



# The Green Engineer, LLP

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Sustainable Design Consulting

## Integrative Design

At The Green Engineer, we see sustainable design as a core goal, not as an add-on. In our work we strive to consider the whole system, the building, its systems and its specific site and many interrelationships. Our projects aim to score well on The Triple Bottom Line, a key concept in sustainability that considers the building's overall impact on people, profits and the planet.

A hallmark of 'integrative design' is making connections between various elements of a project early on and also making the connections between the people, the project team and stakeholders, who will make the project happen.

An Integrative Design process has two key elements:

- The Charrette – This 'hand-on' workshop is critical to creating a shared vision of the project goals and outcome early, it fosters creative thinking and open lines of communication between team members; the charrette may be repeated as needed to keep a project on target;
- An Iterative Analysis of Design Elements – Computer simulation tools such as energy and daylight modeling as well as life-cycle assessment of material choices throughout a project help make more informed decision-making and design choices. This is an on-going process, repeated as necessary each step of the way, ensuring the project is as well-integrated as possible.

In keeping with the goals of The Triple Bottom Line, the end result of an Integrative Design process should be buildings that perform better, are better for the environment and are cost-effective, both in terms of first-cost and life-cycle cost, than ones designed following a less holistic practice.