



Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet

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Cool Globes: Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet, is a public art exhibition designed to raise awareness of solutions to climate change. Cool Globes grew out of a commitment at the Clinton Global Initiative in 2005, and was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 2006. Since that time, Cool Globes premiered in Chicago and went on tour across the country from Washington DC to San Francisco, San Diego, Sundance, Los Angeles, Houston and Cleveland. In the fall of 2009, Cool Globes opened the first international exhibit in Copenhagen. From there our globes were in Geneva, Marseille, Vancouver, Amsterdam, Jerusalem and Boston. It is our hope that the millions of people who have experienced the exhibit, leave with a vast array of solutions to climate change, and with one clear message....we can solve this.

Message from Wendy Abrams, founder of Cool Globes

I never considered myself an environmentalist. To me, an environmentalist was a guy in a raft protesting to save the whales as he drifted in the Pacific. But in 2001, that changed when I casually stumbled upon a Time magazine article about global warming, depicting potentially catastrophic consequences within the century. As a mother of four, this hit a nerve – the next century is my children's lifetime. I was suddenly motivated to act and spent the next five years educating myself by joining environmental groups, attending conferences, meeting with scientists and becoming engaged in the political debate.

The more I learned, the more I was bewildered by the discrepancy between the scientific community's alarm and general public's silence. The public seemed relatively unconcerned by the scientists' daunting predictions, if they were even aware of the predictions at all. The American press showed disproportionately little interest in covering global warming, given the magnitude of the problem. When the press did cover the issue, studies showed that many people tuned out because they felt overwhelmed by the problem and helpless as to the solutions.

I was intrigued by the question of how to capture the public's attention on a subject as complex as global warming. One night, in a casual discussion with friends, we came up with an idea – "public art with a purpose." The idea was to put sculptures on the sidewalk, each depicting a solution to global warming, forcing people to confront the issue, but in a non-threatening manner.

As a participant at the 2006 Clinton Global Initiative, I was asked to make a commitment to take action. With the incentive to return to the next annual conference, I put my pledge in writing. I committed to raise awareness of global warming using the medium of public art, and established the non-profit organization, Cool Globes, Inc.

Over the next year, what I discovered was that this was an issue that people were eager to address, particularly when we mentioned the emphasis on solutions. People whom I had never met prior to this project devoted themselves entirely to Cool Globes.

The Chicago exhibit, which featured more than 120 globes, was hugely successful. Millions of people experienced the globes and the exhibit inspired more than 5,000 online pledges by individuals to adopt solutions to global warming. The popularity of Cool Globes in Chicago has inspired other cities across the country and around the world to inquire about the possibility of replicating the project. Cool Globes has gone on the road during across the United States from Washington DC to California to inspire more individuals to implement simple solutions in their lives to fight global warming.

This has been an exciting project from day one. I'm proud of all the hard work by so many who have made this possible. I do believe Cool Globes is inspiring people to make a change and fight global warming.

Cool Globes: Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet

Cool Globes: Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet is a public art project dedicated to increasing awareness of global warming.

A nonprofit corporation, "Cool Globes: Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet" sponsored a Chicago public art exhibit of 125 5-foot-diameter (1.5 m) globes decorated with solutions to global warming, placed in Grant Park near the Field Museum of Natural History, the Shedd Aquarium, and along the lakefront bike path during the summer of 2007.^[1]

The project is similar to the popular "Cows on Parade" exhibit of 1999, but with a social conscience. The Cool Globes adopts the idea of Berlin 's town mascot; the entailing United Buddy Bears exhibitions are very different from all other urban events. The bears were created by the German artists Klaus and Eva Herlitz. The idea and the philosophy behind the United Buddy Bears exhibitions are unique: with its international approach and its symbolism, this synthesis of the arts globally promotes tolerance, international understanding and a peaceful coexistence.

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The Project

"Cool Globes: Hot Ideas for a Cooler Planet" was conceived by environmental activist Wendy Abrams. In 2006, Chicago and world artists were asked to submit designs for solutions to global warming. Each globe was to be sponsored by an individual, company or organization. Completed globes were mounted along bicycle trails in Grant Park north of the Field Museum of Natural History, on Navy Pier, and along Michigan Avenue. The project included an opening gala, environmental education in public schools, and a children's contest, "Cool Globes for Cool Kids", which exhibited in the Chicago Children's Museum. After the exhibit ended in September 2007, some of the globes were auctioned off and the proceeds used to fund environmental programs in Chicago Public Schools. The project was sponsored by the Clinton Global Initiative, the Field Museum of Natural History, Exelon and others.^{[2][3]}

