

## BUILDING PERFORMANCE. CONNECTED.



## The Power of Existing Buildings

## THE POWER OF EXISTING BUILDINGS

SAVE MONEY, IMPROVE HEALTH, AND REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS



"High-performance buildings are key to achieving the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Most of today's buildings will still be in use in 2050... as shown in this book, the capability to meet the challenge exists today."

Scott Foster, Director, Sustainable Energy United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

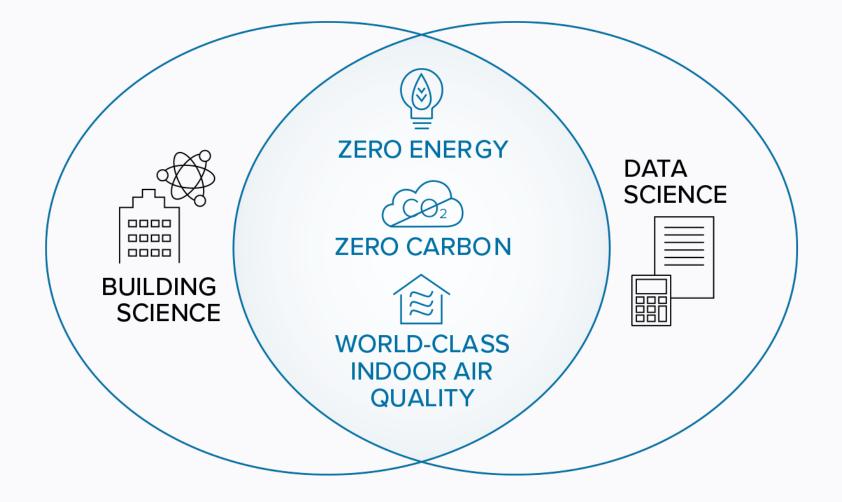
2022 "Environmental Book of the Year"

Academy of Management – Organizations and the Natural Environment Division



## An Affordable Path to Zero Anything...

... requires both building science and data science





## Efficiency Follows an Order of Operations

## Natural Order of Sustainability

Strategies to cost-effectively drive to ultra-low energy consumption



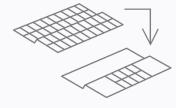
Optimize passive performance



**Reduce size** 

of active

systems



Minimize costs for renewable energy

Passive first

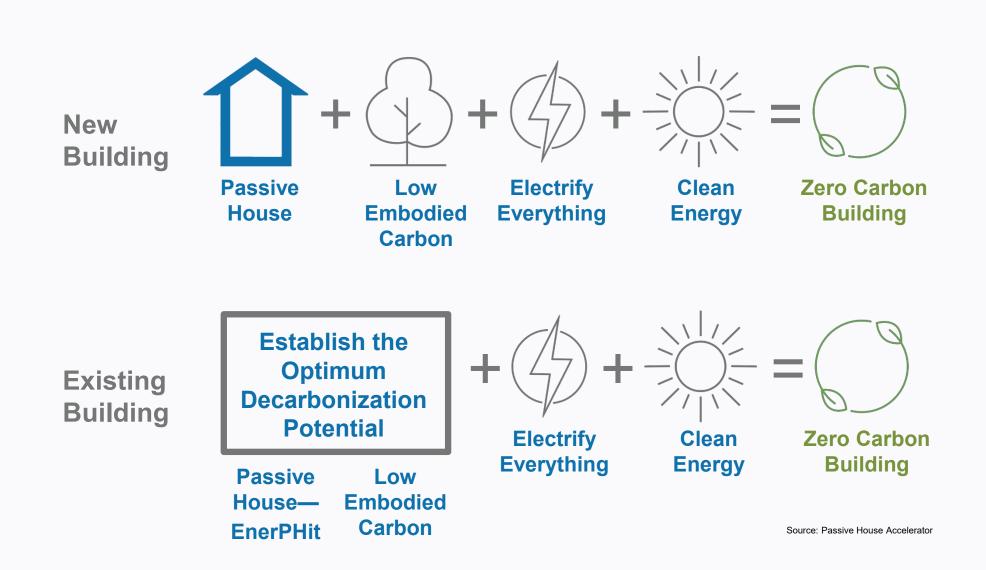
Active second

**Renewables last** 



## Natural Order of Decarbonization...

... must begin with efficiency





## When is Enough, Enough?



"I will be renovating my building, and my company has goals for energy and/or carbon, but I don't know how to optimize performance gains against costs expended. How do I achieve as much as possible for as little as possible?"



