

# Industrialized Construction

The development and evolution in Sweden and globally



**Dr.**

CEO, Senior Consultant and advisor Lessing Innovation AB

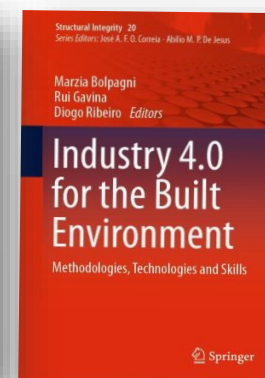
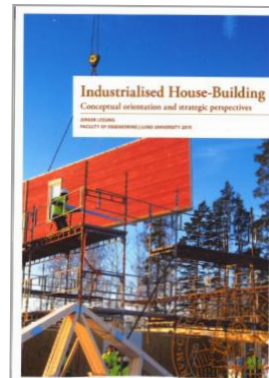
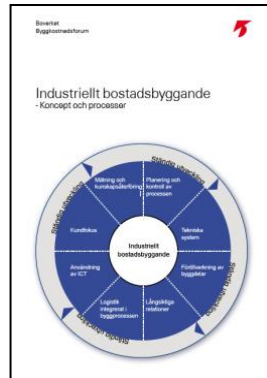
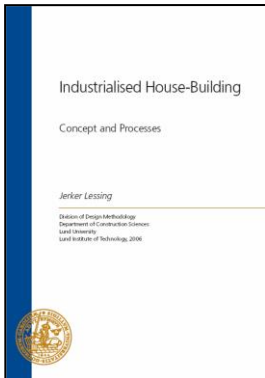
Adjunct Professor Stanford University (USA)

Adjunct Professor Linköping University (Sweden)



# Jerker Lessing

- Advisor and Consultant in Construction Innovation
- Adjunct Professor Stanford University and Linköping Univ.
- Head of Research & Development at BoKlok 2015-2023
- Co-organizer Industrialized Construction Forum, Stanford
- PhD from Lund University, Industrialized Construction
- Specialized in IC development for 20+ years





# Today's presentation

- Looking back
- Looking around



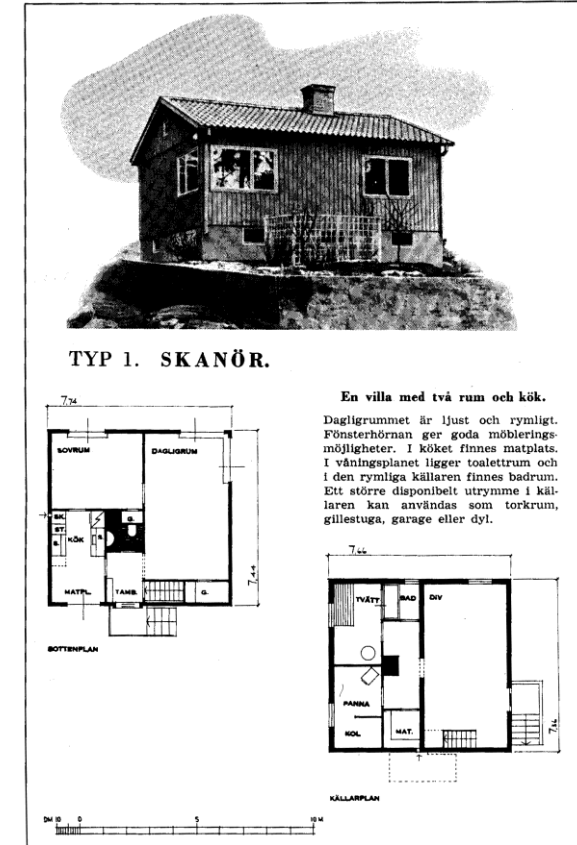
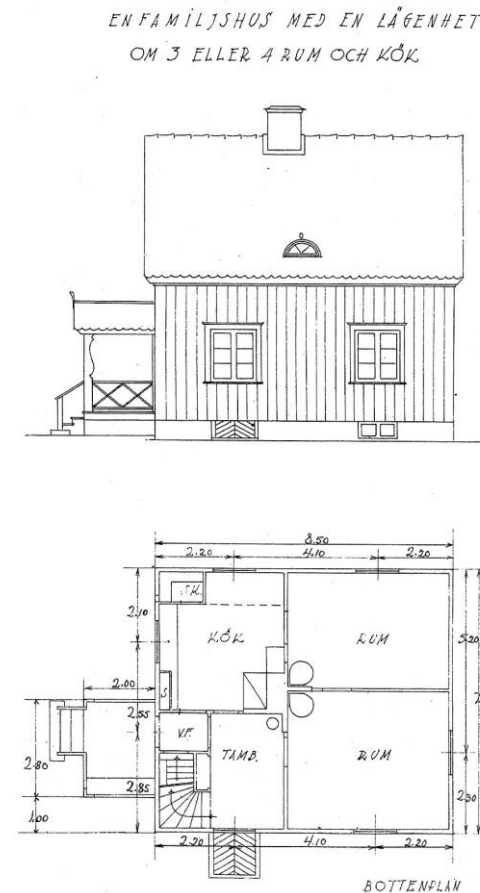
# Looking back





