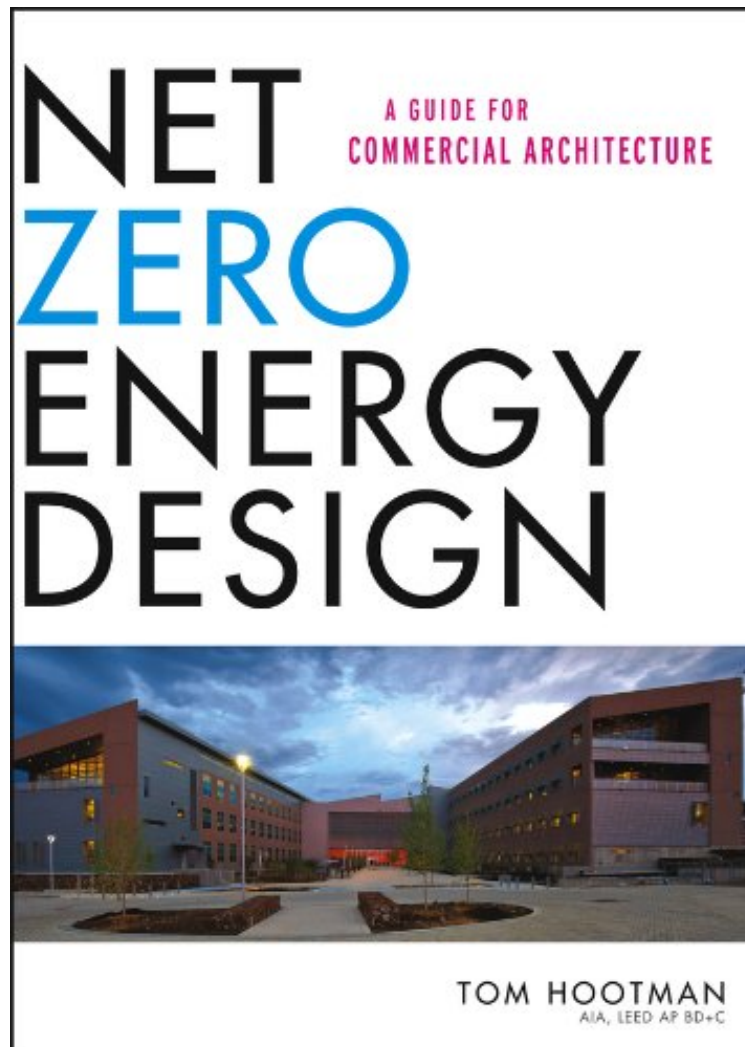


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Net Zero Energy Design: A Guide for Commercial Architecture

Thomas Hootman

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Thomas Hootman : Net Zero Energy Design: A Guide for Commercial Architecture before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Net Zero Energy Design: A Guide for Commercial Architecture:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good intro or review of recent energy efficiency strategies. A bit rudimentary, and a bit self-promoting. By ArchiMark This book is a good starting point for someone just starting to dip their toe in the topic of energy efficient design, and an excellent snapshot of a point in time in the pursuit and promotion of net zero design. It packs in a huge number of topics, which is both a positive and a negative. As a jumping off point, to make the reader aware of many different technologies and strategies, this is an excellent resource. Where it's not so great is on any in-depth investigation of any of those technologies. It's a little bit scatter-shot in its approach. For instance in the chapter introducing energy efficient building systems it jumps ahead to a fairly

involved discussion of DC micro-grids early in the chapter, long before it covers the basics of conventional systems. In using this in a teaching situation I found that the students needed a lot of additional basic information in order to understand what a DC micro-grid is, and what the conventional technology is, in order to understand why this would be beneficial. On the other hand, when covering the material of this book with an audience mostly made up of seasoned design professionals a great deal of the material was received as old-hat and very cursory. So it's difficult to pin-point who exactly this book is geared toward. It might be useful for young professionals with an architecture or engineering education but little experience - especially those studying for licensing exams. It also might be a good review for those who are a few years out of touch with the latest green technologies - although at this point this book is already a little long in the tooth on that front. The book contains many examples of energy efficient buildings and communities - I don't want to give the impression that it is solely a vehicle to promote one particular project. However, it does focus rather heavily on one particular building in Colorado, on which the author was one of the designers. This got a bit repetitive, and at times I didn't think this project was by any means the best example of the point that it was being used to illustrate. Sometimes it did seem that the author was stretching to use yet another photograph of this one project to illustrate the topic at hand, and that this was done at the expense both of clarity and of more worthy examples. It's a book that was worth reading, but not one I'm likely to return to as a resource, and also not one that's likely to stay relevant for long. In that sense it's one that I might have been better off borrowing from a library than purchasing.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic introduction and overview of NZED By En P. Junction This book's greatest strength is in its comprehensive and detailed presentation of the foundation of NZED-- more so because the author didn't use 500 pages to accomplish this task. I've read this book cover to cover but because it is comprehensive and some of the areas of NZED are not very familiar I find myself reading it again and absorbing more with each pass. Despite having the book in hard cover format I also purchase the kindle version so I can reference many of the excellent charts and figures, found through the book. This may have been written primarily for architects but it is would be very informative for anyone involved sustainable building design and construction.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By gcrexcellent resource

Conveniently organized and packed with robust technical content and clear explanations of key principles Written by an architect who is the director of sustainability at a global architecture firm, Net Zero Energy Design is a practical guide for architects and related construction professionals who want to design and build net zero energy commercial architecture. It offers no-nonsense strategies, step-by-step technical analysis, and valuable examples, in addition to developed case studies. With a focus on application in a variety of building types and scales, the book also develops a broad-based understanding of all the integrated principles involved in achieving net zero energy. This book is an indispensable resource for anyone venturing into net zero energy design, construction, and operation, and it also serves as an excellent resource on a variety of sustainable design topics. Important features include: Organization based upon the commercial building delivery process Robust technical content for use in actual project applications Analysis examples that demonstrate key technical principles Plenty of design data for use as a valuable design resource Abundant and sophisticated information graphics and color illustrations and photographs A distinct design focus on the content that inspires adoption of principles into projects

About the Author TOM HOOTMAN, AIA LEED AP BD + C, is an architect and the Director of Sustainability at RNL, a global design firm specializing in sustainable design for the built environment. Hootman provides leadership and guidance to RNL's sustainable project work, design standards, staff education, research, and outreach. Tom has worked on several net zero energy design projects, including the NREL Research Support Facility.