Afterwards

On May 13, 2008, Wendy Abrams and the organizers of Cool Globes presented Mayor Daley with a check for \$500,000 for environmental programs in Chicago's schools at the graduation ceremony of the Chicago Conservation Clubs, held on Northerly Island on a restored prairie. Cool Globes were later exhibited in Washington DC and San Francisco, San Diego and at the Sundance festival in 2008, in Los Angeles, Houston and Copenhagen in 2009, and in Geneva, Marseilles and Vancouver in 2010.^[4]

Participating artists

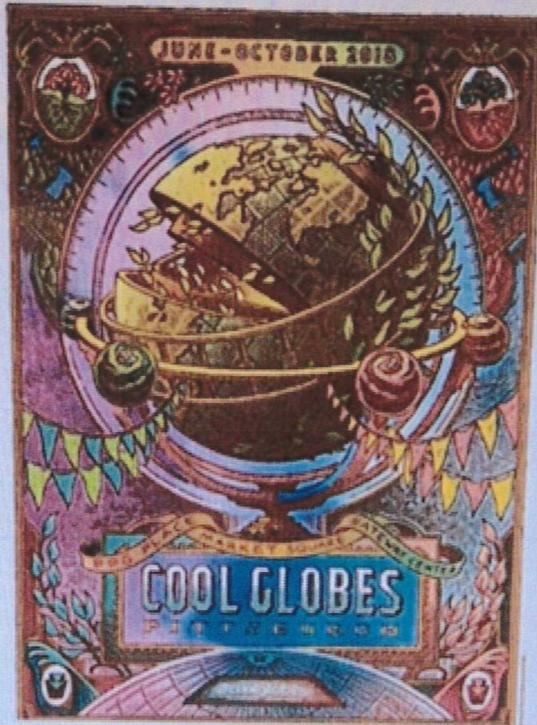
Notable participating artists include:

- Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture
- Jim Dine
- Peter Mars
- Jaume Plensa
- Lee Tracy
- Tom Van Sant
- Nina Weiss
- Gregory Warmack aka Mr. Imagination

References

- "Taking a weighty project on their shoulders," *Chicago Tribune*, May 17, 2007.
- Kridel, Kristen "A global view is just plain 'cool'" (<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chicago/chi-0705021153may03,1,2590325.story>) *Chicago Tribune*, May 3, 2007. retrieved May 22, 2007
- "'Cool Globes' Ready For Ecological Exhibit." (http://cbs2chicago.com/local/local_story_123144329.html) Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20070927232052/http://cbs2chicago.com/local/local_story_123144329.html) 2007-09-27 at the Wayback Machine CBS TV Channel 2, Chicago, May 3, 2007 1:43 pm US/Central Retrieved May 22, 2007
- [1] (<http://www.coolglobes.com/>) Cool Globes website, "Exhibition locations." Retrieved August 28, 2010