# It started 100 years ago

- In 1922 "The National Building Bureau" published a series of standard drawings for detached houses
- These became popular and when used, a 50% shorter lead time on site was achieved!
- Some companies decided to produce prefabricated wall panels
- Some of the companies from this time are still active



*Example from 1942. Boro-hus offered a pre-defined, prefabricated detached house*

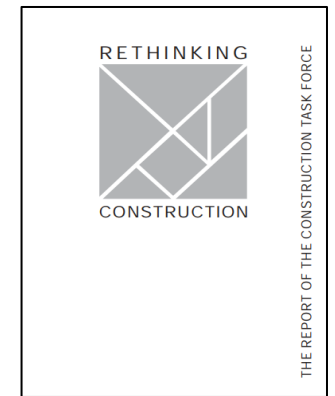
# More industrialization 1950-1970

- 1964 the government launched the "Million Homes Programme"
- Strong development of building systems, methods, machines and factory production
- Large-scaled projects were supported by government
- The goal was achieved, but **the result was not a success**
- Weak customer focus, too large-scaled housing areas, too much focus on (mass) production
- The methods and the result gained a bad reputation



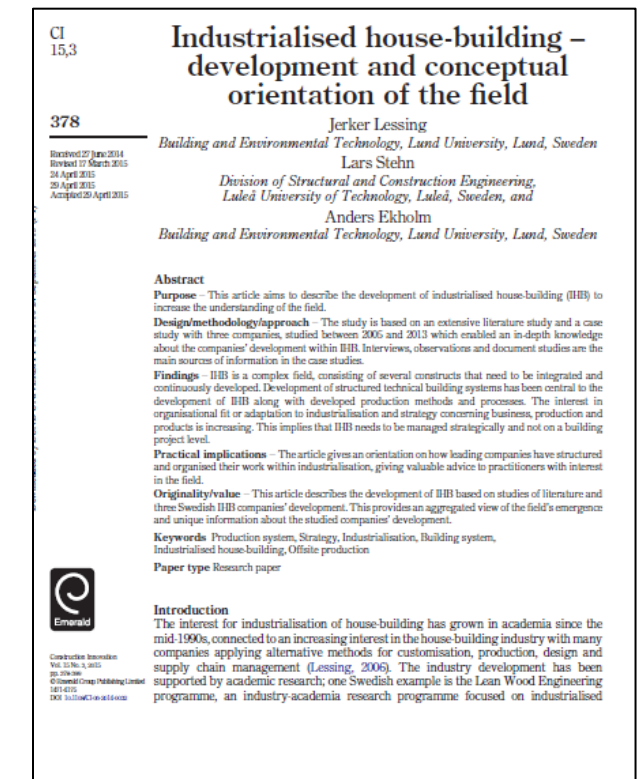
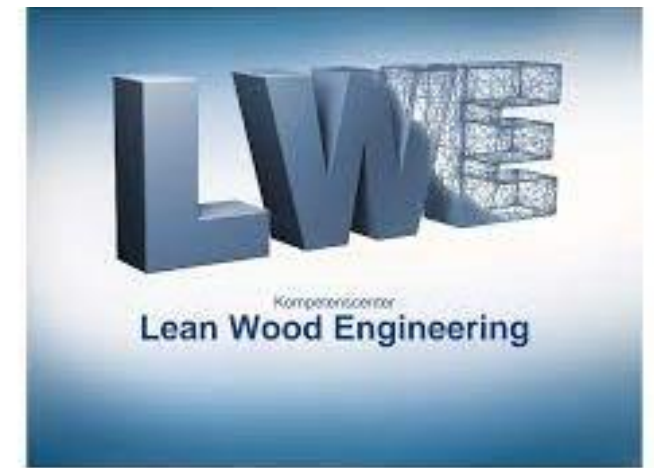
# IC development early 2000s

- Industry and academia responded to alarming reports about the industry's challenges
- Several construction companies launched industrialization programmes – several failed!
- Also small and medium sized companies played an important role in the development – more succesful!
- A series of industry/academia research projects played an important role



