



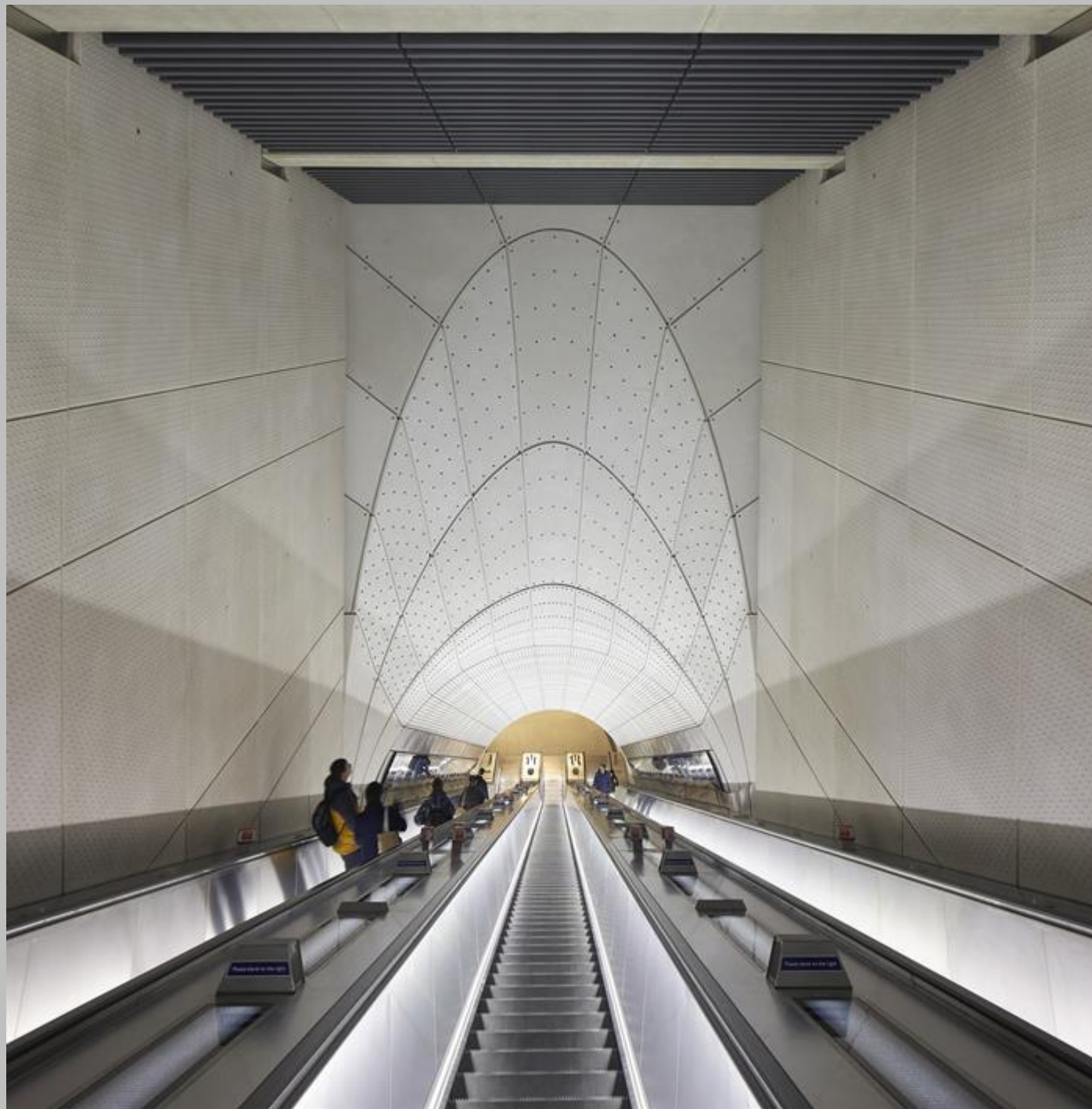
Getting RIBA approved

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**It's about safe
and informed
specifications**



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‘The safety of people in the built environment depends principally on a combination of three primary elements, good design, the choice of suitable materials and sound methods of construction, each of which depends in turn in a large measure on a fourth, the skill, knowledge and experience of those engaged in the construction industry’



And it's about your story



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Our two main concerns

1. **Non-commercial content**
2. **Specification issues addressed through three key essentials**



Three specification essentials

1. Building, fire, and life safety
2. Environmental performance
3. Product performance and information



Specification essentials

1 Building, fire and life safety

In the wake of the Building Safety Act this is crucial. We require clear and unambiguous technical information, with sufficient detail of the material and/ or products in relation to safety. Technical information needs to include the material's fire performance characteristics and its appropriateness for purpose, and compliance with statutory regulations and other legislative guidance.

