

Inside

text: Megan Norgate

Durability

The restrained approach for the interiors matches the uniformity and robust durability of exterior treatments, thus resulting in a blurring of the boundaries between the interior and exterior environments. A minimalist palette of materials creates a gentle sense of simplicity and austerity. Uniform timber particle board cladding of the floors, walls and ceilings in the interior rooms provides a warm textural finish, which offsets the homogenous nature of a single material and creates a sense of the interiors being carved out of the building bulk. The FSC certified timber particles are used to create the Strandboard product. These are bonded to form high strength sheets without the addition of formaldehyde-based adhesives and are treated with a water-based preservative to provide moisture resistance.

laminex.com.au

Doors and Windows

Architect James Hung has described the use of large aluminium windows and sliding doors to "transform the lush vegetation of the existing site into an ever-changing wallpaper throughout the day and the seasons". Window manufacturers AWS have developed thermally-broken window frame technologies called thermal-heart. By polyimide insulating space between the interior and exterior components of an aluminium window, the conductive transfer of heat from one zone to another can be slowed by up to 32 per cent. The AWS range of windows and doors are extruded and manufactured in Australia from 100 per cent recyclable aluminium and powder-coated for longevity. Powder-coating is an inert dry coating system that does not need the toxic solvents used in wet paint to help it dry. Off-site coating in a controlled environment ensures a minimum of product wastage. Powder-coating is very durable and can be removed from the aluminium for its eventual recycling.

awsaustralia.com.au

Raw treatment

Contrasting the textural interest and gold tones of Strandboard is the smooth grey surface of pre-sealed fibre cement board by CSR Cemintel Barestone. This low-maintenance product with a durable expressed raw finish does not require painting or resealing. Fibre cement sheets are available for exterior or interior use, with the interior products incorporating stain resistance technology. The cement sheeting wraps around the exterior into the internal atrium reading as both. Design using full sheets wherever possible avoids excess cutting and wastage. The expressed joints between the sheets provide an extra detailed element to the surface.

cemintel.com.au

Warm and Simple

The living room interior is sparsely and modestly furnished, with seating and side tables built into the design, keeping furnishings to a minimum. The decorative items and furnishings included are either highly useful or personally significant, such as the artworks shown. Combined with simple, inexpensive pieces in texturally warm materials, like a cosy wool fur rug and an Ikea coffee table from the Isle Crawford range, the result is understated but avoids the coldness and impersonality of some minimalistic interiors.

Inside Out

Located in a coastal enclave of New South Wales is the Ocean Shores house by A-CH architects. The exterior of the house folds in on itself with the inclusion of a generous, weather-proofed, semi-outdoor circulation space, providing shelter from winds and turning away road noise. This space offers the functionality of an interior environment and is used by the clients as a dining space. Rather than adding outdoor living spaces to the extremities of the building, the architects instead enveloped the area within the footprint of the home. The benefits of this approach are shelter, accessibility and year-round usefulness. The clients can leave furnishings and personal items outside, so the area becomes useful for multiple purposes.

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