# Research early 2000s

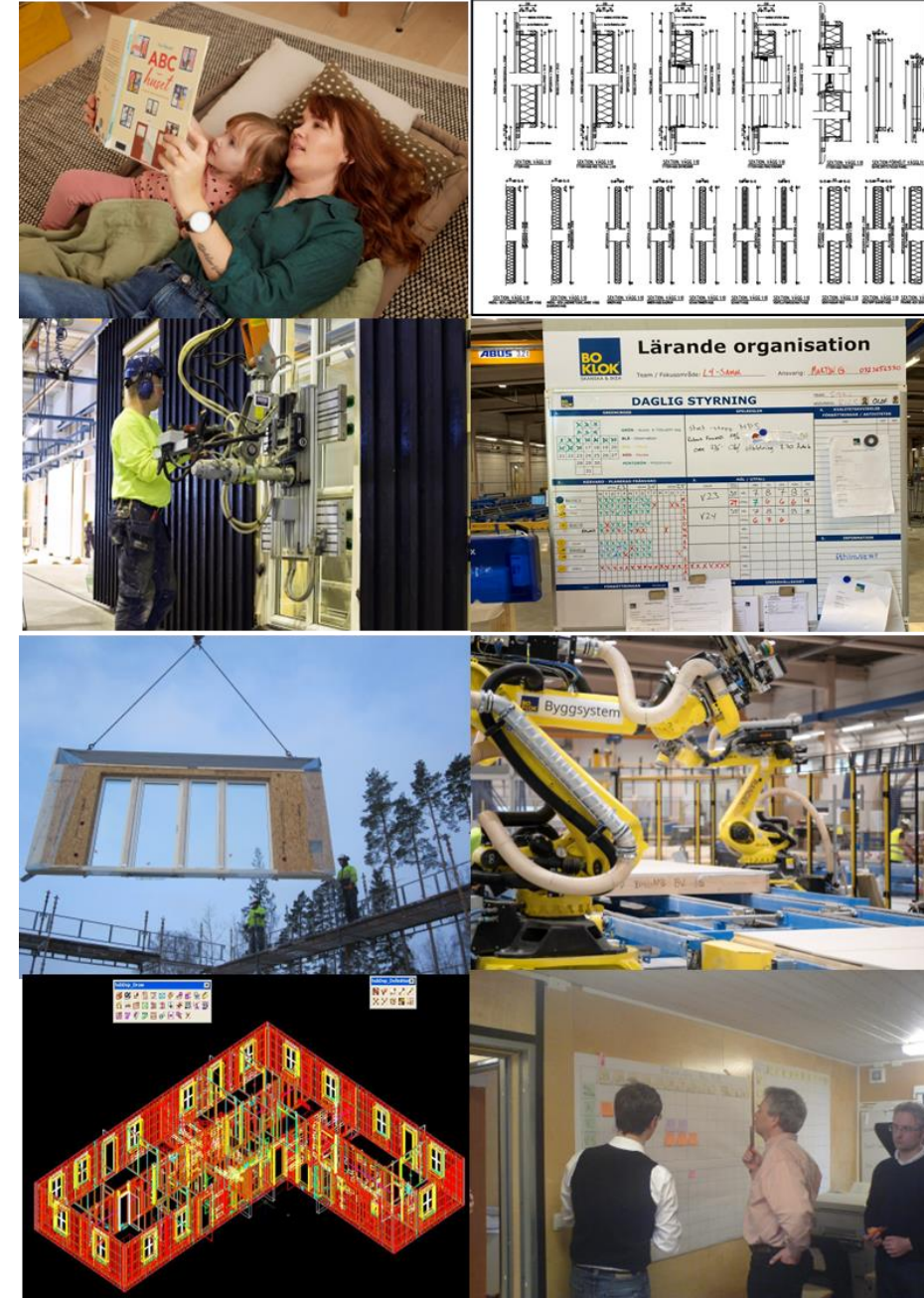
- Lean Wood Engineering : a 6 year R&D programme funded by the government
- Industry and academia worked closely together to develop and evaluate processes, building solutions and business models
- Important knowledge supported the companies' development
- These programs fostered experts in Industrialized Construction





