

# THINK SUPERUSE WORKSHOP

## PROBLEM ADDRESSED



Skills and knowledge for the methods of re-using waste material in new development is severely lacking and underdeveloped within the construction industry and architectural profession. Some theory surrounds the subject, but few practical examples of tested building methods exist. Furthermore, few opportunities exist within architectural education or amongst qualified professionals to work with waste materials and learn about or test processes necessary for understanding how to apply the reused waste materials to the design of new buildings.

## GOAL ACHIEVED

The Superuse Workshop held at Oxford Brookes enabled both students and professionals to engage with an architect highly experienced in the field of design and reuse. The workshop took place over two days following a public lecture held in the Faculty of Architecture by Césaire Peeren of 2012 Architects on the subject of Superuse. The first day of the workshop was dedicated solely to architecture students of Oxford Brookes University's Faculty of Architecture and the second for qualified professionals. The workshop involved design, testing and the construction of two prototypes using two common waste materials; cable reels and car tyres. At the start of each day facilitator Césaire Peeren introduced participants to the concept of Superuse and explained methods of re-using waste materials in new construction projects through a process of identification, innovative re-design and testing. Over the first day students developed individual prototypes involving the use of car tyres to create innovative and practical outdoor seating which was joined together to create a single sinuous seating area in the 'Space To Think' ground at the heart of Gypsy Lane campus at Oxford Brookes University. On day two, qualified architects dismantled, re-designed and tested cable reel components for use as a structural and cladding material. The final prototype created a covering above the seating area in the form of an elegant arch.

Date: March 2009  
Location: Oxford  
ASF Team: A. Edwards & M. Kinnear  
Partners: OXArch, 2012 Architects, Oxford Brookes University  
Donors: Course fees  
Project Type: UK workshop

## METHODOLOGY OF WORK

Fifteen students and professionals learnt valuable skills and knowledge required for developing a process for reusing materials in new building construction. All participants were able to test materials in a fully interactive way with valuable guidance from the founder of Superuse, Césaire Peeren. Two construction prototypes were completed and remained erected within the campus for ten months.



## FUTURE PERSPECTIVE



The workshops served to introduce the concept of Superuse to a large number of built environment students and professionals. The workshop stood to further strengthen the relationship between ASF-UK, Oxford Brookes University and 2012 Architects. It is hoped that this will enable a stronger relationship to develop in the future involving additional workshops.