

A Building Owner, Architect, and Builder Walk into a  
Speakeasy...

# Let's Talk Glass Recycling!



**Owner/Operator**

**Sydney Mainster**

AIA, LEED AP

VP of Sustainability &  
Design Management

The Durst  
Organization



**Builder**

**Nelson Russom**

LEED GA, WELL AP, TRUE  
Advisor

Waste and Circularity  
Program Manager

Turner Construction  
Company



**Architect**

**Stephen Katz**

AIA, NCARB, LEED AP BD+C

Principal, Technical  
Director

Gensler



**Moderator**

**Georgia Oehler**

Senior Manager, Technical  
Services Sustainability

National Glass  
Association

**GFAB™**

NGA Glass Fabricator Conference

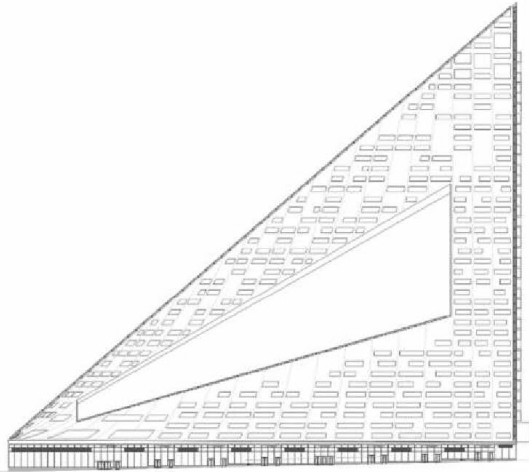
**NGA**

NATIONAL GLASS ASSOCIATION with GANA



11 GCE	114 West 42 <sup>nd</sup> St	5 GCE	825 Third Ave	1155 Avenue of the Americas	1133 Avenue of the Americas	151 West 42 <sup>nd</sup> St	One Bryant Park	One World Trade Center
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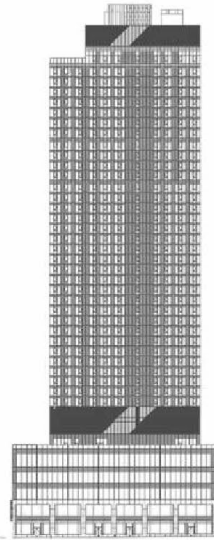
# Commercial Properties