All manufacturers should address the following where they pertain to the safe and informed specification of your product:

- Testing and combustibility (including the classification of materials).
- Fire performance characteristics of materials (smoke production, flaming droplets and toxicity).
- Appropriateness for purpose (including height for relevant buildings).
- Correct specification and system components.
- The pertinence of the CDM Regulations.

Statutory and regulatory compliance documents that you should refer to in relation to the safe specification of your type of product include (but are not limited to):

- Approved Document Part B (volume 1 and 2, depending on the type of building) where pertinent to the safe and informed specification of your product, citing the relevant section(s).
- BS EN 13501-1: 2018 ('Fire classification of construction products and building elements - Classification using data from reaction to fire tests').
- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
- The CDM Regulations.

The following are also useful:

- British Standard BS 9990:2015 'Non automatic fire-fighting systems in buildings. Code of practice'.
- British Standards BS 9991:2015 'Fire safety in the design, management and use of residential building. Code of practice' and BS 9999:2017 'Fire safety in the design, management and use of buildings. Code of practice'.

Some of this can be provided to us as handout or technical document information.

If yours is a safety-critical product we expect some of this content to be included in slides and not just handouts.

In 2015, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) introduced the Construction Design and Management (CDM) Regulations 2015, which cover the management of health, safety and welfare when carrying out construction projects, and which set out duties for both principal designers and designers (amongst other key duty holders).

Your delegates will need to identify and reduce risks, eliminate hazards (so far as is reasonably practicable) and inform others about any significant residual risks. They therefore require key information specific to the product, and its application, installation requirements and maintenance.

Specification essentials

2 Environmental performance

CPD providers that are manufacturers or suppliers must provide information on the environmental impact of their products and how, where applicable, this information would assist in meeting or exceeding minimum standards set out in regulatory and policy compliance, achieving net zero and thermal efficiencies and comfort. Conversely, is there a negative impact? And if so, how is this mitigated?

What we are looking for is technical information about the impact and performance of the product: a slide or handout should be included to discuss this. Issues to consider include where relevant the contribution towards net zero and thermal comfort, material sources, the manufacturing process, recycling, reuse, end of life options/disposal, and considerations related to the relevant approved documents. We are NOT looking for your internal company policies or your achievement of ISO 19001. We are looking for product-led certificates, not organisation-wide certification.

Your audience possesses knowledge and skills in climate design, and of working towards net zero. They know the difference between operational and embodied energy, what carbon emissions are, and what the construction industry's impact is. Architects also have access to and know about shared standards and certification schemes such as Passivhaus, LEED and BREEAM. Then there are common, shared approaches to building physics, overheating avoidance, thermal comfort, and more. They have at hand a range of complex and sophisticated construction industry specific carbon calculation and progress tools. One example comes from [UKGBC](#) NBS also offers guidance on tools [as a download](#).

Your contribution to this is through the specifics pertinent to your product.

Provide Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), with explanations, as handouts. Refer (in either the presentation or handouts you send us) to the following as they apply to the informed specification of your type of product, depending on the product:

- Approved Document F: 'Ventilation'.
- Approved Document H: 'Drainage and waste disposal'.
- Approved Document Part L: 'Conservation of fuel and power'.
- Approved Document O: 'Overheating'.

Consideration could also be given (where applicable) to achievement of these as they apply to the specification and use of your product:

- BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method).
- LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

For information, [RIBA's 2030 Climate Challenge](#) targets have been developed in consultation with industry experts and UK professional bodies from across the built environment industries. The targets are related to:

- Operational energy.
- Embodied carbon.
- Potable water use.
- Health and well-being.

