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Olympics contract for Toronto firm

The Toronto-based firm of interior architects, Wood Wilkings Ltd., has been awarded a $1.4-million (US) contract to design and supervise construction of restaurants and fast-food booths at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

The construction itself will be an Olympian task, with only ten days allowed for assembly before the Olympics and four days for dismantling the booths and restaurants after the games close.

Wood Wilkings, a five-year-old company specializing in interior design of hotels and restaurants, was awarded the contract because it could design "an exciting visual set-up for a temporary facility — as opposed to the usual drab things we see at athletic functions", said Michael Wilkings, a founding partner of the company.

Design work has already started. There will be 17 different food service areas, ranging from fast-food booths to a private club, which will be "very elegant, tropical, 'Gatsbyesque'", said Mr. Wilkings. Club membership will cost $1 000 for the duration of the games.

Wood Wilkings will rely heavily on Canadian-made prefabricated materials and on Canadian labour for the supervision of construction and dismantling.

Glass coating could be heat saver

A team at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia is working on an electrostatic method of coating window glass so that it will keep heat inside the house in winter, according to *The Globe and Mail.*

The aim is to create a "super greenhouse effect", said project leader Roy Morrison. The idea has special application to Canada, because the sun's rays, coming in at a low angle in the winter, do have a heating effect.

The coating blocks the radiant heat from the walls going back out of the window. If that heat can be retained, a lot of energy will be saved, in the view of the National Research Council, which is sponsoring the project.

The coating being tested is tin oxide, mixed with an impurity such as fluorine or antimony to increase reflectance.

The film's thickness is critical. It has to be at least one micrometre to do the job, but if it is much thicker it blocks too much of the visible-wavelength radiation.

There is a slight greying of light passing through the glass. There is also a range of infra red that ordinary window glass does not block — wavelengths between two microns and nine-and-a-half microns.

Historically, the main production problem for thin coating has been achieving uniformity over large sheets, because glass is a well-known non-conductor.

The problem of conductivity is overcome by coating the glass when it is hot — about 450 degrees Celsius will do — and sodium ions are free to carry a charge.

In spraying on the film, according to Mr. Morrison, "you establish a corona" by putting a high voltage along a very fine wire close to the discharge point of the particles. Electrons from the corona jump to the particles, giving them a charge.

High-technology cardiac centre opened in Ottawa

One of North America's leading cardiac centres opened in Ottawa last month and showed that it is truly a hospital of the future.

The $13.5-million University of Ottawa Heart Institute is stocked with the latest, most highly-specialized equipment, providing a full range of service from preventative medicine to electronic hook-ups with other hospitals.

Previously known as the Civic Hospital's cardiac wing, the 118-bed Heart Institute is a much-expanded version of its earlier cousin.

The 9 754.4-square-metres brick building features a unique cardiac prevention and rehabilitation centre.

Help for high-risk patients

A group of specialists will work to lessen the threat of heart attack for high-risk patients through exercise and nutrition counselling programs.

Those who have suffered heart attacks will also have access to the centre's four-lane track and gymnasium to help them regain their health and the mental attitudes needed to live a normal life.

The addition of 29 extra beds and eight day-beds will go a long way to easing the cardiact units overcrowding. The number of emergency beds has also been increased from two to four.

A public education centre will hold lectures on a wide variety of health topics related to cardiac care, such as hypertension and weight reduction.

Electronic link

The institute will be electronically linked with specially-equipped ambulances and emergency hospital rooms in Ottawa-Carleton and the Ottawa Valley to provide the centre with on-the-spot cardiac analysis.

Expanded facilities will allow for more research into heart transplants and artificial implants.

All departments will be equipped with the latest technology, including nuclear scanning and sound-recording diagnosis.

The institute is unique because although it is still part of the hospital complex, it is totally self-contained, offering all its own services from admitting to X-ray departments.

Opening ceremonies of the new University of Ottawa Heart Institute. The $13.5-million building has been hailed as one of North America's leading cardiac centres.