# What did we learn?

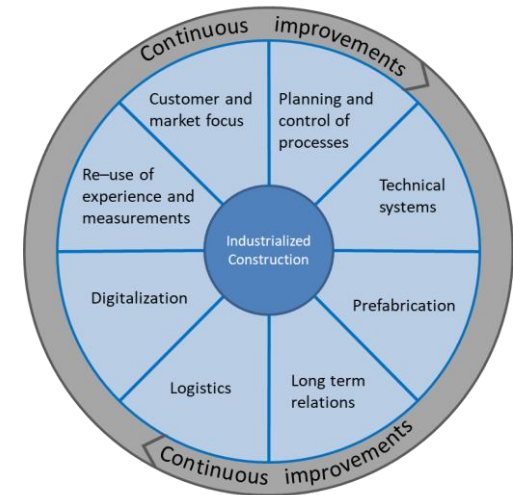
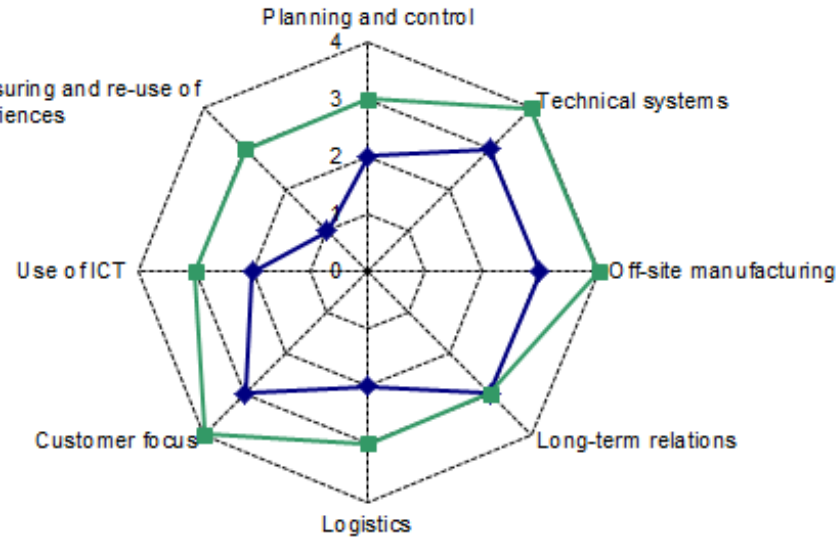
- Industrialization is not only about production
- A holistic, integrated approach is required
- Changed business models are needed
- It takes time to get it right
- A customer centric approach is crucial
- Several concepts, methods and systems are available – Strategic choices are crucial!
- Dare to specialize and stick to your strategy!



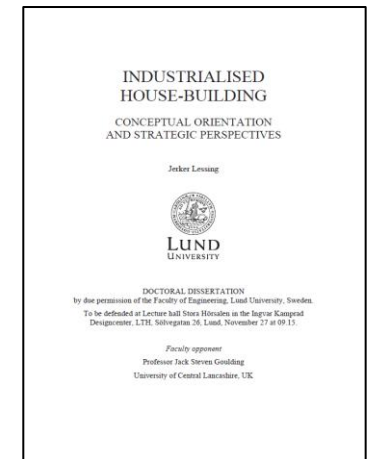
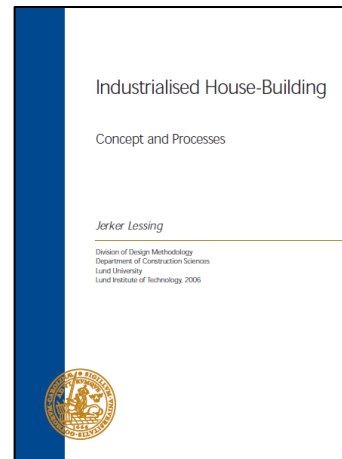
# Framework, Models, Strategies

- Theoretical Framework
- Descriptive models
- Product and Production Strategies
- Business Models