Specification essentials

3 Product information and performance

Detailed technical and specification information should be made available so delegates fully comprehend the suitability of the material and/ or products, and their application and any unintended consequences resulting from incorrect application or specification of the material and/ or products or supporting products.

The following are examples of evidence that could be considered as part of a CPD submission's handouts and documentation. With safety-critical products, these should be referenced in the content as well.

Performance standards and requirements.

- Independently prepared test results (especially fire) and their written interpretation.
- Testing and certification proof from BBA and other testing bodies.
- Maintenance issues that would impact on design or long-term use.
- Installation information such as installation and handling manuals, which might also reference how the product could fail.
- Other Building Regulations and standards compliance relevant to the specification of your product. With standards, indicate if these are UK, EN or both.
- Environmental Product Declarations (EPD's), which should be currently valid, and which should indicate if they are internally or externally prepared.
- The details of third-party verification of CE marking.
- NBS Source specifications relating to this product.



Don't forget the evidence documents

NBS Source specifications. If these are unavailable, then:

- Independently prepared test results (especially fire)
- Evidence of any CE marking
- Testing and certification proof from recognised testing bodies.
- Installation information such as installation and handling manuals.
- Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)



What do we need?

Full presentation

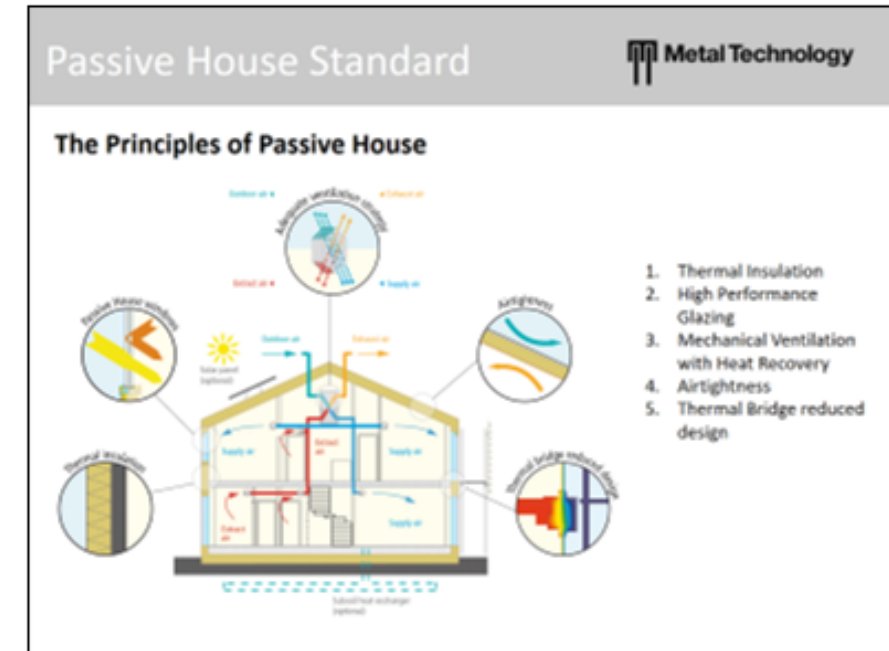
Full speaker's notes

Time stamped script

(if submitting a video)

Handouts

(when used as evidence)



For a building to be considered Passive House, it must meet the following criteria:

Thermal Insulation:

Passive House has a continuous insulated thermal envelope that ensures the building stays warm during the winter months and keeps the heat out during summer months.

High Performance Glazing:

The windows and doors used in Passive House are highly insulated frames combined with high performance triple glazed units. These ensure a warm, draught free building in the winter and allow the building to benefit from winter solar gains. A common misconception is that Passive House windows are not to be opened. This is a myth. During the summer months its common to open windows to purge any heat build-up. Although this is optional, most of the time it isn't required due to the MVHR system providing ample fresh air throughout.

Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery:

With an airtight construction it is important that a Passive House is consistently supplied with fresh air. This is performed by the mechanical ventilation and heat recovery system. In hotter days, a nighttime purge ventilation strategy is used to combat overheating.

