INTELLIGENT BUILDINGS
AND THE CHANGING WORK PLACE

by

LOW POH SING
HD97-2023L

Submitted to the School of Architecture
on 13 November 1998 in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Architecture

ABSTRACT

The present era of the 1990's is very much shaped and influenced by the ELECTRONIC
REVOLUTION brought on by the advancement in information and communications technologies
that is transforming the way we look at work and leisure. Much of these new technologies are
related and applied to modern 'intelligent offices' of today where systems are designed to yield a
higher level of productivity and achieve cost reductions through the systems’ flexibility to cater to
a changing working world.

There exists a disparity between the perception of designers of intelligent buildings and user
occupants of a building. This dissertation aims to address the gap brought on by the way
designers look at architecture and user occupants’ response and expectations of the working
environment. Here the emphasis is on intelligent office buildings. It is important for us to
understand the meaning and objectives of Building Intelligence and its relationship to creative
output, productivity and costs in office environments through the understanding of end users’
response to this new working environment. The CHANGING WORKING WORLD IN THE NEW ICT era
also calls for a look at the SOCIAL perspective of the work place amidst the present exhaustive
emphasis on the technical aspects of the office building.

Dissertation Supervisor: Mr. S.P. Rao, Dr. Lim G.T.
Title: Associate Professor