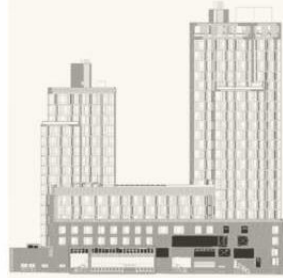
VIA 57 WEST



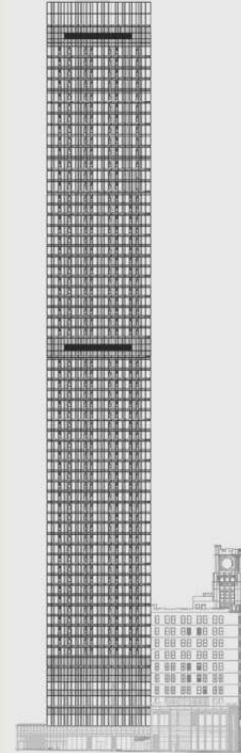
FRANK 57 WEST



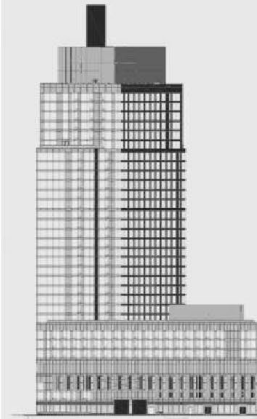
EOS



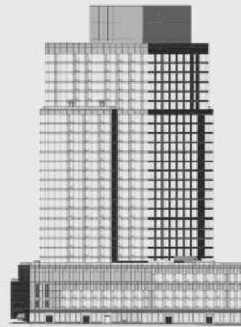
10 HALLETTS POINT



SVEN



30 HALLETTS POINT



20 HALLETTS POINT



Residential Properties



49th Floor, One Bryant Park BoA Tower

# Commercial Office Reclamation

Building Product Recovery and Recycling



49th Floor, One Bryant Park BoA Tower

# Interior Commercial Office Glass Pilot at One Bryant Park

## Architectural Glass Recovery and Recycling



49th Floor, One Bryant Park BoA Tower

# Interior Commercial Office Glass Pilot at One Bryant Park

Architectural Glass Recovery and Recycling

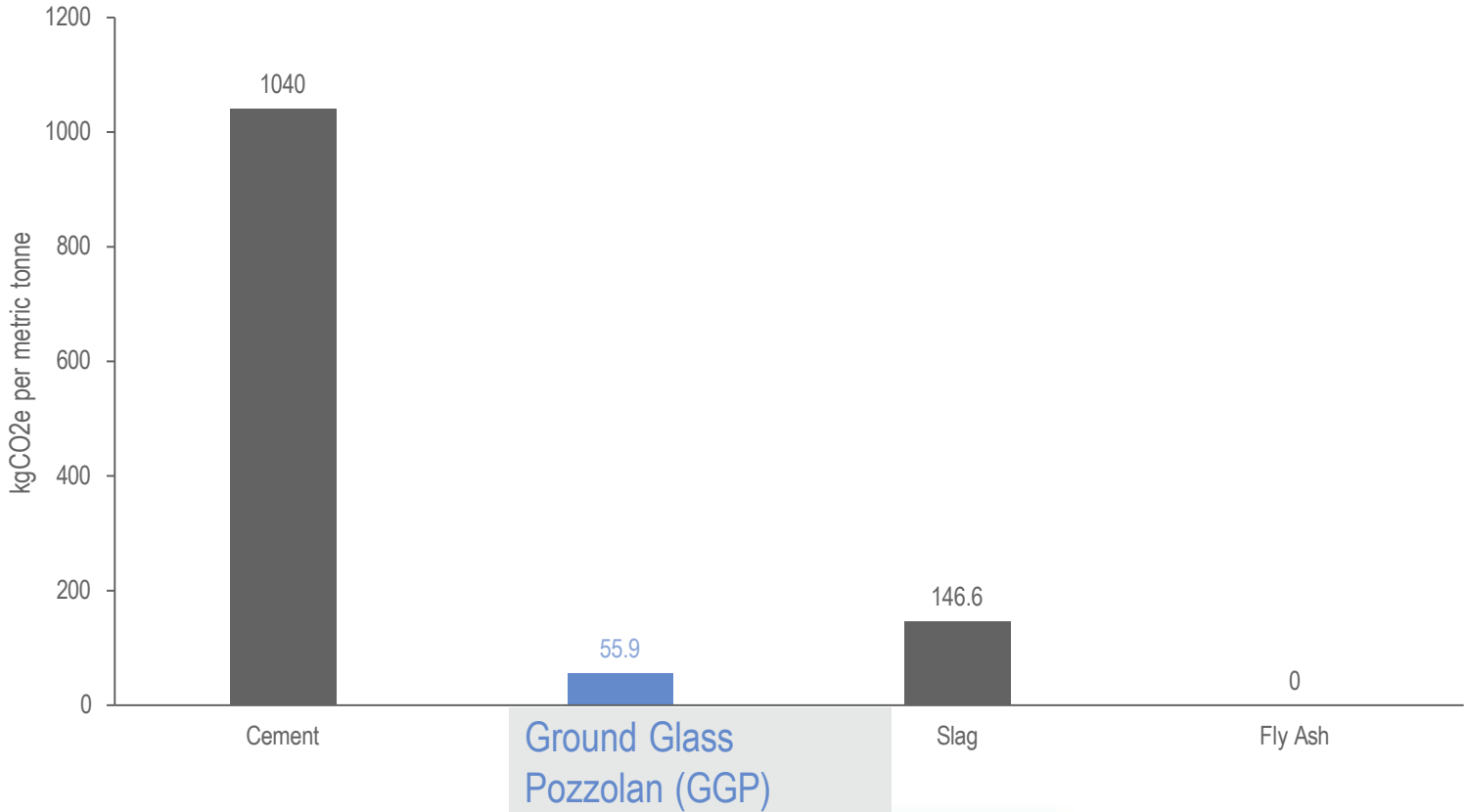


Loading Dock, One Bryant Park BoA Tower

# Demolished Glass for Removal at One Bryant Park

## Float Glass Recovery and Recycling





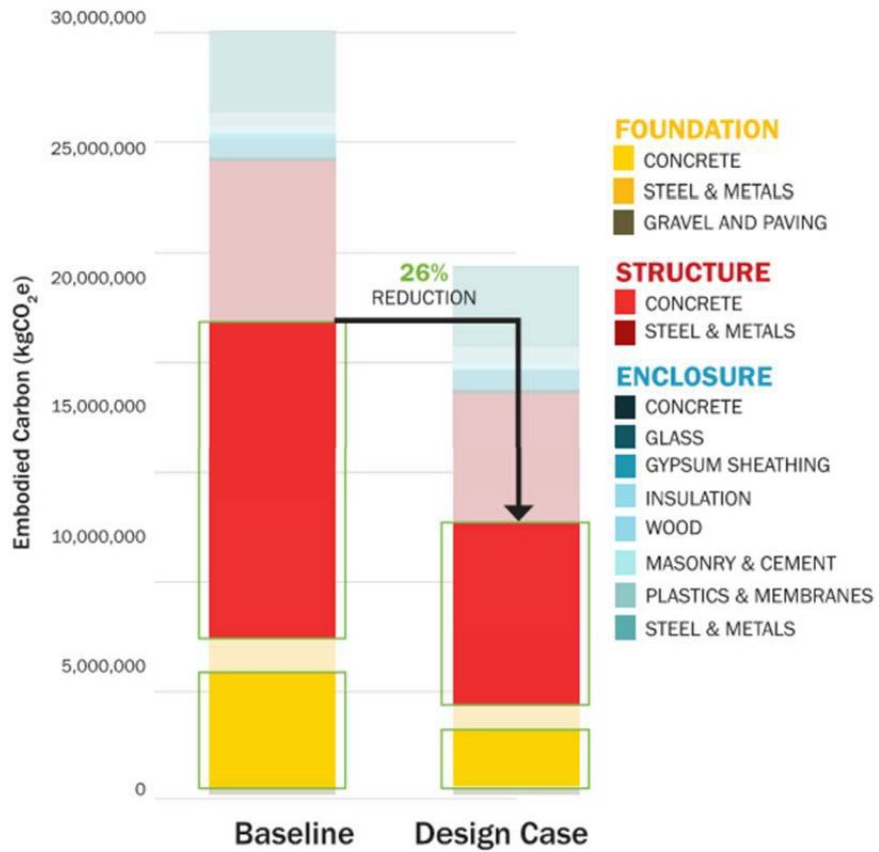
GWP Impacts (kg CO2e) of Cement + SCMs <sup>1</sup> per 1 metric tonne	Cement	GGP	Slag	Fly Ash
		1,040	55.9	146.6

<sup>1</sup> Cement, Slag, + Fly Ash GWP Impacts are all Industry Average. Ground-Glass Pozzolan (GGP) Impact is Product-Specific to Pozzotive made @ Urban Mining's Beacon Falls facility. No GWP impacts factor in transport to US Concrete batch plants.

<sup>2</sup> Includes no processing of stored fly ash, which is increasingly necessary due to changes in availability/supply.

# Lower Embodied Carbon Concrete

Recycled Ground Glass Pozzolan (GGP) Replacing Cement in High-Performance Concrete