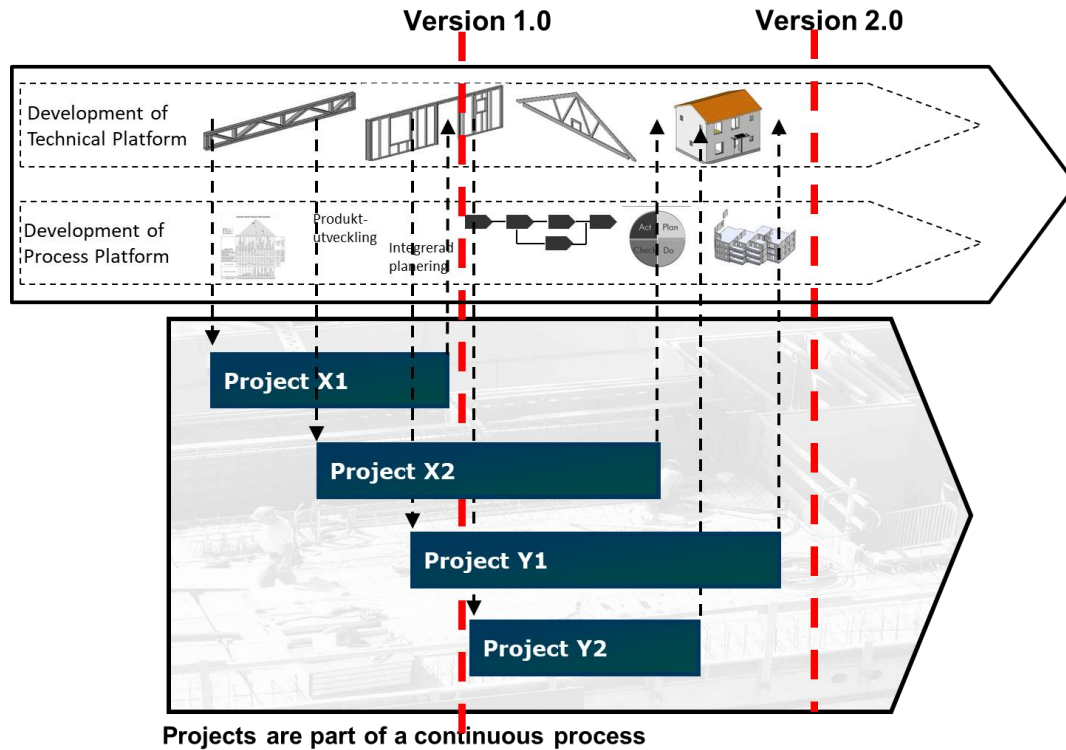
-Important results from the research!



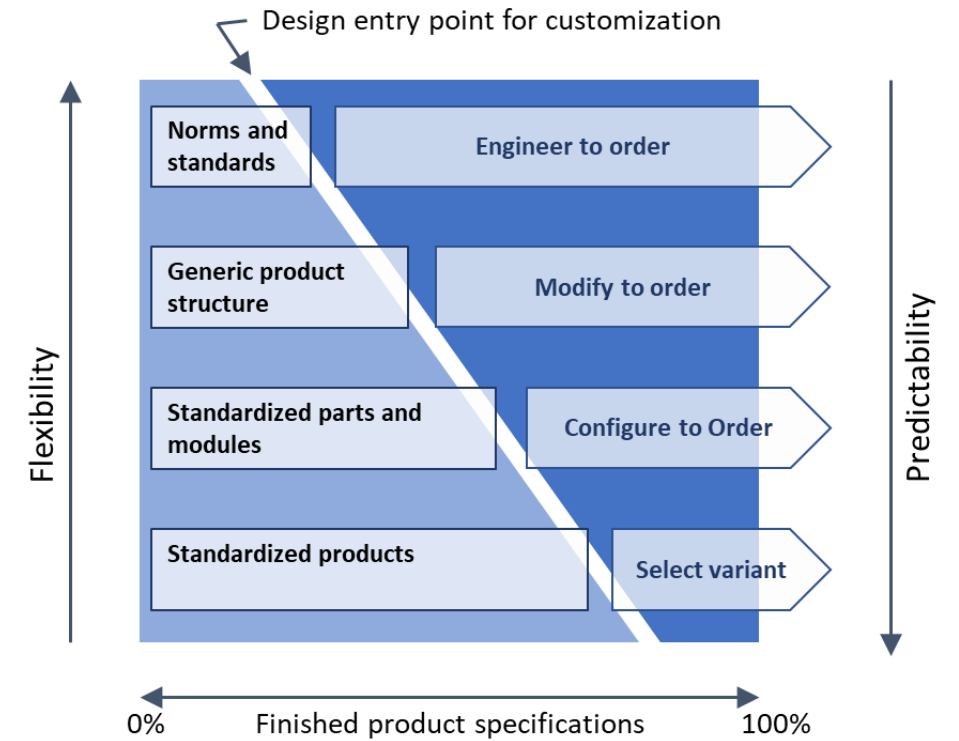
Lessing, 2006



# Platform strategies for IC



Lessing, 2006



Based on Hvam, 2008



Looking around





# Industrialized construction in Sweden 2025

- 20% market share in multi storey housing
- 90% market share single family housing
- Growing market share for other buildings
- Some 15 producers of building systems for multi-storey buildings
- 4 CLT producers, many prefab concrete factories

- 15-20 single family house companies dominate (but there are many more)
- Investments in new production facilities being realized
- Presence at leading universities
- Strong political back-up



# Three tracks in the industry development

## **Complete Concept Offers for apartment buildings**

- Offered by vertically integrated companies
- Complete housing concepts
- Volumetric building systems dominate

## **Project Oriented Concepts**

- Projects built with open building systems
- Wide variety of project types
- Big market opportunities