When the juice is no longer worth the squeeze.



Steps to Decarbonize an Existing Building

How Buildings are commonly decarbonized

1. Compare Current Performance to Historical Energy Performance (Maybe only 1 year)

2. Compare Current Performance to Similar Buildings

Issues with this approach:

- Change / Difference in Occupancy
- Annual Weather Difference

Why not compare the current performance with how the building was designed to perform?

## Steps to Decarbonize an Existing Building $\operatorname{constant}$

### 1. Gather Information

Metric-based goals and targets for building performance Hourly energy consumption or utility bills MEP systems inventory Smart Building Infrastructure assessment Systems & equipment triggers & sequences

2. Create an Operational Model

Calibrated physics-based performance model

## 3. Create an Optimum Model

Test ECM's using the Operational Model to identify the whole-building decarbonization potential

### 4. Create The Decarbonization Plan (Step Models)

Select ECMs respecting building goals, construction costs, and triggers & sequences and create phased models for deployment

5. Operationalize the Performance Models

Connect building science to data science

## 

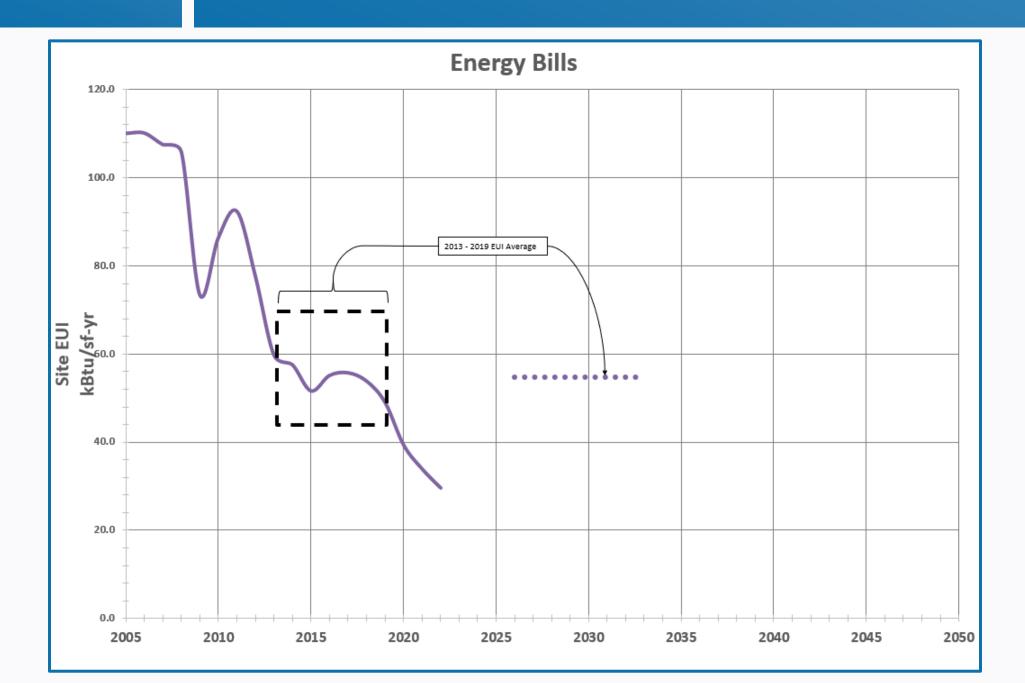
## **Project Example**

- 500,000 ft<sup>2</sup> / 4 Story Office Building
- Facing potential regulatory fines (BERDO Massachusetts)
- 3 current tenant spaces / one is unoccupied
- Mechanicals are at End of Life
- Goals of project are to merge natural triggers and avoid any fines