External links



Please join us

For the grand opening
of
Cool Globes Pittsburgh

Monday, June 18th
Market Square
1:00 - 3:00



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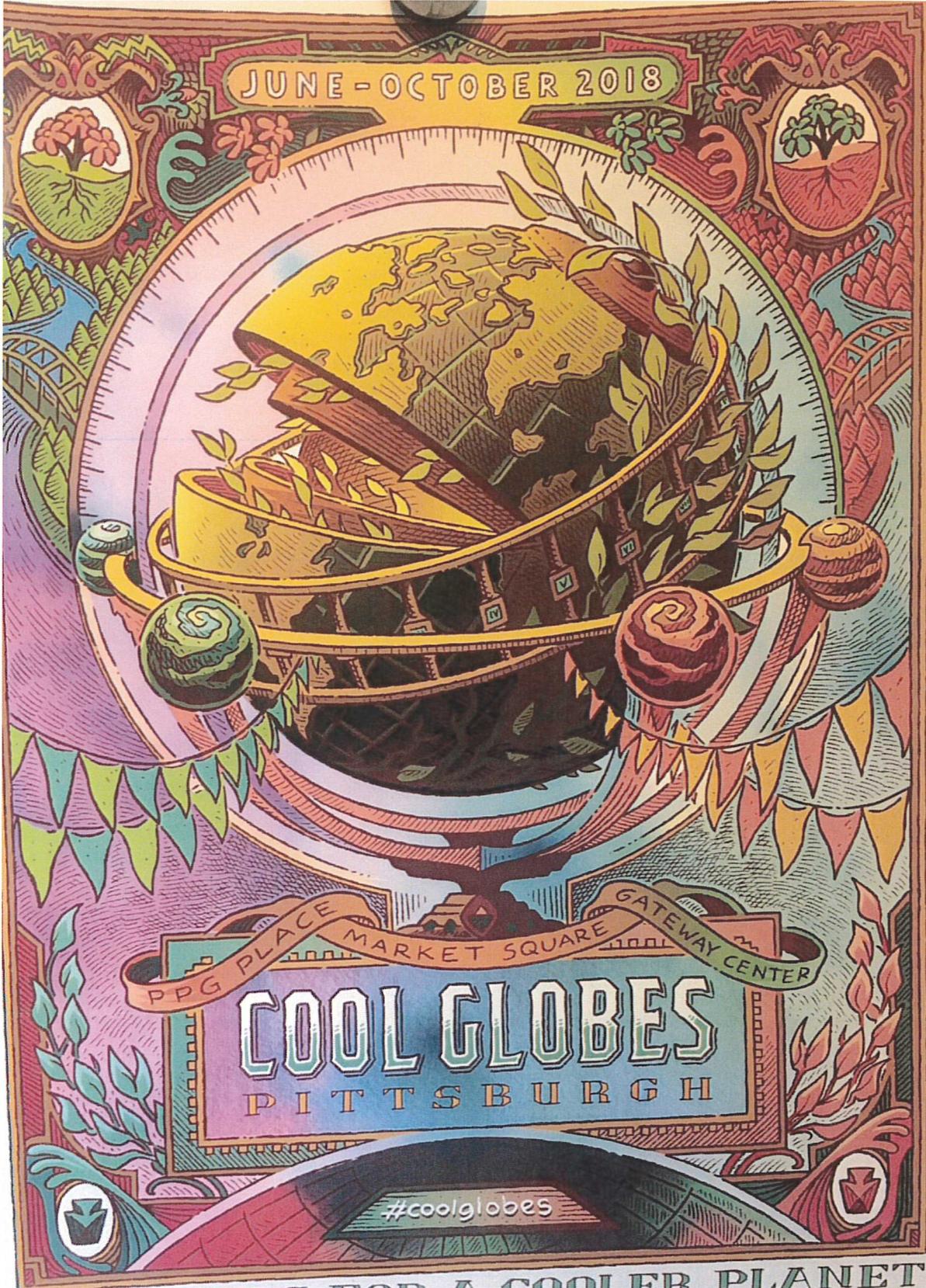


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**COOL GLOBES EXHIBITION
PITTSBURGH OPENING
MARKET SQUARE INVITATION**

JUNE - OCTOBER 2018



PPG PLACE MARKET SQUARE GATEWAY CENTER

COOL GLOBES

PITTSBURGH

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HOT IDEAS FOR A COOLER PLANET

THE HEINZ
ENDOWMENTS
HOWARD HEINZ ENDOWMENT



POSTER BY TED BUFFALO ILLUSTRATIONS



**PITTSBURGH JUNE 2018
PITTSBURGH PARKING AUTHORITY
NAMED ON LEGEND OF THIS GLOBE
CATEGORY: GREEN GARAGES**



**COOL GLOBES EXHIBITION-DESIGNED TO RAISE
AWARENESS OF SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE
PITTSBURGH JUNE 2018
PITTSBURGH PARKING AUTHORITY
NAMED ON LEGEND - CATEGORY: GREEN GARAGES**

