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Italy's Intelligent Educational Training Station

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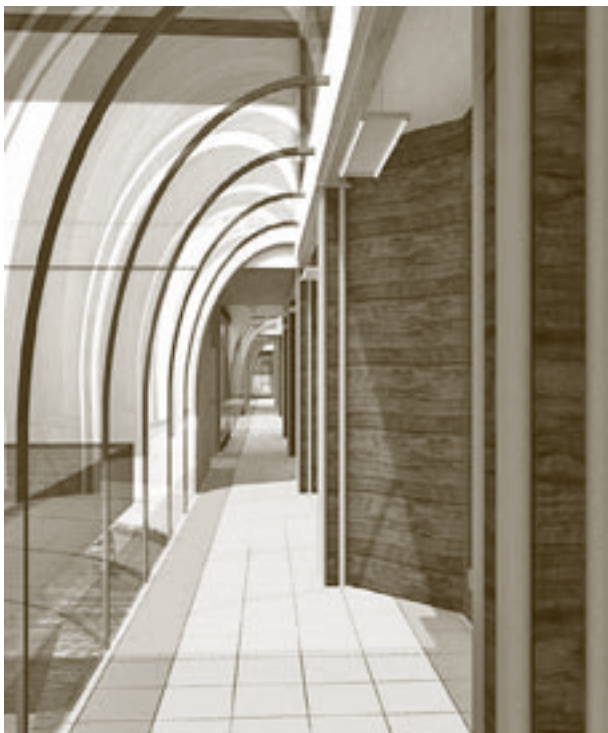
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ITALY'S INTELLIGENT EDUCATIONAL TRAINING STATION

The Intelligent Educational Training Station has been developed in Italy to meet emerging school building needs. The project, for schools from the primary to upper secondary level, proposes flexible architecture for an "intelligent school" network, and was developed by CISEM, the Centre for Educational Innovation and Experimentation of Milan.

The Intelligent Educational Training Station (IETS) bases the design of new school buildings on flexible learning modules and introduces innovative systems of energy savings, computer integrated building and bio-architecture. The IETS originated from CISEM's earlier Intelligent School Building project.

The basic component of the Intelligent Educational Training Station is the learning module. The module consists of an octagonal space measuring 47.5 m², a 17 m² corridor and two storage areas, both of which are highly flexible and adaptable to different uses. The learning module can easily be converted into classrooms or laboratories, and two or more modules can be combined to create spaces of different sizes.



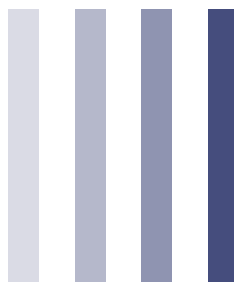
A future Intelligent Educational Training Station expected to cost EUR 9 500 000



The design allows teachers to decide how learning areas should be organised. At the beginning of each academic year, they choose the number and arrangement of classrooms, of laboratories, and of rooms for small, medium-sized and large groups.

The IETS can offer solutions to a number of problems that schools encounter with their building programme. Specifically the project can:

- Provide rooms on a temporary basis during a building renovation.
- Offer rapid construction of large or small intelligent school buildings.
- Introduce a new design and teacher input into school architecture.
- Reduce capital investment and current maintenance expenditure.





A primary school for 800 pupils equipped with an auditorium, a canteen, a small gym and an indoor stadium



The construction cost of the Intelligent Educational Training Station is approximately EUR 1 000 per square metre.

All components of the IETS project are state-of-the-art, and special attention is given to the role of school buildings in local disaster management policy.

The IETS project has recently been tested in the planning of building programmes in several Italian towns.

The term “station” was chosen for this project to emphasise the primary role that educational architecture must play: enable the school to act as a centre within its local community and to serve as a point of exchange for the larger, permanent educational network.

For further information, consult the Web site:

www.n2d.it/isb

or contact

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JOINEDUPDESIGN-FORSCHOOLS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

“The problem was, there was too much concrete, it was dull, boring and uninviting. I was amazed when I saw all this. Now, when I see kids playing here and having fun, I think, I did something to make this happen. I feel proud.”

14-year-old client team member, Islington Green School

Outdoor social space project

Joinedupdesignforschools explores how good design can improve the quality of life in schools by listening to the voices of the clients: pupils. The programme is an initiative in the United Kingdom that joins client teams

of pupils with the country’s leading design practices to provide solutions for practical improvements in schools, to highlight the benefits of a close partnership between the design industry and schools, and to develop pupils’ life skills.

The scheme has proved an immensely valuable research exercise, identifying common issues that pupils have with their schools. These range from the need for dedicated social space and inspiring learning areas to civilised dining spaces, safe, vandal-proof toilets, and modern, comfortable school uniforms.

The programme was created by The Sorrell Foundation. John Sorrell, a co-founder, presented joinedupdesignforschools at the PEB conference “Creating 21st Century Learning Environments” in London in 2004. “Children are the consumers of education. They know what’s good and bad about the design of their schools. So we need to listen to them and listen hard. Then, we stand a chance