## **Gather Utility Information**

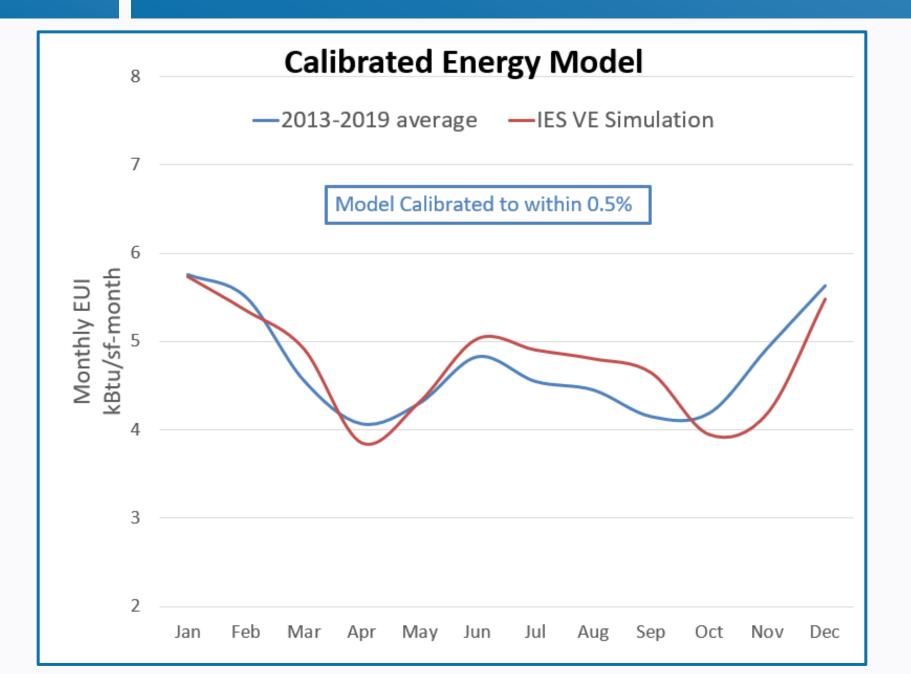
Find an average (normalize vacancy)