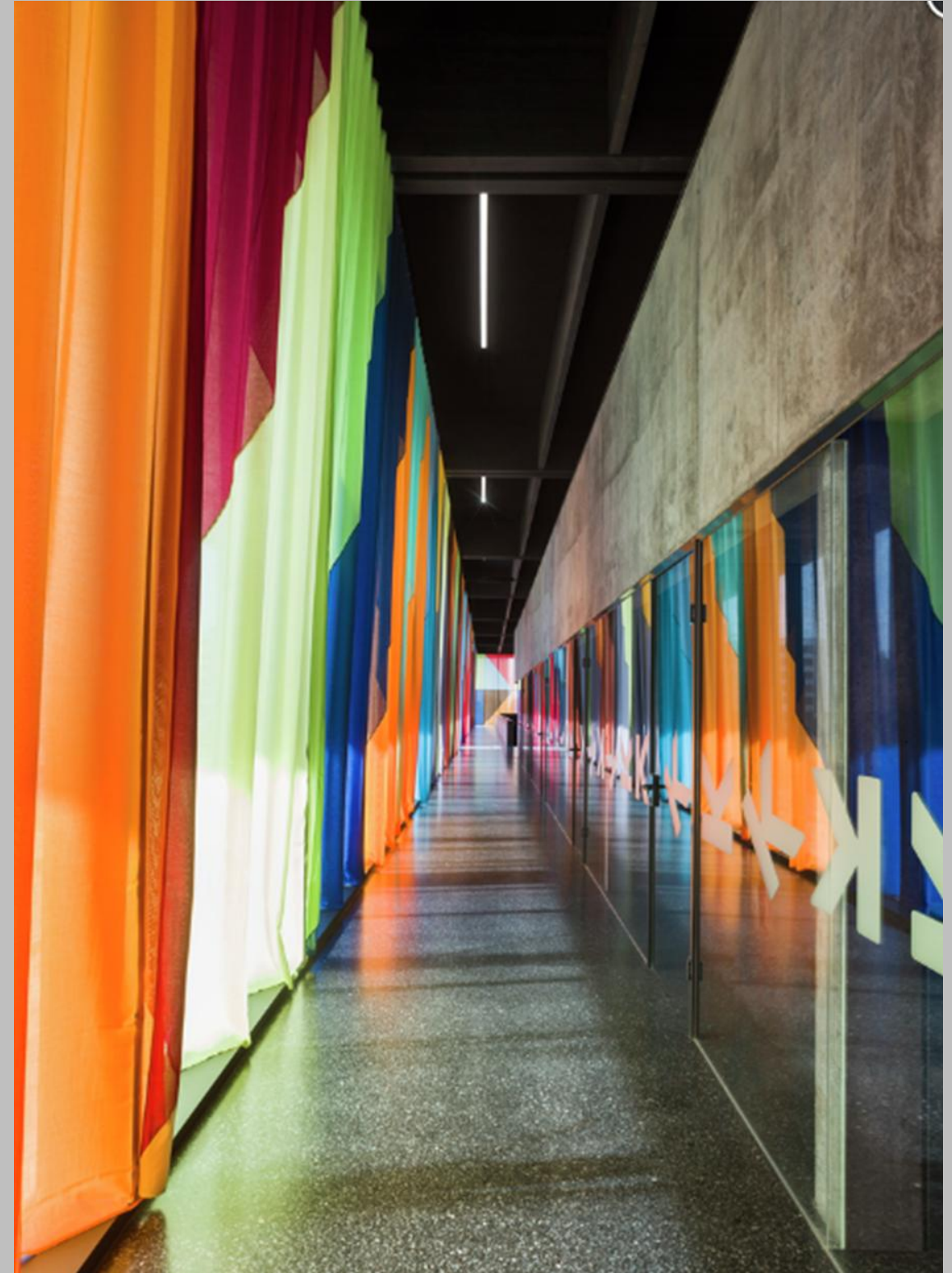
Airtightness:

The building will have a continuous airtight barrier protecting it from air leakage, heat losses and improves overall thermal comfort. UK regulations allow air leakage of the equivalent area of a 20p coin per m2 of fabric. Passive House allows equivalent of 5p coin per 5m2 of fabric. Correct installation of membranes is critical in achieving this level of performance.

Thermal Bridge reduced design:

Passive House aims to be thermal bridge free or minimise any occurrence of thermal bridges. This prevents potential building damage, lowers heat demand and improves overall building performance.