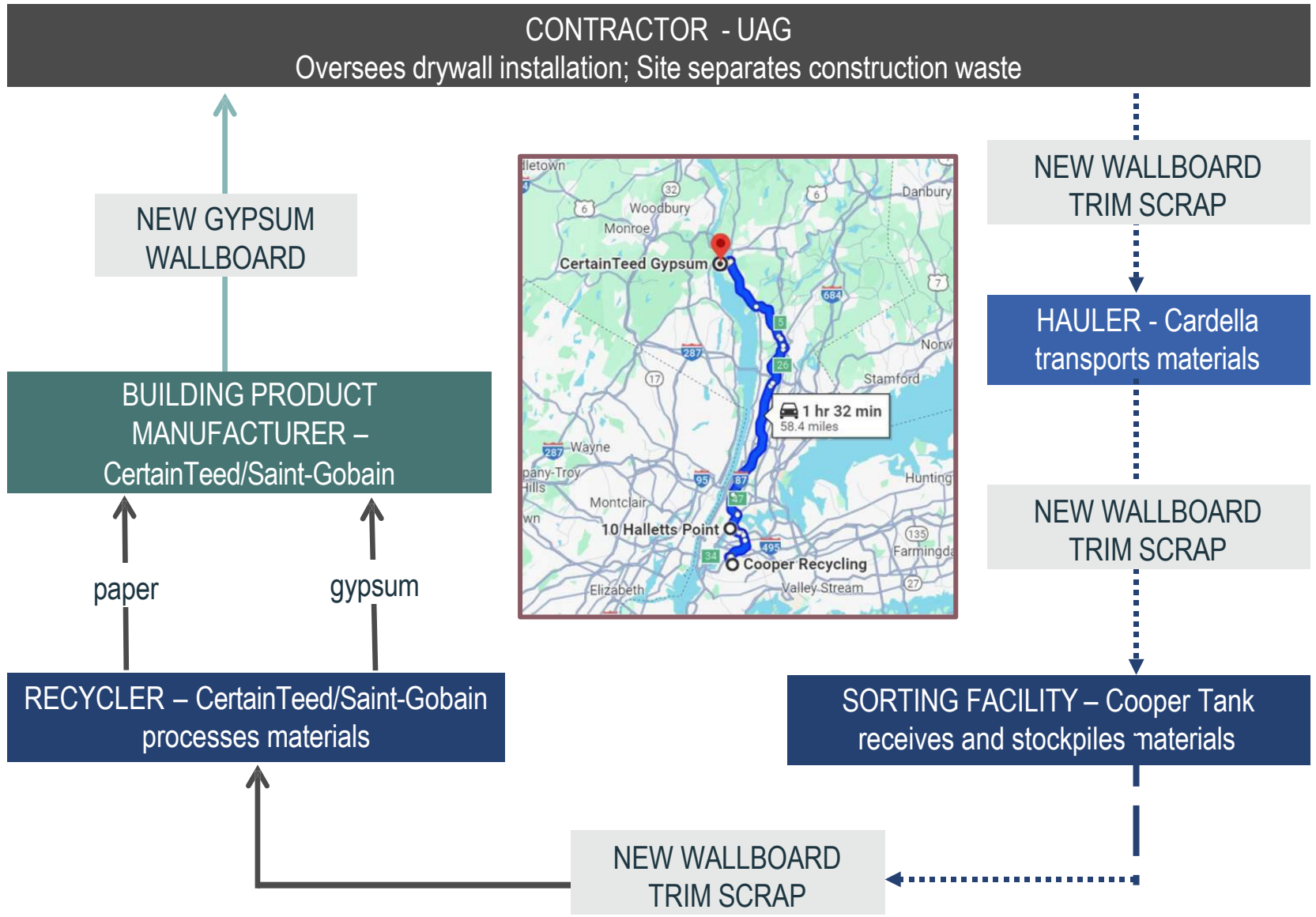
**FIGURE 9 - CONCRETE GWP REDUCTION**

Concrete w. GGP	Concrete w.o. GGP	Total Concrete
18290.5 CY	25854.5 CY	44145 CY
41.43%	58.57%	



# Lower Embodied Carbon Concrete

Recycled Ground Glass Pozzolan (GGP) as SCM at 20-30 Halletts Point



# Closed Loop Gypsum Wallboard

Trim scrap site separation, recycling, manufacturing at 20-30 Halletts Point

# Introductions

Builder

# BUILDING TODAY TO TRANSFORM TOMORROW™

2025 ESG REPORT



Scan to Access

# Introductions

Architect

# Circularity in Practice at Gensler

NGA Glass Fabricator Conference

06.16.2026

**Stephen Katz**, AIA, LEED AP BD+C  
Principal - Technical Director



**Gensler**

# OUR FIRM



57 Offices Worldwide  
6000+ Professionals  
32 Practice Areas  
100% Employee Owned

## OFFICE LOCATIONS

### NORTH AMERICA

Atlanta  
Austin  
Baltimore  
Boston  
Charlotte  
Chicago  
Columbus  
Dallas  
Denver  
Detroit  
Houston  
Kansas City  
La Crosse  
Las Vegas  
Los Angeles  
Miami  
Minneapolis

### MORRISTOWN

Morristown  
Nashville  
New York  
Newport Beach  
Oakland  
Philadelphia  
Phoenix  
Raleigh  
San Antonio  
San Diego  
San Francisco  
San Jose  
Seattle  
Tampa  
Toronto  
Vancouver  
Washington, D.C.

### LATIN AMERICA

Bogotá  
Mexico City  
Monterrey  
San José  
Dominican Republic

### EUROPE

Berlin  
Birmingham  
London  
Munich  
Paris

### MIDDLE EAST

Abu Dhabi  
Dubai  
Riyadh

### GREATER CHINA

Beijing  
Hong Kong  
Shanghai

### ASIA PACIFIC

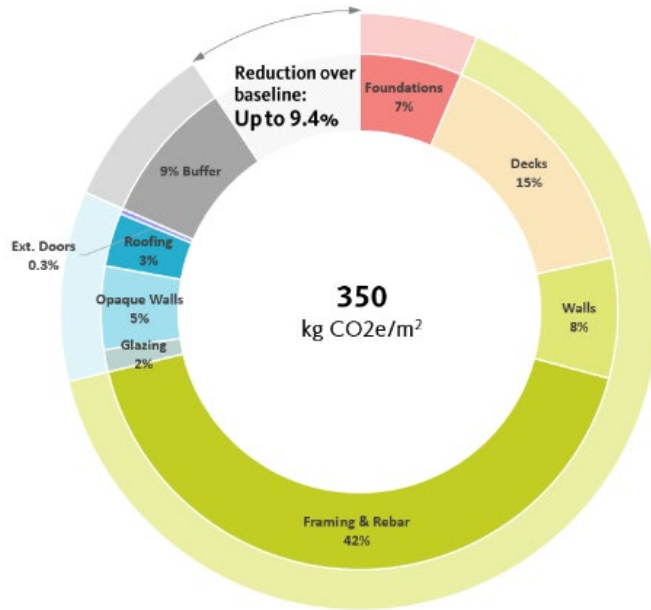
Bangalore  
Bangkok  
Delhi NCR  
Mumbai  
Singapore  
Sydney  
Tokyo

## OUR RESPONSIBILITY

Gensler designs ~1 Billion sf annually,  
40% is workplace

On average, workplace materials have  
a 10-year life before going to landfill

# Our Approach



**A “whole-lifecycle”  
view of materials  
(including glass)**

Gensler focuses on the full lifecycle impact of building materials – from manufacturing through reuse.