## Calibrate the Physics-based Performance Model

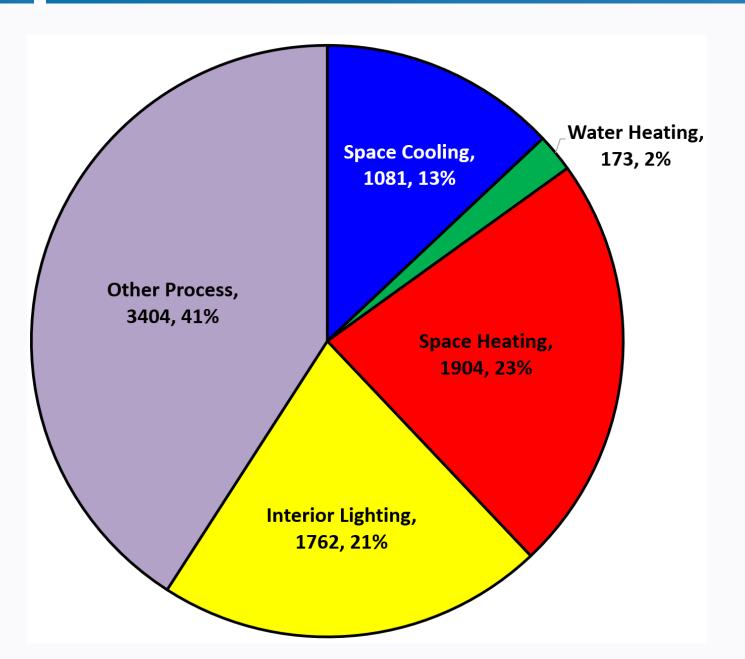
Strive to calibrate the model to < 1%





## Test ECMs and Bundles of ECMs

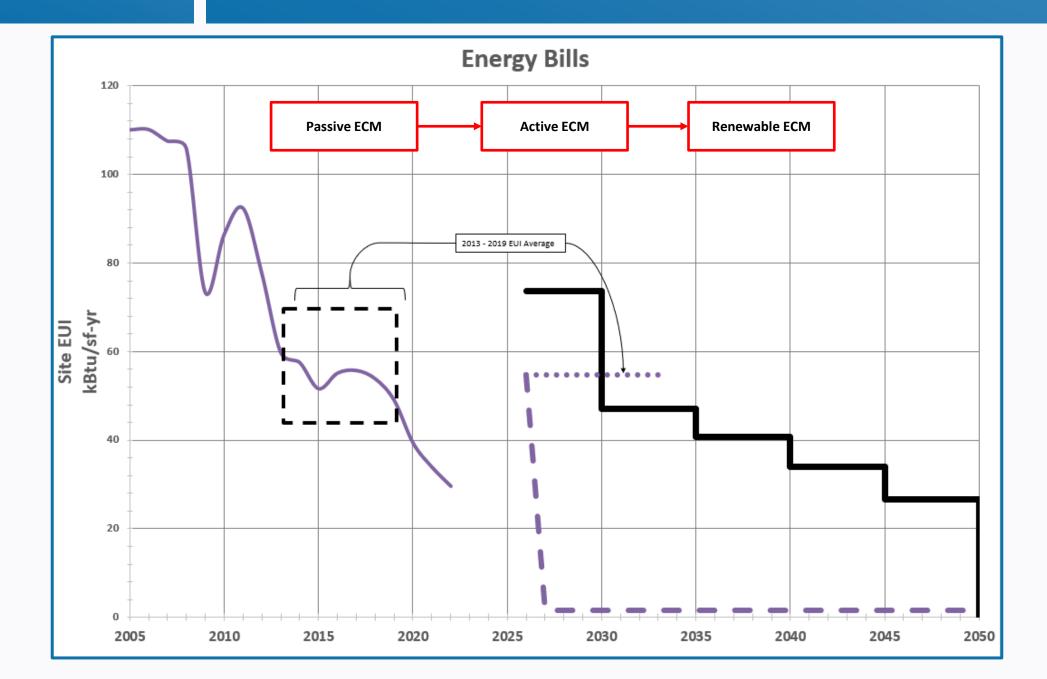
Passive First – Active Second – Renewables Last





## Test ECMs and Bundles of ECMs

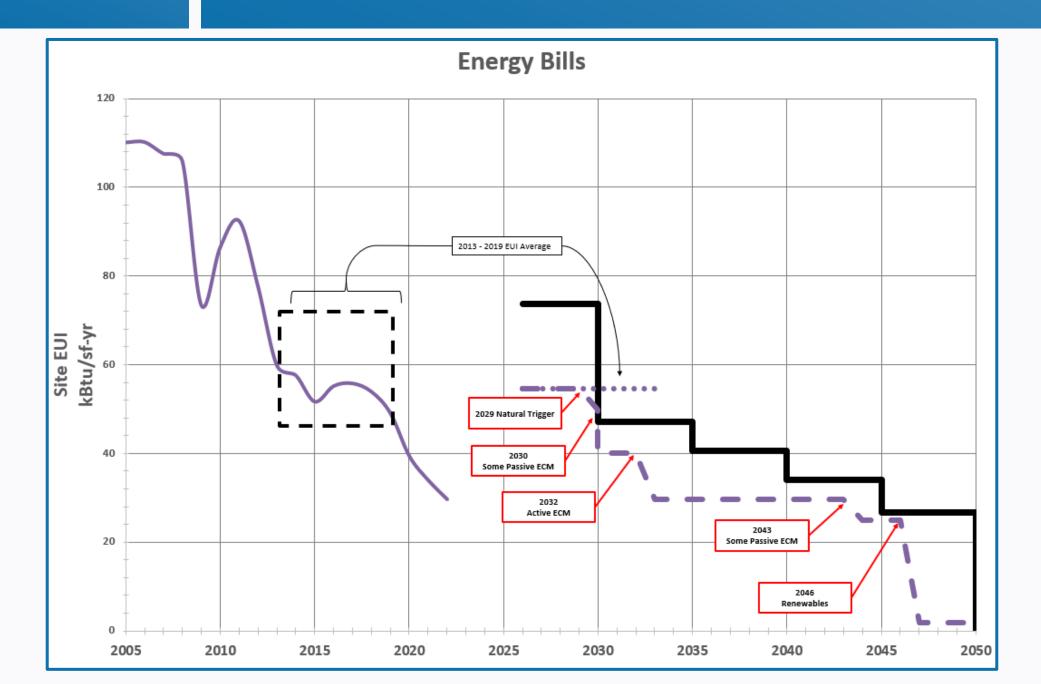
Passive First – Active Second – Renewables Last





