to thermally condition the space; it reduces the amount of air transported.

The entering chilled water temperature should be above the room dew point, by at least 1.5 K to allow for control tolerance, in order to avoid any possibility of condensation forming on the cooling surfaces. Typically, chilled ceiling systems have a flow water temperature of 14–15°C and a temperature increase across the exchange device of 2–3 K. The dehumidifying capacity of the air supply is also important for control of the dew point and, in consequence, a design margin of the order of 20 per cent should be provided.

Because of the properties of water it uses less than
5% of the energy a fan would need to remove the
same amount of thermal energy.





