



Sustainable Living Innovations - Frequently Asked Questions

What is Sustainable Living Innovations (SLI)?

SLI is the most flexible, efficient, custom housing product on the market AND the only pre-fabricated system on the market that is scalable for mid-rise structures. Pre-finished components constructed off-site combined with breakthrough design and engineering result in a faster construction timeline, which means the product is faster to market. And the money saved in labor costs can be put into high-quality materials that enhance value and durability, ultimately delivering a better overall lifestyle experience to residents.

Who came up with the idea for SLI?

CollinsWoerman collaborated with a group of best-in-class partners to design and build SLI. Partners include:

- Lydig Construction Inc. - Commercial contractors and a construction management company specializing in industrial, building and concrete projects, with offices in Bellevue and Spokane.
- McKinstry - A full-service design, builds, operate and maintain (DBOM) firm with over 1,600 employees and approximately \$400 million in annual revenue.
- DCI – An innovative civil and structural consulting engineering firm that provides some of the most cost efficient engineering solutions for today’s construction environment.

Where will SLI be implemented?

SLI’s design allows for flexibility to change shape, size, to accommodate future needs making it suitable for virtually any urban environment nationally.

Why is SLI the right choice for developers?

SLI projects are built with higher quality materials in a fraction of the time of traditional projects – reducing risk and cost while increasing ROI. The shorter timeline allows for greater capitalization on market opportunities, less exposure to the elements during construction phase, and less labor costs.

Applying conventional methods to new market realities is riskier than exploring new models that come with greater rewards. Developers are looking for new strategies and solutions, and SLI offers a higher quality product at a lower cost.

Why is SLI good for renters / consumers?

The SLI approach significantly reduces a development’s carbon footprint and is LEED certified, two growing priorities for today’s renters. The cutting-edge design, urban feel and sustainability of the building appeal to Gen Y-ers, who make up the growing majority of the renter pool.

SLI offers an attractive design and use of materials. It provides a healthier living environment with more access to natural light and fresh air, and open layouts and communal courtyards provide modern, streamlined spaces. Possible building amenities include retail businesses, parking garages, cafes, groceries and gyms.

What makes SLI sustainable?

Everyone's going green these days, and we think that's great. But it makes it difficult to figure out what's really a sustainable solution, and what's just green for green's sake. At SLI, sustainability is baked right in—to our culture AND our products. SLI buildings are all designed to meet LEED Silver certification at a base level, but more importantly, it's simply a better living experience.

Our unique building method creates less waste, and a smaller carbon footprint – giving both developers and residents a place they can feel good about.

What is different about SLI?

SLI is the most flexible, efficient, custom housing product on the market AND the only pre-fabricated system on the market that is scalable for mid-rise structures. The concept takes pre-fabricated structures from residential to multifamily, suburban to urban.

How are SLI units made?

Units are constructed like this: A concrete podium is poured. One top of that, separate concrete slabs are created. Then pre-fabricated steel is erected to form the structure. A slab with pre-finished roofing material is lifted up using a patented internal hydraulic system and bolted to the steel frame.

Inside walls and windows are placed on the next slab, which is lifted up through the building to form the top floor. The slab is connected to the frame, the walls and windows are installed and the process is repeated with each floor up to the eighth floor.

Watch [this video](#) to see how a building is constructed:

How much do these units cost?

Because SLI buildings are customizable and use high-quality materials, it varies, but we can expect SLI buildings to be completed with less money than comparable projects and more importantly no cost overruns.

How much time does it save?

Pre-fabricated steel frames and interiors such as pre-wired and plumbed walls, save huge amounts of time in construction. Additionally, SLI saves time by building simultaneously what traditional builders build sequentially. In real time this means that from the time we're ready to lift the building, it will only take us 90 days to finish.

Is the layout customizable?

Yes, SLI is designed to be easily adaptable to other forms of multi-housing without sacrificing quality or performance. It can be designed to fit the needs of market-rate housing, military housing, resorts or hotels or even student housing.