## Visualize Whole-Building Performance

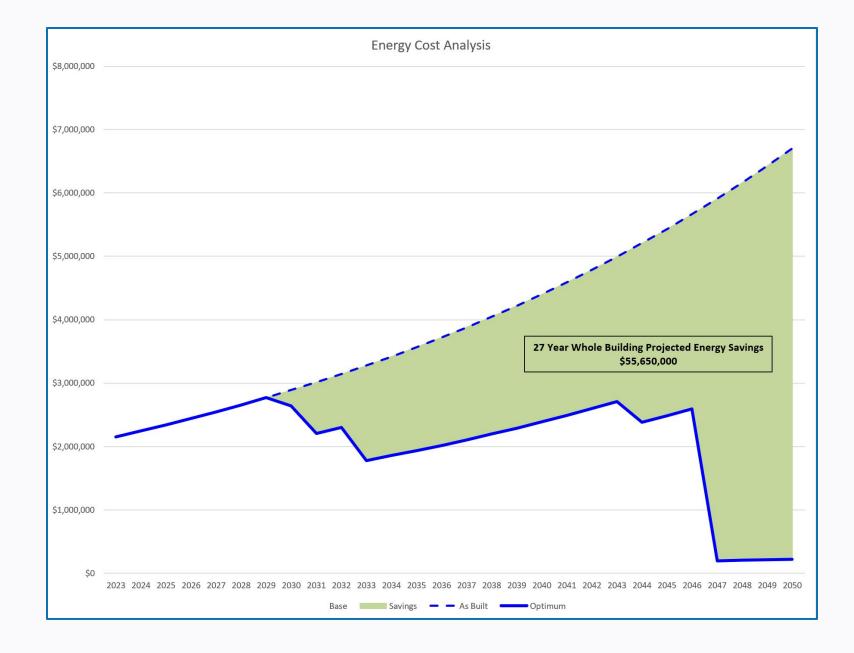
Against the context of building goals & targets and governmental regulations





## Visualize Whole-Building Performance

#### Assess potential financial savings with relationship to step approach



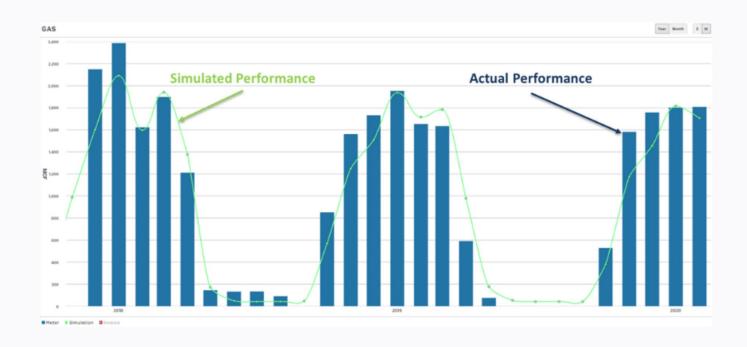


# Integrated Simulation

## Integrated Digital Twin



Physics-based simulation provides predicted performance context for trended data



Building owners want to know: "Did I get what I paid for?"