## **Single family homes (product offerings)**

- Long history and high market share
- A variety of offerings – from standardized to unique
- Panelized systems dominate but also volumetric is used







Project from BoKlok







Projects from Derome





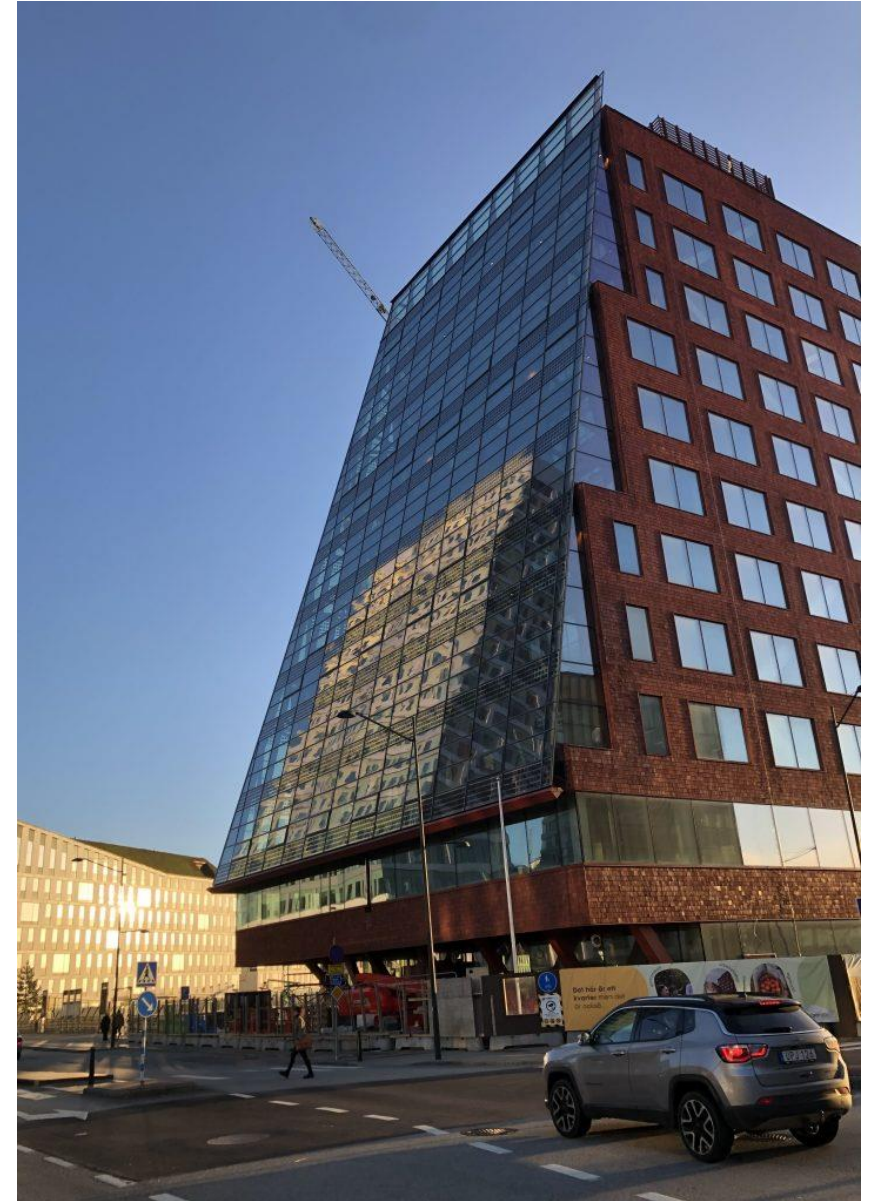


Project from Lindbäcks Bygg





*Kv Strandparken, 8 storeys, apartments, Stockholm  
Picture from Wihngårds arkitekter*



*Project Fyrtornet, Malmö. 14 storeys Office building  
Picture: Skönhetsrådet Malmö*





Project Sara Culture Centre, 20 storeys including volumetric, CLT based hotel  
White Architects, Derome, Martinssons Byggsystem





Project Sara Culture Centre, 20 storeys including volumetric, CLT based hotel  
White Architects, Derome, Martinssons Byggsystem





Picture from [www.fiskarhedenvillan.se](http://www.fiskarhedenvillan.se)



Picture from [www.lbhus.se](http://www.lbhus.se)



Picture from [www.a-hus.se](http://www.a-hus.se)

