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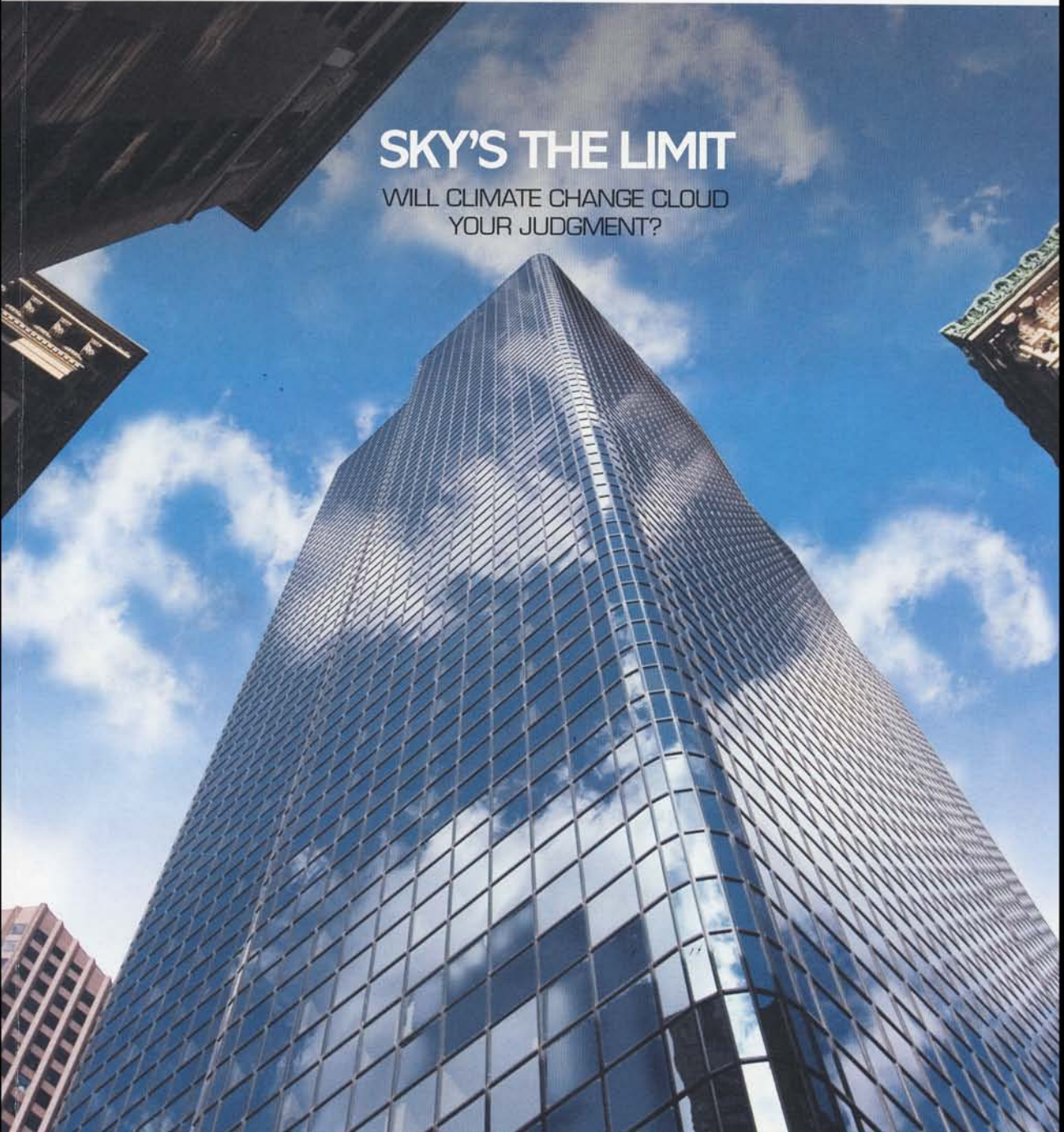


sustain'

BUILT ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

SKY'S THE LIMIT

WILL CLIMATE CHANGE CLOUD
YOUR JUDGMENT?





Perrine's Prefabulous Pod

After almost 20 years of work in sustainable residential design and development, Australian architect Jean-mic Perrine has created a revolutionary housing concept for the 21st century. The Perrinepod is a ready-made pod-home that can be stacked into an instant apartment block.

The simple yet stylish design is a welcome challenge to traditional housing-design and construction techniques. Perrine said: "Living spaces have become as transient and irrelevant as clothes. It's no longer a look for a generation: the look of 'now' only lasts for a three- to four year period. That approach is not sustainable and people are putting themselves under a lot of unnecessary pressure trying to keep up. The Perrinepod is the antithesis of all that - simple design and beautiful materials that will remain classic."

The instantly liveable, fuss-free, fully self-contained housing unit can simply be placed on a block and plugged in to water and electricity supply.

Clients can express how they want the pod to look and make adjustments including the selection of fittings and room layouts. Once design requirements have been expressed, the pod takes just 30 days to deliver and can be put up in just a few days.

Perrine commented: "The real benefit of the Perrinepod is that you put in your order, a few weeks later it arrives on a truck and within two days it's fully up. You don't have to do anything."

The Perrinepod is extremely flexible and can be used as a single dwelling unit placed on top of an existing building or stacked to create an apartment block up to 30 storeys high. If you feel one pod is not enough for you, you can simply order another unit, plug it in to the existing one, or stack it on top.

Design of the Perrinepod is also extremely environmentally conscious, and based on the premise of bringing a house back to its most simple form. Built from modulated and aerated concrete panels with R3.0 plus rated insulation, the highest level awarded, it is extremely energy-efficient. Solar blades on the windows control the entry of sunlight in winter, and cut it out in summer, and the building floats above the ground which gives it another level of thermal insulation and cross ventilation.

The electrics and plumbing are pre-ducted into the structure, and there is a solar hot water and water-recycling system, as well as just one plug-in point and control panel for all the services.

Perrinepods come in three sizes: one-, two- and three-bedroom, and are made from polished precast concrete, aluminium and glass on the exterior. Perrinepod's standard colours are grey and white, but the concrete can be toned to any natural pigment, including black and shades of brown.

Its pod-like looks are enhanced by a lack of joins and sharp corners. The homes can be erected very easily, and they are adaptable enough to suit any landscape. It is hard enough to withstand all climates and is earthquake and cyclone proof.

Perrine concluded: "It's not a 'look at me' statement, but a home that is comfortable, sustainable, stylish and above all functional."