

UNSTUDIO DEVELOPS A PAINT TO COOL DOWN CITIES

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Amsterdam – The architecture studio has collaborated with Monopol Colors to create a reflective white paint that reduces the need for air conditioning.

The paint, titled The Coolest White, reflects the sun's rays, limiting the amount of heat a building absorbs. It can be used to protect buildings from excessive solar radiation and reduce the amount of energy required to cool down buildings in tropical climates. 'On the one hand, The Coolest White makes buildings more resilient, and on the other hand it can drastically reduce the urban heat load,' says Ben van Berkel, UNStudio's principal architect.

While most white paints have a total solar reflection (TSR) value of 70-75, UNStudio's new paint has a TSR value of over 80. The architecture studio is hoping to putting the paint into practice by using it to cover an entire district in South East Asia.

The depletion of Earth's natural resources is driving designers and scientists to re-appropriate existing energy sources and offer more sustainable options.