Last minute tips for engagement



Great photos

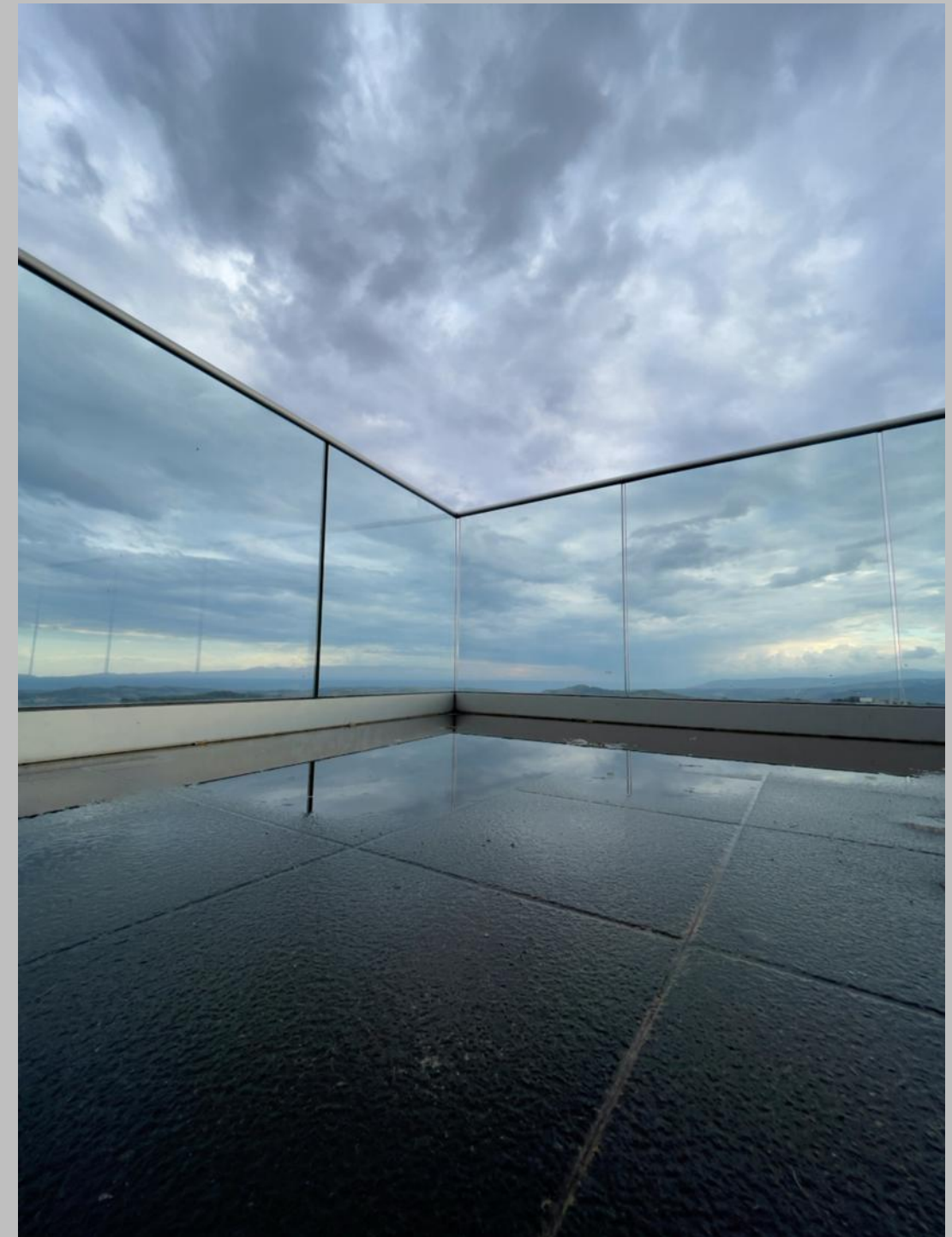
Clean screens

Case histories are valuable


Try to include interaction

Shorter titles are better

Good description



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Joni Tyler

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Good afternoon, Joni!

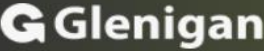
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Thank you

We look forward to receiving your submissions.

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