Our **Gensler Product Sustainability (GPS) Standards** set criteria for materials (including architectural glass) based on:

- embodied carbon
- recycled content
- health/toxicity
- lifecycle transparency

The standards explicitly push manufacturers toward:

- higher recycled content
- better environmental product declarations (EPDs)
- alignment with certifications

For glass, this means encouraging lower-carbon production and products.

# Material Standards (GPS)

# 18

Establishes sustainability performance criteria for the top 18 most commonly used, high-impact product categories selected for interior projects.



Access Flooring



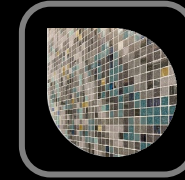
Broadloom Carpet



HM Doors + Frames



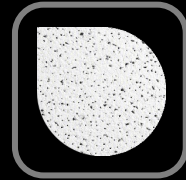
Textiles



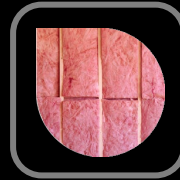
Tile



Wallcovering



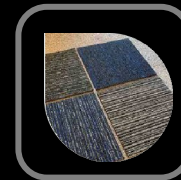
ACTs, Panels + Grids



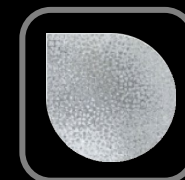
Batt Insulation



Board Insulation



Carpet Tile



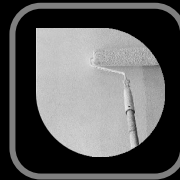
Decorative Glass



Demountable Partitions



Gypsum Board



Interior Latex Paint



Non-Structural Metal Framing



Resilient Flooring + Base



Systems Furniture



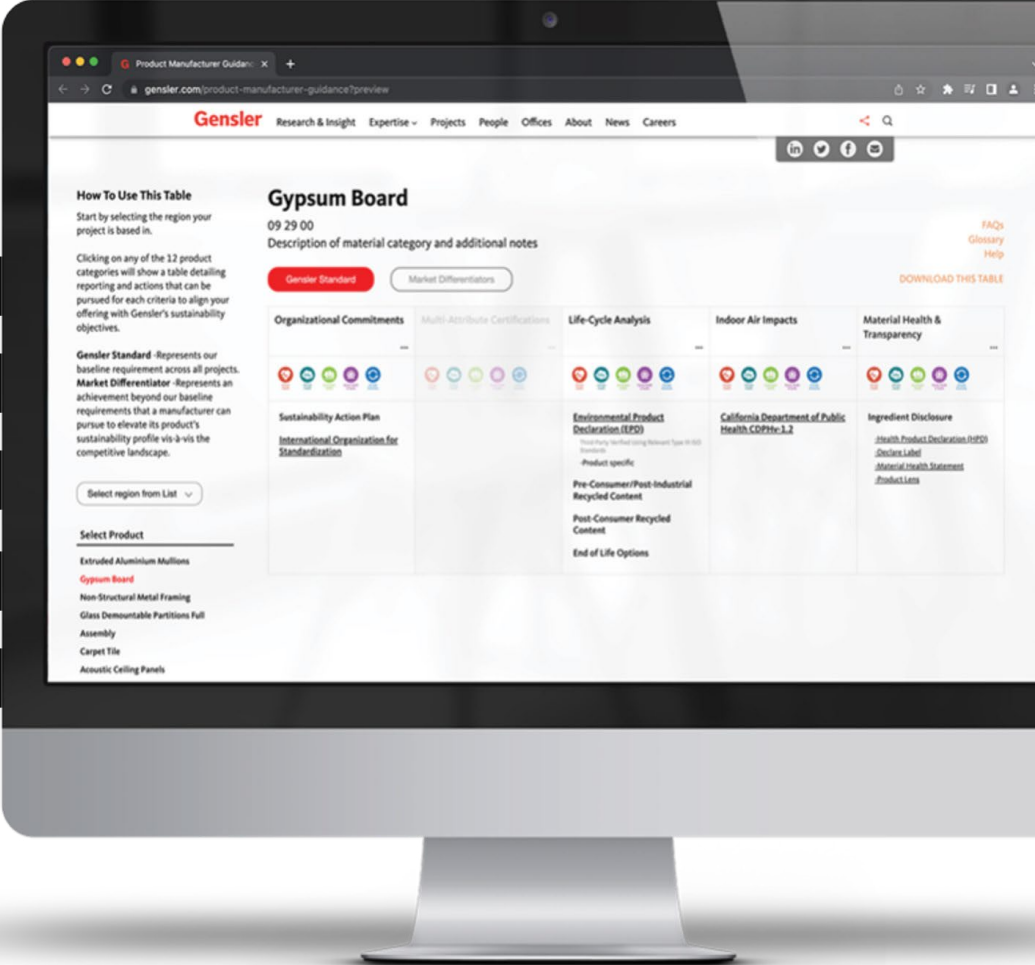
Task Chairs

# Material Standards (GPS)

# 5

Impact Areas

- Organizational Commitments
- Multi-Attribute Certifications
- Life-Cycle Impacts
- Indoor Air Impacts
- Material Health & Transparency



# Our Approach



**Circular economy  
mindset: reuse and  
recycling aspects**

The most sustainable material is the one you don't have to manufacture again.

We prioritize:

- adaptive reuse of buildings
- salvaging and repurposing materials
- designing for future flexibility and disassembly

Deconstruction instead of demolition can preserve significant material volume.

For glass:

- Reusing existing façade systems and possibly glazing (when possible) is preferred over recycling.
- When reuse isn't feasible, materials are selected to be recyclable and compatible with circular supply chains.

# Our Approach



**Performance-first  
glass design (reducing  
operational carbon)**

Glass is also treated as a performance system, not just a material.

Glass assemblies are specified glass to:

- improve daylight which reduces artificial lighting demand
- controls solar heat gain which reduces HVAC energy
- supports occupant wellbeing (views, natural light)

This aligns with a major sustainability principle of reducing operational carbon over a building's lifetime.

