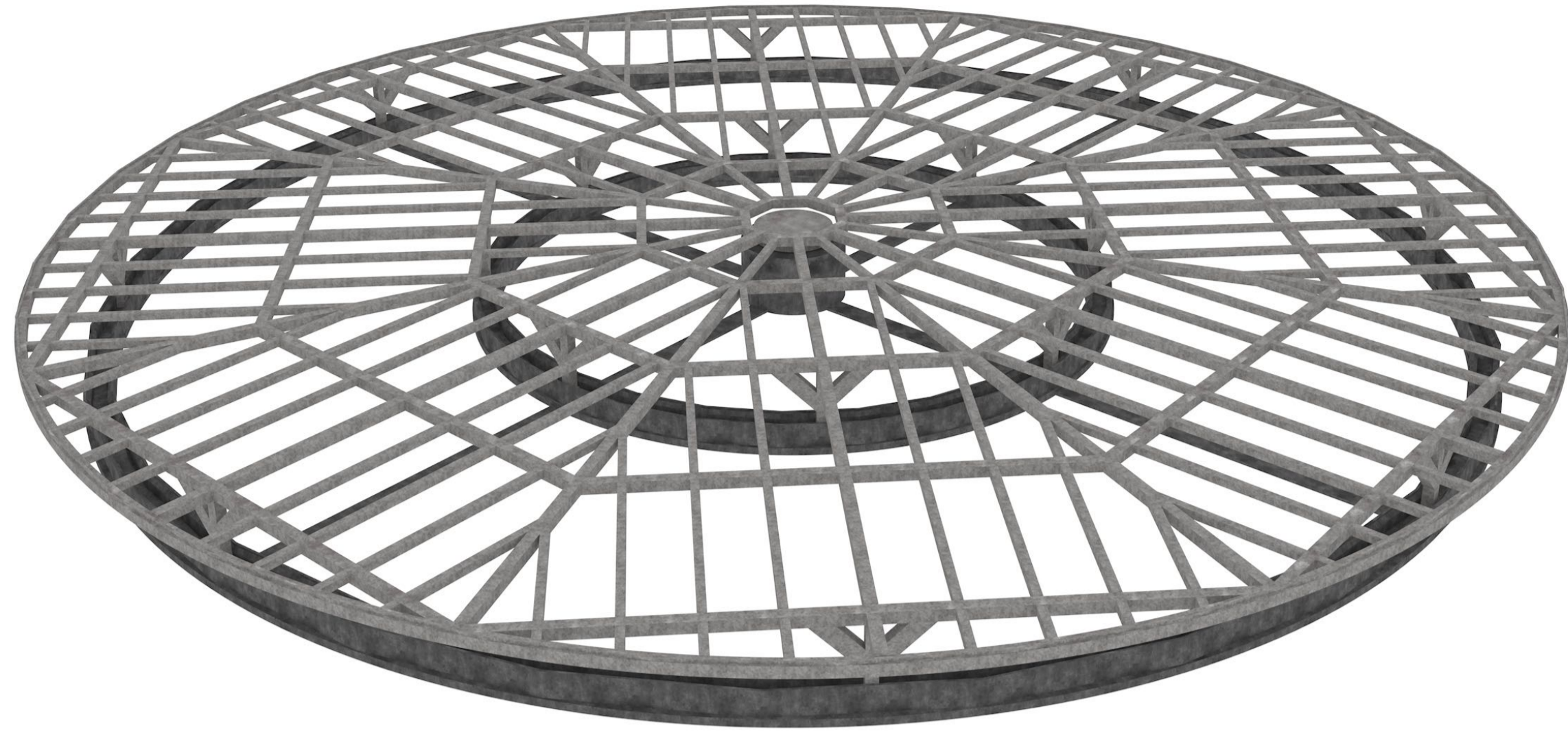


# A PINCH OF EARTH



## Magnetic rotation system

The building sits on a framework underneath which sits a network of electromagnets which are powered by energy harvested from the solar panels on the roof. Inspired by the Maglev Train, the force of the magnets creates electromagnetic propulsion, and just enough levitation to enable the rotation of the platform, initiated and aided by people. The human participation is fundamental and encourages the user to engage with and appreciate the natural rhythms of their surroundings. Aided by low resistance tracks, the inhabitants can easily (and quietly) adjust the direction the building faces by “walking” it around from the outside. And they must do so at key moments throughout daylight hours to maximise the roof’s exposure to the sun in order to generate electricity and to allow the living roof to photosynthesise. A further automatic system can be added with light sensors and motors so the building can slowly track the sun throughout the day

## Data hub

Within the building would be an interactive “data hub”, a computer allowing passers-through to document their experience, ideas, thoughts and emotions elicited by the unique surroundings. What this results in is a rolling documentation of anecdotes; creating a collective creativity and honest portrayal of the immediate impact that Fly Ranch has on its visitors.

Users can access the entries of those before them, adding too and commenting on entries, relating to other people in their shared experience of something so special.

By capturing feedback and ideas from people *in the moment*, we can access people’s state of mind at the right time, rather than when they get back to civilisation. Future projects and developments could be informed by these unique insights.

The data hub also provides a straightforward bank of research for visiting scientists, a place for researchers to input data and findings after a day in the field without having to carry around their own laptops, hard drives and battery packs.

