



JEUDI 3 SEPTEMBRE 2009, 12.15 H.- 13.15 H. – SALLE GC A3 30

THE SAVILL GARDEN GRIDSHELL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

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RESUME

Since graduating with a BSc in Civil Engineering in 1972, Richard Harris has worked as a structural engineering designer. In 1984, after 12 years working with large international contractors, on projects in UK and overseas, he joined Buro Happold in Bath.

Throughout his career he has specialised in the design of timber structures. His projects have included the reconstruction of the Globe Theatre, roundwood buildings at Hooke Park, the Sheffield Winter Garden, Cork Airport Roof, the Gateway building for the Royal Edinburgh Botanic Garden, the Downland Gridshell, the Savill Building Gridshell Roof, the Welsh Institute for Sustainability Education at the Centre for Alternative Technology, in Machynlleth and the Chiddingstone Castle Gridshell.

In 2006 he was appointed as part-time Professor of Timber engineering at the University of Bath. He now shares his time between this post and the job of Associate Director at Buro Happold's Bath office.

He will present the elegantly engineered Savill Building in Windsor Great Park, which swept the board at the 2006 Wood Awards and recognises outstanding design and craftsmanship in wood. The largest timber gridshell in the UK, this environmentally friendly building underlines Buro Happold's talent for innovative, modern design using sustainable materials and modern construction methods. The timber for the Savill Building was harvested from the surrounding woodland. The form of the roof was derived from a simple geometric shape; the analysis and design checks were carried out using the Eurocode. Construction details and process, which developed from the techniques established on earlier buildings, are described.