# Research

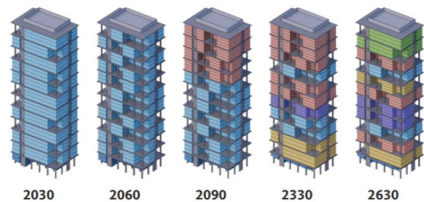
CASE STUDY | RESEARCH GRANT

## The 600-Year Office

**Instead of planning only 60 years in advance, what would it look like if we designed an office building to thrive for 600 years?**

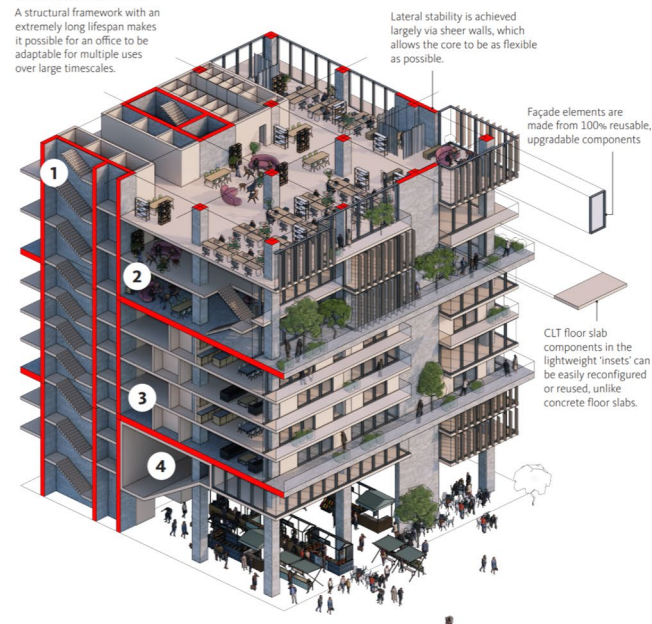
The 600-Year Office is a progressive vision that pushes building lifespans to the extreme by asking how we can design for long-term use. With today's technology and infrastructure, it is possible to construct buildings that extend the lifespan of their carbon-intensive structure, while being adaptable enough to thrive in an uncertain future. By investigating future scenarios and developing a framework with a long lifespan capable of supporting changing needs, we can design buildings that are far more resilient than those of the past. On day one, the 600-Year Office

is single-use, but contains the potential for multiple future adaptations. By 2090, the building is prepared to reconfigure some or all levels as residential and amenities as needed. In 2330, the building has several strategies, including a more flood-resistant ground floor. The initial design is flexible enough to accommodate future climate resilience strategies, and the ground floor can be upgraded as needed. By 2630, significant portions of the building are dedicated to improving a city's biodiversity and enhancing human experience through biophilia.



### Planning for the far future

A structural framework with an extremely long lifespan makes it possible for an office to be adaptable for multiple uses over large timescales.



#### 1 Framework

A structural framework with an extremely long lifespan makes it possible for the rest of the building to be constructed from lightweight, reusable components and materials.

#### 2 Office

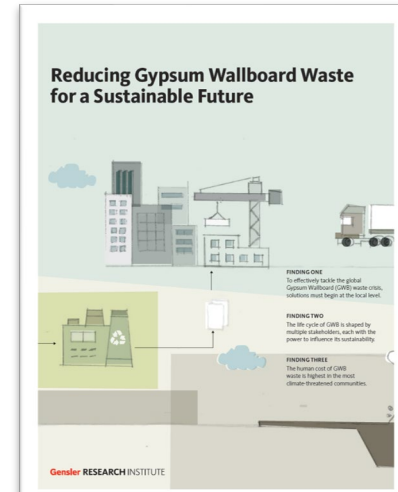
On day one, the building is primarily office use—the 12m high modules of the framework are divided into three office levels with a 4m floor-to-floor height.

#### 3 Residential

Future residential uses can be accommodated at higher density by dividing the 12m height into four 3m levels.

#### 4 Residential

The 12m floor-to-floor height of the fundamental framework allows almost any amenity or other use.



### Gypsum Wallboard (GWB) at the local level.

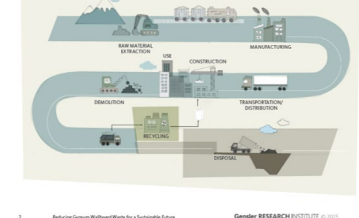
Local-level efforts include more effective collaboration to reduce waste, increase recycling, and mitigate risk and environmental costs. Additional strategies include promoting better performing, healthier alternatives, and testing configurations and mixes to reduce waste. They also involve promoting education through code reviews, updated codes, and regulations that address the dangers of unlined "floor recessed element" framing panels through floorboards.

Local-level efforts include more effective collaboration to reduce waste, increase recycling, and mitigate risk and environmental costs. Additional strategies include promoting better performing, healthier alternatives, and testing configurations and mixes to reduce waste. They also involve promoting education through code reviews, updated codes, and regulations that address the dangers of unlined "floor recessed element" framing panels through floorboards.

Though GWB waste is a global issue, implementing local strategies is the most effective way to see meaningful, long-term change. By addressing GWB at its source and within its regional context, stakeholders can develop scalable solutions that support broader global sustainability efforts.

GWB waste is managed: Engaging manufacturers, contractors, designers, and policymakers at the local level.

Gypsum Wallboard Life Cycle  
Circulates within 100 miles



### multiple stakeholders, to sustainability.

Local efforts significantly reduce landfill production. Owners and developers of buildings that use GWB in a range of a project level. Meanwhile, local and regional material demand for GWB, more resilient building materials, pushing industry toward innovation and sustainability.

Local GWB is a regional material, the actions that stakeholders can take by ensuring material separation essential. When key players across the supply chain align their efforts, the potential for long-term change increases exponentially. By getting where each stakeholder has the most impact, the research highlights opportunities to reduce GWB from a major waste contributor into a more sustainable and circular building material.

**DESIGNERS/ENGINEERS**  
Designers have significant impact through material selection and specifications, as well as advocating for sustainable practices across the entire GWB life cycle.

**CONSUMERS/END USERS**  
Consumers drive the demand for sustainable and responsible building products that are durable, high-quality and easy to maintain.

**MANUFACTURERS**  
Manufacturers drive circularity by ensuring that GWB is recycled into their production cycle. Addressing the need to develop products that are more resilient and healthier for homes and workplaces.

**CONTRACTORS/TRADE**  
Contractors can help reduce waste and emissions by using GWB alternatives and demolition such as prefabrication, reuse, separation, and gypsum flow bins.

