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## MAGAZINE

### Facade Tectonics Institute Hosts Second Regional Forum in Minneapolis

The Facade Tectonics Institute hosted the second event of its 2019 Regional Forum Series, "Phase Change," at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, McNamara Hall Alumni Center. The program consisted of a full-day of expert-led panel discussions featuring leading building industry professionals and academics.



"We are thrilled with the success of the Forum, the McNamara Alumni Center was a breathtaking architectural backdrop," says Helen Sanders of Technoform and president of Facade Tectonics Institute. "The audience was enthralled with the speaker presentations and everyone was engaged throughout each session."

Facade Tectonics Forum: Minneapolis brought leaders together to confront four themes central to the ever-evolving facade: energy-efficiency and sustainability, digital technology, kinetic and dynamic components, and material evolution.

The Forum included four panel sessions followed by moderated Q&A on topics ranging from thermal expansion, digital technology, kinetic and dynamic facades, and material acceleration. Speakers touched on how technology is propelling the evolution of the built environment with building envelopes that require less materials while harnessing more power and leaving less of a resource footprint. The industry has entered the era of the smart facade in which the envelope plays an integral role in the building's energy strategy, according to speakers, positioning properties into power stations with functional skins that generate and store energy.