

RISK MATTERS



Managing Risk in a
Changing Business World

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Introduction

Risk is an unavoidable fact of life in the construction sector

Managing risk effectively has always been crucial to commercial success and requires the cultivation of a risk-aware philosophy throughout all levels of an organisation regardless of its position in the overall supply chain.

In itself this is nothing new. Yet in today's fast evolving construction and business environments it is more important than ever for professionals to understand the challenges they face and to keep their risk management strategies under constant review.

A series of 'round table' meetings with a range of representatives from across the sector were organised to assist our attempts to address those challenges. Some of their contributions appear in this publication which looks at how current trading conditions might shape tomorrow's claims landscape.

In addition to the ongoing risks facing construction businesses, we identified new and emerging challenges including:

- **Understanding what 'truly collaborative' working really means and the impact it has on project delivery**
- **Working with Building Information Modelling ('BIM'), and properly understanding what that means beyond simply 'new software'**
- **Controlling the consequences of business growth as the post-recession workload increases**
- **Managing the integration of teams to meet the changing needs of employers**
- **Competing in a global market and accommodating different cultures, expectations, and political change**

Given these new threats (and opportunities), consultants working in the built environment must remain as vigilant as ever to ensure they do not expose themselves to unnecessary contractual claims and disputes.

The way in which consultants run their businesses, how they decide to take on new work, how projects are priced, how employees are selected for particular jobs and

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