

Braathen Eiendom & Somfy: The Cheapest Energy Is The One The Building Doesn't Need

● Behind The Build | Show and Share · 1st floor | 14:20–14:30 | 

Part of Where Are The Savings?



Morten Tobiassen
Channel Manager Projects, Somfy



Jørgen Fremstad
Project Director, Braathen Eiendom

DEG8 halved its energy use without replacing its existing facades

Morten Tobiassen, Channel Manager Projects at Somfy, argued that dynamic solar shading should be an active part of a building's energy system, not a product on its own. Motorised shading driven by sensors, schedules and controls stops solar heat outside the building envelope, which reduces cooling needs and operating costs while preserving daylight and reducing glare. Jørgen Fremstad, Project Director at Braathen Eiendom, showed the revitalisation of Dronning Eufemias gate 8. The building had high energy use, high peak power demand and indoor climate problems along the facades. Demolition was ruled out, and internal solar shading (Multifilm with Somfy controls) was proposed. The target was to halve energy use to under 150 kWh/m² a year, from about 330 in 2018. The slides mark that goal, lower peak power and a good indoor climate with the existing facades as achieved.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Somfy's principle: the most sustainable kilowatt-hour is the one that never needs to be cooled.
- Shading delivers most when integrated with lighting, cooling, ventilation and the building management system.
- At DEG8, sensors compared cell offices with and without an internal screen; the unscreened office ran warmer.
- Fremstad urged celebrating modest gains too, such as moving a building from an F to a D.
- He also asked the industry to share what did not work, not only the success stories.

**<150
kWh/m²**

DEG8's annual energy target, against about 330 in 2018; marked as achieved