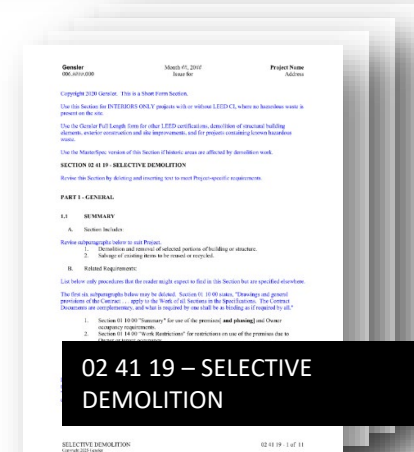
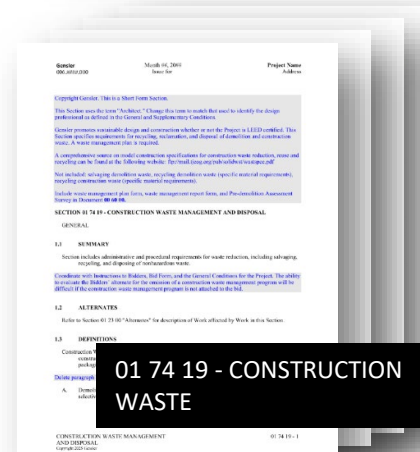
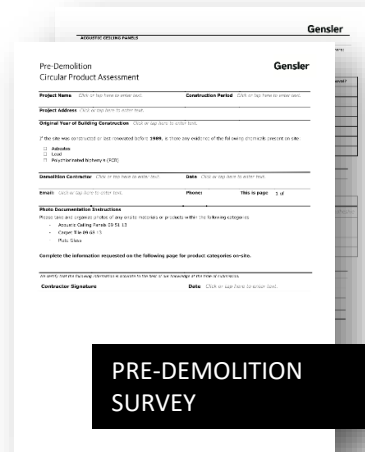
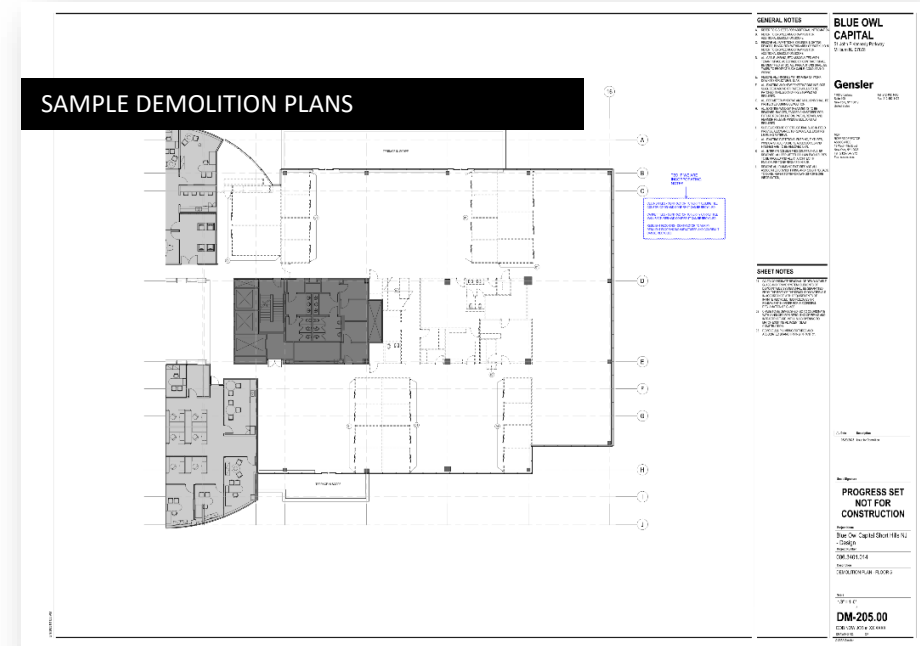
**MANUFACTURERS**  
Contractors can help reduce waste and emissions by using GWB alternatives and demolition such as prefabrication, reuse, separation, and gypsum flow bins.

# Projects + Pilots

## Waste diversion Specifications

For all projects with demolition in scope, we are piloting source separation to recover three market-ready materials :