## Q&A

AUROS Group Craig Stevenson 412-506-6777 craig.stevenson@aurosgroup.com linkedIn.com/in/craigestevenson

#### **AUROS Group**

Matt Bowers 412-506-6777 matthew.bowers@aurosgroup.com linkedin.com/in/matthew-t-bowers







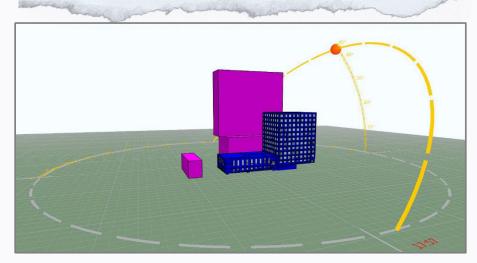
## Change the Process

## Metrics, Not Narratives

#### What will owners measure in operations? What defines success?

- Set metrics-based goals
- ✤ Align team to goals
- Open-source simulation to spin scenarios until we reach the highest performance at the lowest cost.

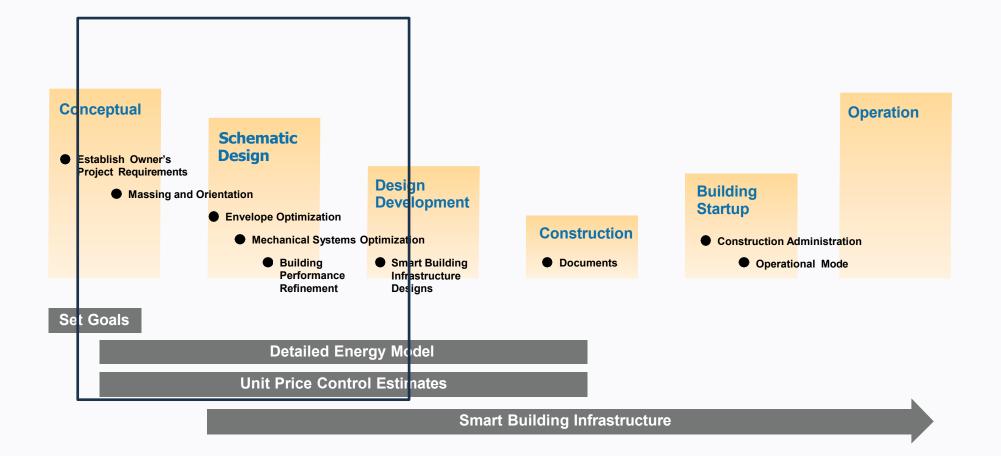
Evidence-based goals [Select your programs] 14 kBtu/sf/yr
14 kBtu/sf/vr
14 kBtu/sf/vr
14 kBtu/sf/vr
Offset annual energy consumption to Zero Energy
0.05 cfm/gross sf shell @50Pa
< 12 µg/m3
< 0.4 mg/m3 (< 400 µg/m3)
< 600 ppm
Monitored
Monitored
< 9 ppm
< 51 ppb
< 50 µg/m3
< 0.148 Bq/L [4 pCi/L] in the lowest occupied level
PH Compliance





## Zero Energy/Zero Carbon

Low/No cost solutions come during SD/DD using simulation





## Summary

**Energy** – In every California climate tested, Passive House squeezes out additional consumption.

**Renewables** – the path to zero is easier and cheaper with Passive House certification.

Thermal Comfort -- Passive House is also a comfort standard.

