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Title: Circular Economy volume homebuilding; prospects for transition

Abstract:

The volume homebuilding industry has a significant impact on material consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, highlighting the importance of understanding its adoption of Circular Economy (CE) principles. This research explores how volume homebuilders manage onsite construction practices during the construction of new houses in Australia, with a specific focus on establishing CE practices. It explains the CE within the industry's context, referencing relevant standards and discussions. The study investigates how Australian volume builders conceptualize and implement CE practices in real-life construction processes, while assessing the role of digital technology in facilitating or hindering their adoption. The research employs ethnographic methods like participant observation and semi-structured interviews to uncover informal worlds of actions, local practices, and knowledge of circular practices within the industry. The findings contribute insights into circular practices, digital innovation, and the prospects for transitioning to a CE in volume homebuilding and the wider construction industry. This research aims to inform and guide the industry towards more sustainable and circular practices.