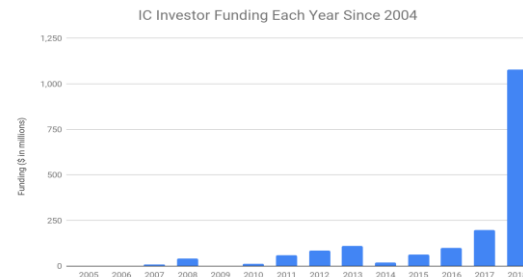
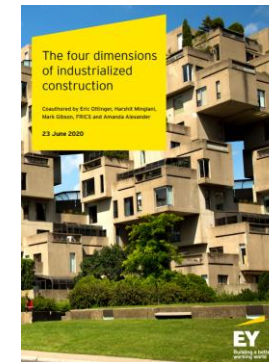
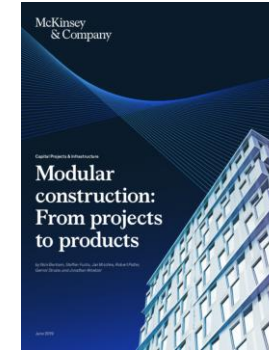


Picture from [www.trivselhus.se](http://www.trivselhus.se)



# Industrialized Construction is a global movement

- Industrialized Construction develops globally
- Great development last 5-10 years (Scandinavia, Japan, UK, Germany, USA, China, Singapore, Australia)
- A common insight: Need for alternatives to traditional construction
- And not least: Radical improvements in sustainability is needed
- Some initiatives did not work out, some became successful
- Huge build-up of knowledge



# Germany

- Both established and start-up companies
- Germany and Sweden has many similarities, fx a strong manufacturing industry
- **Goldbeck** – Large IC-company, vertical integration. Offices, parking garage, apartments, industry. Kit of parts-strategy.
- **Haas Fertigbau** – Wood-based housing company. Element strategy.
- **Gropys** – Timber based VC-backed start-up. Element strategy. High level of automation.
- **Renggli** – Expanding company - timber based volumetric elements
- **Huf Haus** – High-end concept houses with prefabricated elements



## Renggli errichtet ein Holzmodul-Werk im Grossraum Berlin

Die Renggli Deutschland GmbH baut im brandenburgischen Eberswalde, rund 40 Kilometer von der Berliner Stadtgrenze entfernt, Deutschlands grösstes Holzmodul-Werk für die Errichtung mehrgeschossiger Gebäude. Die Investition zielt auf das enorme Potential in der deutschen Bundeshauptstadt. Die Produktion soll 2024 anlaufen.



So soll sich das Renggli-Werk in Eberswalde künftig präsentieren. Visualisierung Render-Manufaktur, Berlin/Renggli AG

### Vonovia invests in GROPYUS

A clear statement for the European housing sector: Vonovia invests in affordable serial construction and digital building operation.

Vienna and Bochum, 24 January, 2023. GROPYUS AG and Vonovia SE are taking the next step in their collaboration. Building on the strategic cooperation between the two companies, Vonovia is strengthening its commitment to sustainable and affordable living by becoming the lead investor in GROPYUS's current Series B financing round. The volume of this financing round for the Austrian proptech is at around 100 million euros, bringing the total funding amount to date to more than 200 million euros.

Our vision is to provide sustainable living for everyone

We design buildings as continuously ever-evolving products and create the most exciting and affordable experience for all.

We use our own building system, prefabricate elements in our factory, develop our own building operating system and use strong end-to-end digitisation to modernise all aspects of the real estate life cycle. We believe that this approach puts us in a prime position to bring change to a fragmented and inefficient industry.





# Japan

- Several very experienced IC companies
- Toyota Home, Sekisui Heim, Sekisui House, Daiwa House produce btw 5 000 to 45 000 houses per year
- Vertically integrated companies controlling the value chain
- Many IC firms derive from other industries such as the automotive- and process industry
- All companies have their own Product- and Production strategy
- Strong customer focus!



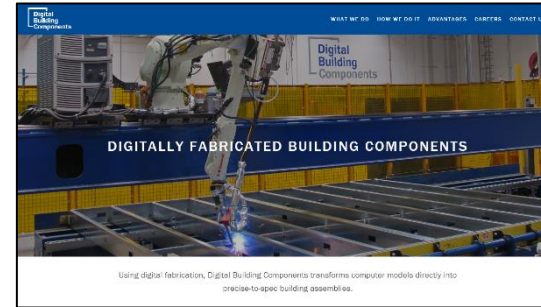
Volumetric element production at Toyota Home



