



Echo Studio

architecture & sustainability consultation

Philosophy

Echo Studio draws its name from the analogy of sound waves – a reverberation of things past which persist through the present and into the future.

Our inspiration comes from history and precedent to find applications for both traditional and new technologies in order to produce buildings with a special vibrancy & relevance.

High-performance: Not easy being green

At its core, Echo Studio strives to uphold sustainable, energy-efficient, & socially-conscious principles.

We reduce the environmental footprint of our projects by exceeding local standards and codes, as well as more stringent standards such as the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Star for homes, the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), and Architecture 2030.

Echo Studio's multidisciplinary team brings design and engineering professionals together with clients early on – from client consultation to energy modeling to construction administration – we plan carefully, and deliver great, high-performance buildings which work with their environment rather than against.

Engaging urbanity

We strive to make the best possible conditions out of the most challenging sites, rather than choosing the easy ones.
Echo Studio chooses to work in urban places.

Echo Studio: A work in progress

Echo Studio is less a business, a place, or group of people than a product of a time and place, a set of values in the making, shaped by things greater than us.

Our team

Dave Hampton, Architect, LEED AP
Owner and Principal

With fourteen years of experience, Dave has participated in every stage of design, client interaction, construction documentation, & construction administration for project types ranging from historic preservation, restoration, adaptive reuse, residential, commercial, institutional, religious, and governmental.

Dave holds a B. Arch in 1995 from Virginia Tech, is licensed in Illinois and North Carolina, a LEED Accredited Professional since 2004, and has helped lead the effort to recognize deconstruction as an alternative to demolition in Chicagoland since 2006.

Completed past projects include \$6 million of construction for the City of Chicago's prototype Senior Satellite Centers, the state-of-the-art and historically sensitive 180,000 SF Field Museum of Natural History Collections Resource Center, the Family Restoration Facility for Children's Group Home of North Carolina, several residential additions and renovations, commercial interiors, sustainable master plans, and a rooftop garden.

Consultants:

George Sullivan, Eco Smart Building
Mechanical, electrical, & plumbing engineering
Thermal and energy transfer consultant

Louis Shell, Louis Shell Structures, Inc.
Structural engineering consultant

Michael Repkin, Repkin Biosystems
Biological, landscape consultant

Echo Studio

Achieving high-performance, energy-efficient buildings and much more.

Echo Studio

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High-performance, energy-efficient buildings do not happen by accident.

Echo Studio considers a design challenge holistically rather than in bits and pieces, helping clients make sound decisions based on facts rather than rules-of-thumb or guesswork, and insuring **sustainable success**.

Great, inspiring design is a matter of course. We go further, insuring high-performance by:

ANALYZING - document existing conditions and create an energy model.

TESTING - run various scenarios including orientation, glazing, power demands, etc.

VERIFYING - 3rd party energy rater attests to the performance of the completed building to insure it operates as designed.



Attainable sustainable

The **Bronzeville Rehab** converted a neglected 1890s building in a historic Chicago neighborhood into a single-family home with realistic energy-efficient features such as hydronic heat, upgraded windows and doors, and an advanced thermal envelope. Exceeds the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Star and IECC standards by nearly 90%. Energy bills were slashed by over 90%.

SERVICES

Architectural & design-build services

From visioning & conceptualization to pricing & permit drawings to construction administration.

Deconstruction consultation

Growing alternative to demolition offers tax incentives to clients, saves valuable materials.

Design for disassembly

Building design which maximizes reuse of components & materials, limits impact on environment.

Energy modeling

Basis for analyzing & testing concepts and scenarios such as glazing, shading, renewables.

Green feasibility assessment & planning

Facilities analysis & planning for the implementation of sustainable concepts and techniques.

Green roofs & architectural agriculture

Design and implementation of building-integrated food production, including plant selection.

High-performance, energy-efficient buildings

Proven track record delivering buildings that exceed state & federal energy-efficiency standards.

Landscape & biological consultation

Specialist in biological resource recovery, sustainable food production, & bioremediation.

LEED & Energy Star implementation

Accredited professional services incl. plan review, feasibility study, and full consultation.

Living walls

Cost-effective, beautiful vegetated panel systems improve indoor air quality, treat wastewater.

What are high-performance buildings?

We define them as achieving 50% better than Energy Star standards without the need for renewables, which traditionally have a considerable return-on-investment period.

What's the big deal with high-performance?

Does it matter that much?

Ask the bank. A lending agency is more likely to give a construction loan to a team that has a proven record exceeding energy efficiency standards. Why? Because of proven market & resale value.

Not sure about high-performance, but I do want a green building.

Without first insuring a superior, efficient building envelope, all the eco-bells & whistles won't help... it will be a "green" building in name only, rather than a truly sustainable one.



No mistake on the lake

Suites on the Lake demonstrates a simple, straightforward approach to improving building envelope performance.

To upgrade this 26-unit condo on Lake Michigan, Echo Studio produced easy-to-follow details and specifications tailor-made to suit existing conditions. Adaptable to several window configurations, the need for time-consuming coordination between general contractor, owner, and design team was eliminated.