- Acoustic ceiling panels
- Carpet tile
- Architectural glass

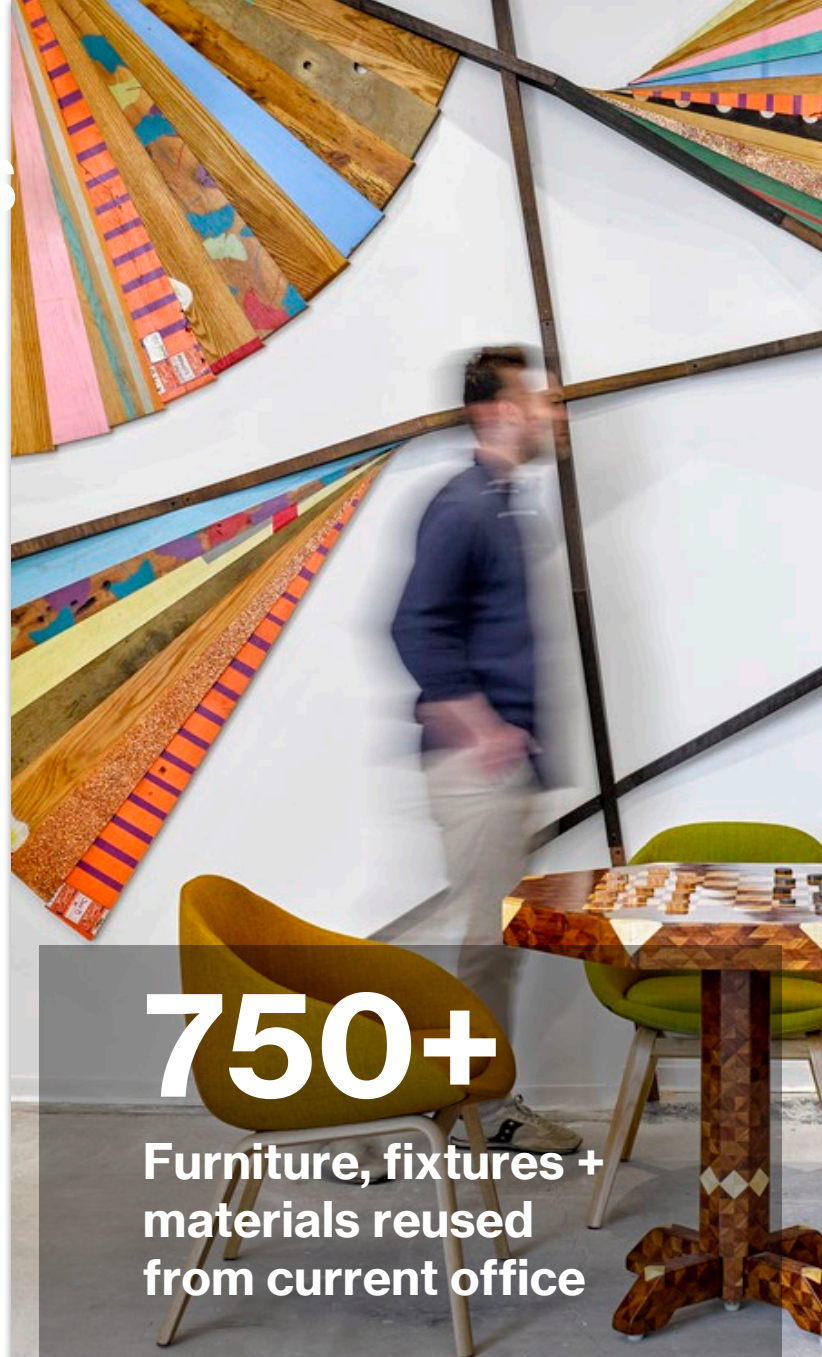


# Projects + Pilots

Etsy HQ

**800**

linear feet of NYC wood scaffolding salvaged for reuse



**750+**

Furniture, fixtures + materials reused from current office



**1,150**

Linear feet of reclaimed water tower wood salvaged from the existing building

Gensler

Thank you!



**Stephen Katz**, AIA, LEED AP BD+C  
Principal - Technical Director

# FRAMING THE DISCUSSION

**GFAB™**

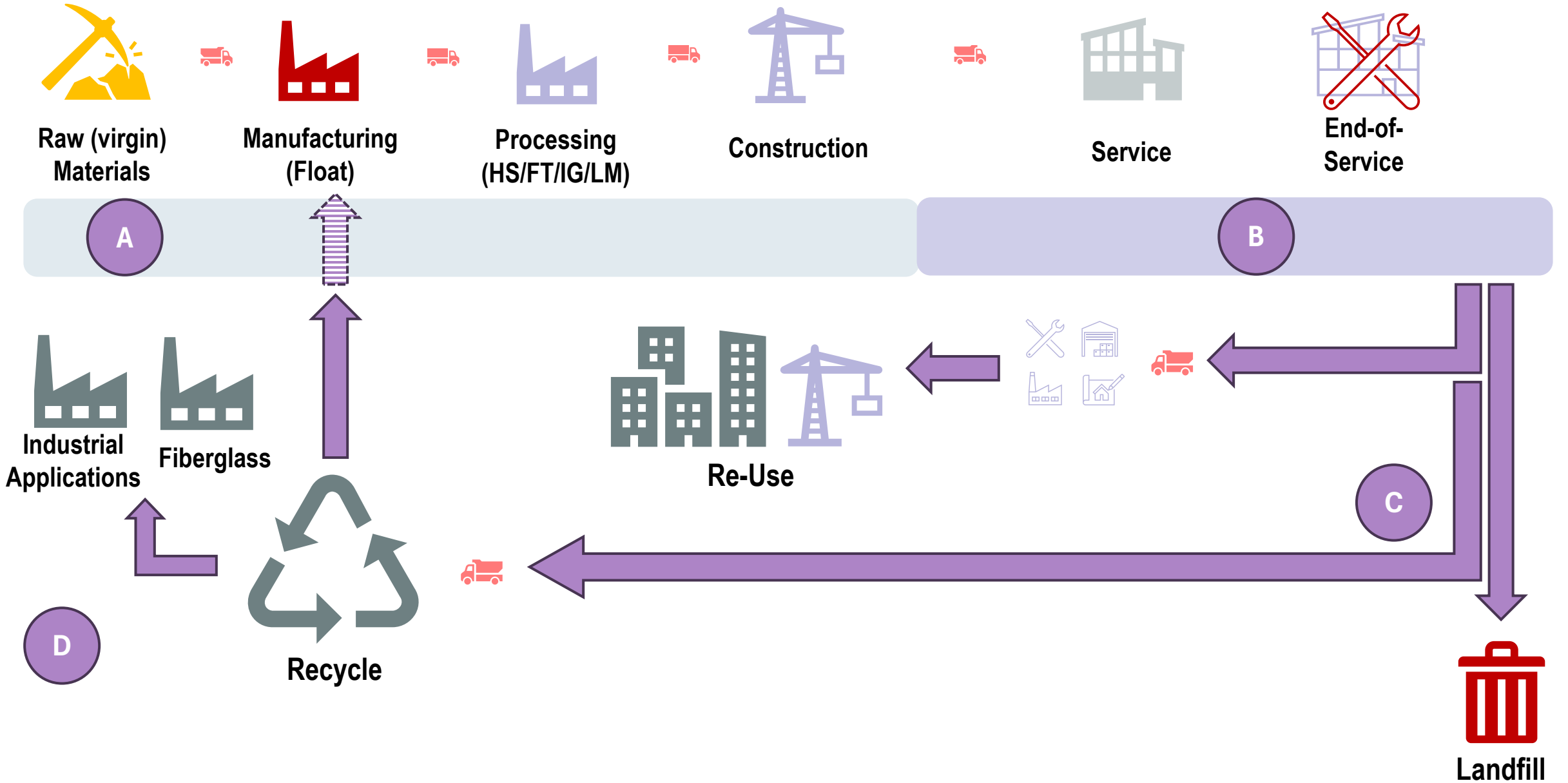
NGA Glass Fabricator Conference

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NATIONAL GLASS ASSOCIATION with GANA



# Architectural Glass Value Chain - Circularity





Glass broken on the floor  
Swept-up, loaded wheelbarrows  
Brought to our containers in  
loading dock