#### **Balanced Ventilation**

- Indoor Air Quality
- Odor Control
- Occupant Comfort

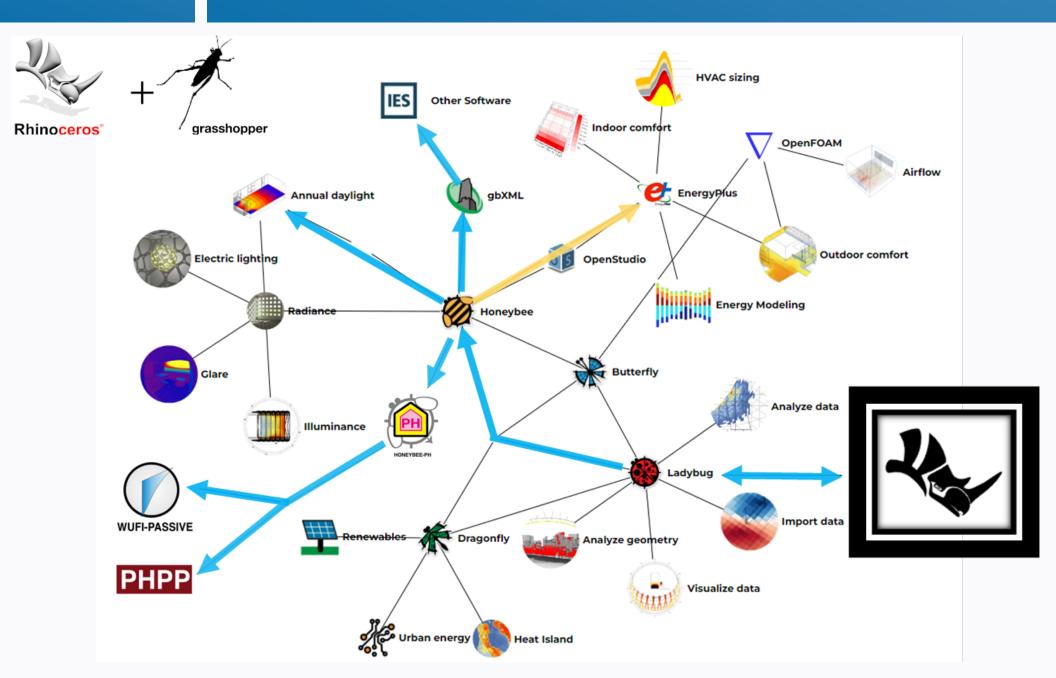
#### Air Tightness

- Long term building assembly durability
- Should not cost more, it is mainly craftsmanship
- Systems work better
- Consistent temperatures
- Dramatically improved acoustics
- Smoke tight building



## Create the Physics-based Performance Model

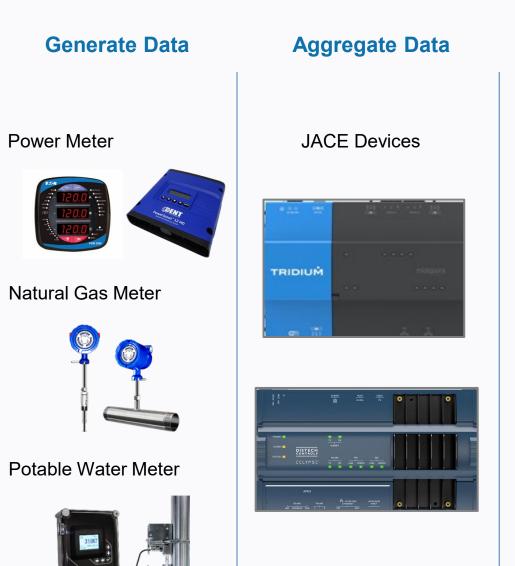
#### Work Smarter, Not Harder





Control Your Building Data





#### Manage Data

Time-Series Data Intake & Normalization

Data Storage Historian

Unified User Interface -Visualization & GIS

#### **Use Cases**

Data Analytics -Decarbonization & CO2e Accounting

Operationalize Physics-based Simulation -Monitoring-based Commissioning -Whole-Building Decarbonization Plan -Fault Detection & Diagnostics



Building Performance During Building Life-cycle

## The Operational Value

### **Integrated Digital Twin**

- Monitoring-based Commissioning
- Interrogation-base Commissioning
- Advanced Analytics Testing
- Independent and Proprietary Data Layer Agnostic