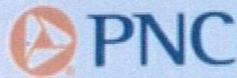


Green Garages

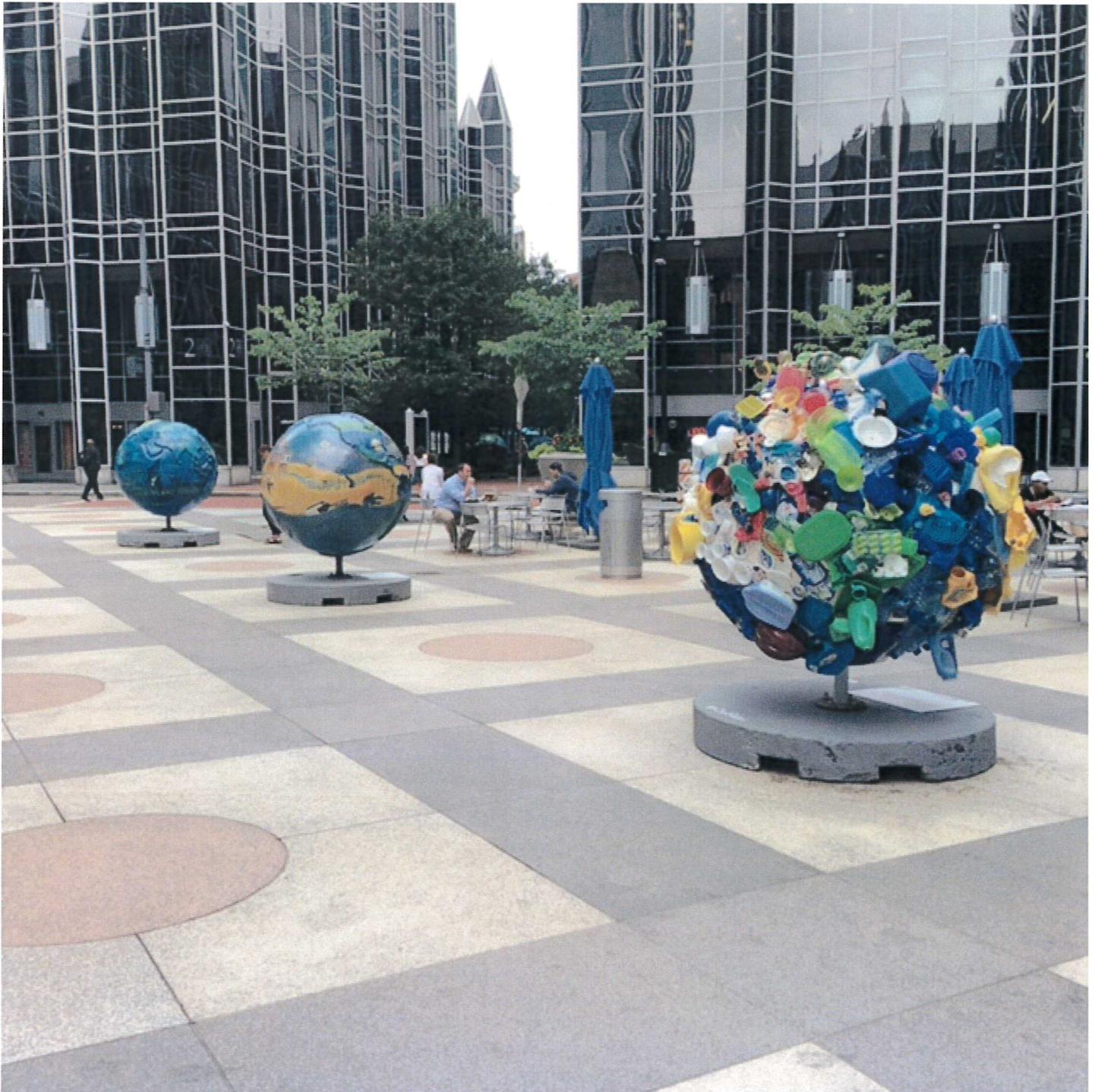
Often, parking garage lights are on 24 hours a day, seven days a week – even when the buildings are totally unoccupied, resulting in excessive energy use and high utility bills. In Downtown Pittsburgh alone, there are 84 parking garages and surface parking lots. The Green Building Alliance's Pittsburgh 2030 District, the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), Pittsburgh Parking Authority (PPA) and Sports and Exhibition Authority (SEA) retrofit some of the garages within Pittsburgh with energy efficient light fixtures, resulting in a 64% reduction in annual electricity use. Because of the positive results, the initiative is now being considered on a broader scale for the city of Pittsburgh.

Artist: Brad Gonyer

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VIRA I. HEINZ ENDOWMENT



**COOL GLOBES-GREEN GARAGES-ACKNOWLEDGES THE
PITTSBURGH PARKING AUTHORITY
FOR ITS EFFORTS TO CONSERVE ENERGY**



**COOL GLOBES EXHIBITION IN PPG PLAZA
DESIGNED TO RAISE AWARENESS
OF SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE
PITTSBURGH JUNE 2018**



COOL GLOBES EXHIBITION ALONG LIBERTY AVENUE GATEWAY # 1- DESIGNED TO RAISE AWARENESS OF SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE - PITTSBURGH JUNE 2018



DON'T LET THE ICE MELT

**PITTSBURGH PENGUINS GLOBE
COOL GLOBES EXHIBITION-DESIGNED TO RAISE
AWARENESS OF SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE
MARKET SQUARE-PITTSBURGH-JUNE 2018**



DON'T LET THE ICE MELT

**PITTSBURGH PENGUINS GLOBE
COOL GLOBES EXHIBITION-DESIGNED TO RAISE
AWARENESS OF SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE
MARKET SQUARE-PITTSBURGH-JUNE 2018**



Don't Let the Ice Melt

Winter sports depend on winter weather, and hockey is no exception. However, today's warming climate poses an increasing threat to outdoor sports seasons.

Recognizing that a lot of energy is used within professional hockey, the NHL is putting environmental initiatives into play to help counteract that. Innovations such as switching to LED lighting, more water efficient fixtures, composting, and solar panels. The Pittsburgh Penguins have an ongoing commitment to the cause, as their arena was the first sports facility in North America to be LEED Gold Certified with the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design certification program. Hockey fans can help too! Recycle the Game encourages fans to donate used equipment to sports and hockey programs, instead of throwing them away.

The NHL hopes that their example to green up the game will influence the 76 million hockey fans who watch the sport – further creating positive change.

How will you protect winter sports for future generations?

Artists: Rebecca Greene and Kerri McGill

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