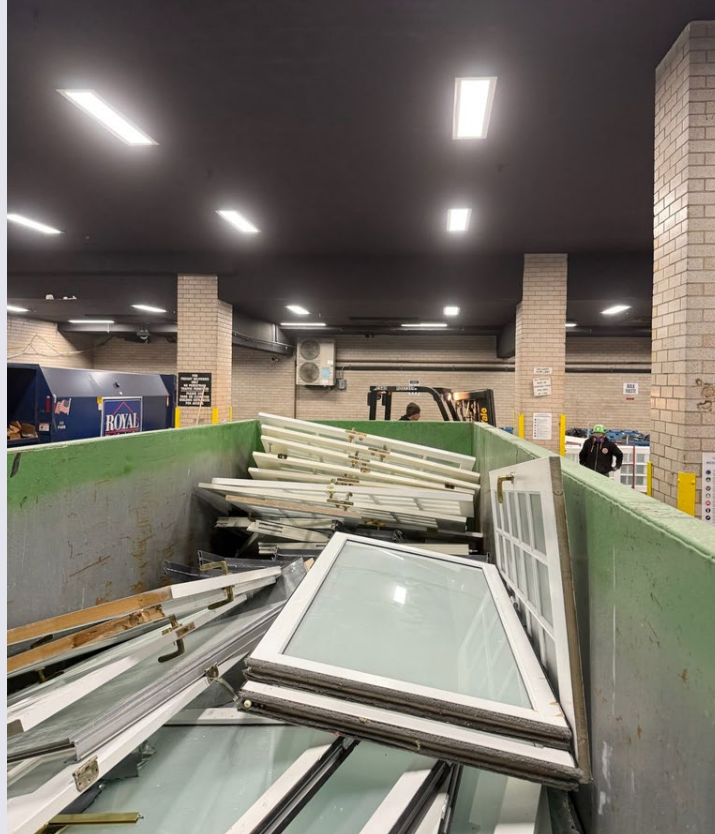
Modernization of Interiors  
Demolition of the existing interiors  
to 48-49th floors





Night-time Staging

## Loading of Doors/Windows in loading dock



Finished Product at IRT Facility



345 Park Avenue • Interior Demo of 17th Floor



# Façade Glass Recycling 1111 Westchester Avenue

White Plains, NY  
270k sf Office ---> Healthcare Reno  
(400) 60"x70" glass units

### Site Logistics:

- Caulk cut around window perimeter
- Electric Manipulator loosens, removes glass from interior
- A-frame panel truck transfers 2-3 panes glass/load to cellar staging
- Bobcat transfers 10-12 panes/scoop to Infinite-delivered 30 yd roll-off
- 30 yd roll-off transports ~200 panes, or ~20 tons glass/load to Albany for processing
- 40 tons glass recycled into fiberglass insulation



Whole Windows  
Removed  
Staged on Floors



Hauling done by Cardella  
30 yard rolloff

Full Building Demolition  
Exterior Glass Removal



1233 York Avenue - NYC

Courtesy:  
Consigli / Turner Construction Co

# 1133 Ave of the Americas, 34<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> Floor\*

Interior Office Front Glass Removal



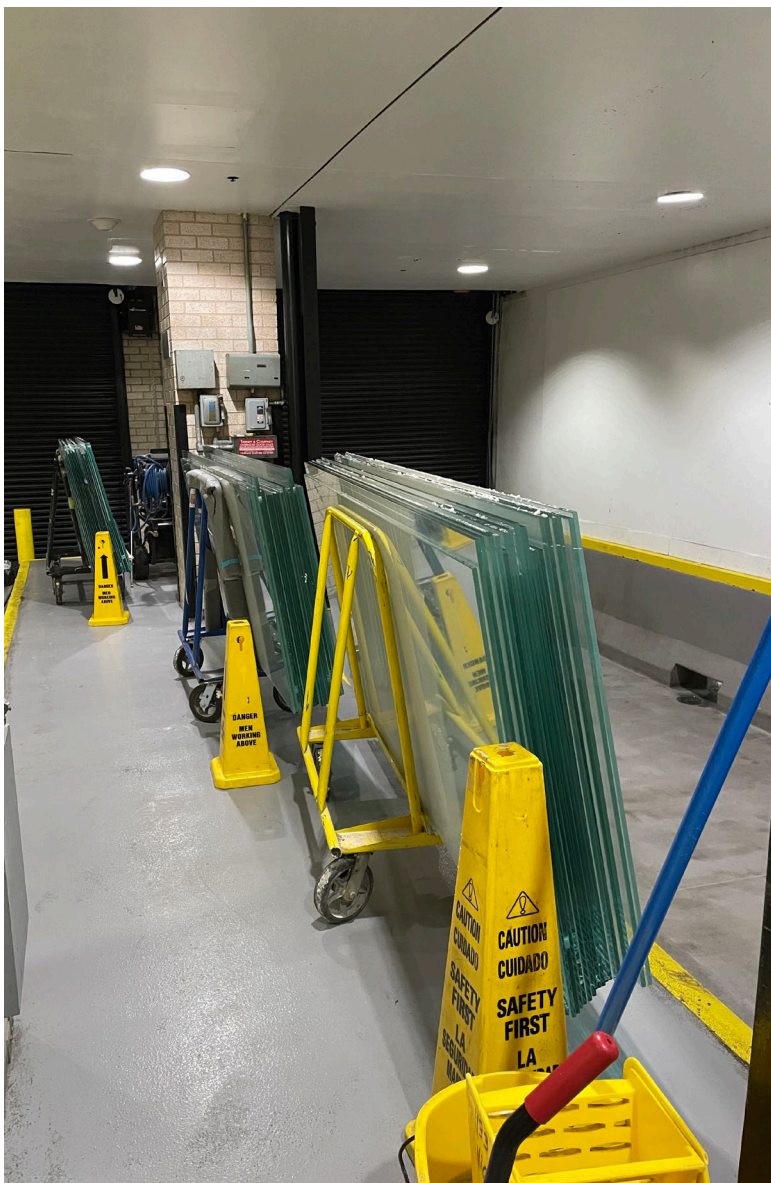
Courtesy:  
The Durst Organization



# 1133 Ave of the Americas, 34th – 35th Floors

Interior Office Front Glass Removal

Courtesy:  
The Durst Organization



**NGA**  
NATIONAL GLASS ASSOCIATION

# 1133 Ave of the Americas, 32nd Floor

## Interior Office Front Glass Removal

Courtesy:  
The Durst Organization



 Sometimes...things don't go as planned

