

Benoit BECKERS

Associate Professor, UTC (Compiègne University of Technology)
GSU (Urban Systems Engineering) Department

Born in 1969, Liège, Belgium, he has obtained an Engineering Degree in Physics from ULG (University of Liège) in 1992.

In 1993, he joined the Superior Architecture School of the Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC) in Barcelona. He devoted his early research effort to concert halls acoustics. Very soon, he was also interested by the light in architecture. In 2005, he presented a doctoral thesis on the subject: "Sensitive Geometry" (in Spanish).

In Spain, he started personal researches on the following subjects: daylight and solar radiation in the architectural and urban projects; geometrical methods in numerical simulation; wave's perception in their physical and cultural environment. In the frame of the postgraduate studies in architecture, managed by the UPC Foundation, he had to supervise a large number of students performing their Master Thesis. In 2008, after fourteen years spent in Barcelona, he moved to France as associate professor (enseignant chercheur contractuel).

Benoit Beckers is the originator and one of the main designers of the Heliodon software devoted to the daylight and solar radiation simulation in architecture, currently marketed by UTeam, a subsidiary of UTC. This activity is presented on the web site: www.heliodon.net

Today, his teaching activities include lectures in Compiègne, Barcelona and in the "École de Technologie Supérieure" (ÉTS), in Montreal.

- "Lighting ambiances and environment" and "Urban thermal energy", UTC.
- "Space and ambiance in the architecture", UPC.
- "Urban ecosystems", in collaboration, ÉTS.

He is in charge of International Relations in his Department. In 2008, he won several important research projects. Since 2009, he has been supervising PhD students (currently four). Their subjects correspond to the priorities of the research group Avenues-GSU initiated in his Department. They deal with solar radiation simulation in the architectural project, energetic efficiency applied to important housing stocks with a long term (2050) perspective, renewable energy potential at the scale of France and urban solar potential optimization. In 2010, he organized an international workshop about "Solar Energy at Urban Scale", presented on the web site: www.utc.fr/seus

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