Kit-of-parts at Sekisui House

# USA

- Strong development the last 10 years
- Research & Development at several universities and institutes
- Venture capital backing (not always suitable)
- Several industry failures (Katerra, Skender etc)
- But also successful initiatives!
- **Clark Pacific** – well established manufacturer with sophisticated building system
- **Volumetric Building Companies** – Module manufacturer expanding in the US and Europe
- **Veev** – VC backed, panelized concept for single family homes. Went out and came back!
- **PlantPrefab** – VC backed with new state of the art factory, flexible hybrid building system
- **Digital Building Components** – Spin-off from DPR. Manufacturing of building parts
- **Aro Homes** – Product oriented high-end homes



**Digital Building Components**  
Spin-off from DPR Construction  
Supplier of building elements to construction projects



## INDUSTRIALIZED CONSTRUCTION FORUM

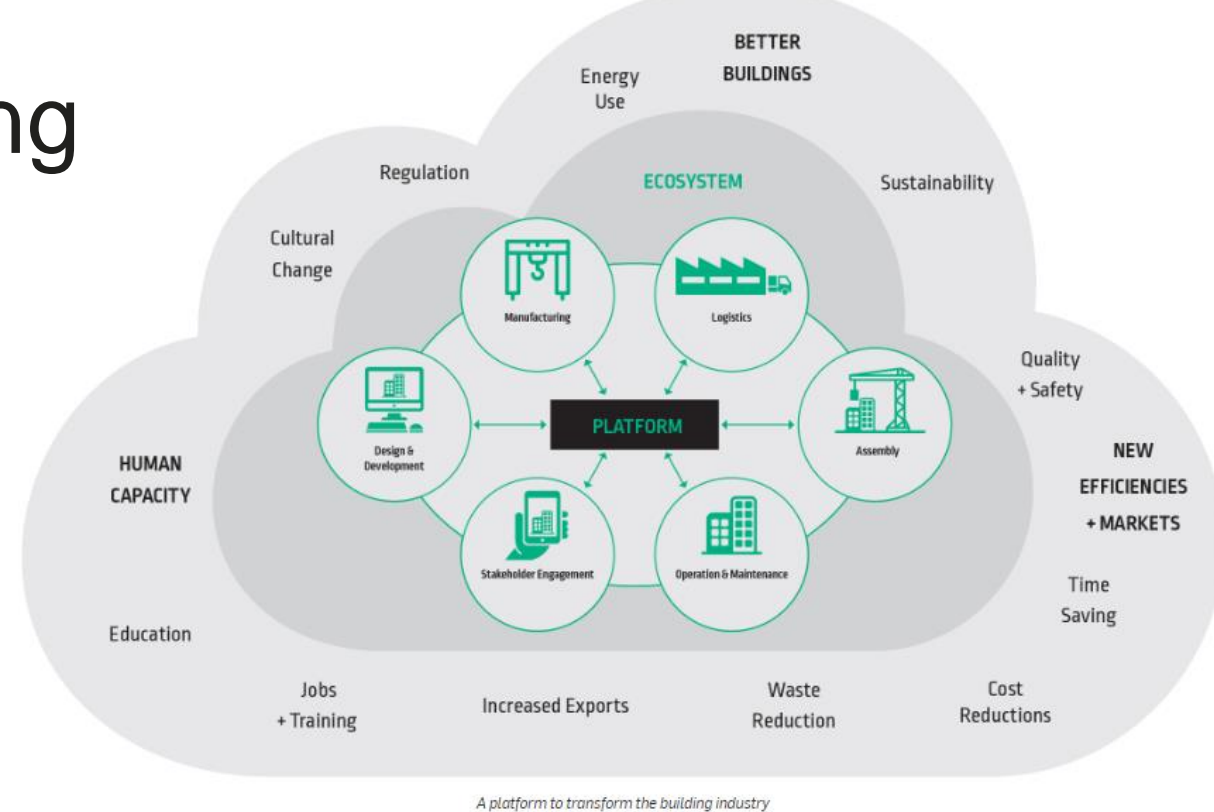
Center For Integrated Facility Engineering  
Stanford University





# Innovation Program: Building 4.0 CRC, Australia

- 7 year program
- Industrialization and digitalization in construction
- Academia (3 universities), Industry and Authorities in close collaboration
- 45 PhD students (so far)
- Large number of development projects
- Inspired by the Swedish IC development and research



Our three [integrated research programs](#) will help to ensure that we deliver on:

- new industry-wide culture, practices and standard protocols that will enable the transformation of the entire sector;
- new building processes and techniques through leveraging the latest technologies, data science and AI; and
- improvements to building “hardware” and processes, and their interaction with our digital and sectoral programs, to ultimately improve all aspects of the key building phases (development, design, production, assembly, operation, maintenance and end-of-life).



# Thank you!



Industrialized Construction