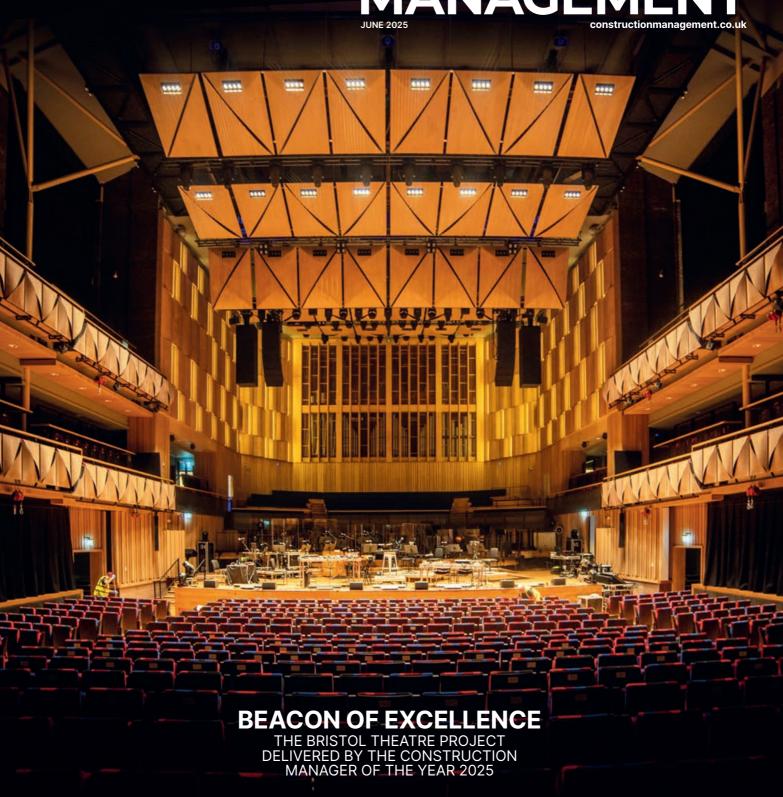
CIOB
The Chartered Institute of Building

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT



5,368 industry leaders share insights on Al



76% of firms plan to prioritize AI over the next three years. Download the Spotlight on Artificial Intelligence report and find out why.





06/25

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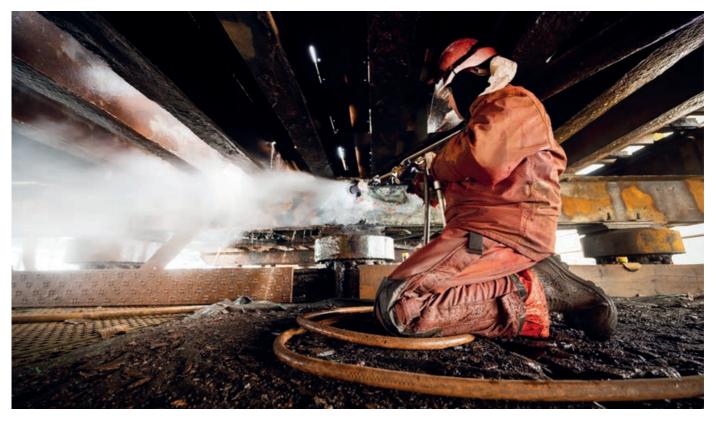
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58 Highlights of the CIOB calendar What's on over the next month





▲ Historic pier brought back to life

Civils contractor Octavius has completed a nine-month programme of critical repairs to Ryde Pier on the Isle of Wight, the oldest pier in the UK. The £11.5m project included a complete refurbishment of all of the pier's trackrelated infrastructure and replacement of the entire signalling system.

Autonomous quarry plant

Building materials manufacturer Holcim has trialled Al-powered quarry plant over two days at the company's Lee Moor sand and gravel quarry. A 23 tonne Develon crawler excavator fitted with autonomous technology from Swiss startup Gravis Robotics averaged 133 cycles an hour, shifting 1,500 tonnes of material daily, with a 99% accuracy and minimal spillage.

Ashe Construction's social value manager, Natalie Webb, explains why social value is an essential aspect of her company's operations (p40)



Skilled excellence

A coppersmith has used specialised skills and craftsmanship to restore two spires of a London chapel being converted into a residence. Multi-disciplinary firm Earl Kendrick was involved in a monitoring role, checking quality, progress and compliance under a licence to alter.



▼ Brick slip-clad precast facade

Wates has installed brick-concrete hybrid panels weighing up to 20 tonnes at its Ribbon project in London's Oxford Street. Wates is the main contractor of the £80m development, which will include shops, offices and a basement nightclub. Completion is expected this year.



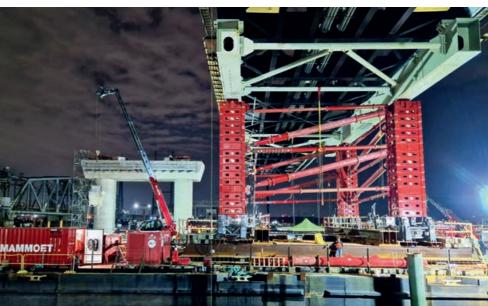
Mammoth task

Dutch heavy lifting firm Mammoet used its Mega Jack system, designed to push exceptionally big structures, to jack each of the three bridge sections – each measuring over 120 metres – of the new Portal North Bridge used by trains linking Newark, New Jersey and New York. The sections were then positioned using tugboats and winches before being lowered into place onto their columns.

▼ Colas 'starter pack'

LinkedIn users have been employing OpenAl's GPT-40 image generator to produce personalised 'starter packs' of professional action figures. The Al tool creates them from photos uploaded by the user with a specific prompt. The trend, which began on TikTok and X, spread across LinkedIn and has been used by construction firms, including Bouygues Group's subsidiary Colas.





Hackitt on competence standard: 'We should have reached this point sooner'

The author of the post-Grenfell report into building safety has urged professional institutions to action next steps urgently. By Cristina Lago



The UK Standard for Professional **Engineering Competence and** Commitment contextualised for Higher-Risk Buildings (UK-SPEC HRB) was developed in response to Hackitt's Building a Safer Future report to assess the competence and commitment of individual engineers and technicians working on HRBs in the UK.

In her 2018 report, Hackitt slammed a "race to the bottom" culture across the built environment. which was central to the tragedy that killed 72 people on 14 June 2017.

"Having delivered my report at pace in less than a year, I had hoped that that same sense of urgency and pace would be picked up by industry in fixing the many problems that I'd uncovered with regard to competence," she said at the launch of UK-SPEC HRB in Westminster.

"It's certainly true that a huge number of people got busy very, very quickly in defining a whole range of competences across the piece," she added, congratulating the work of the Construction Industry Council's (CIC) competence working groups following her report and the launch of UK-SPEC HRB.

"I must add at this point that I believe we should have reached this point much sooner, notwithstanding the challenges which things like the pandemic have thrown in our path. Overall, I still don't feel that the sense of urgency has been there to drive things at the right pace."

The launch of the new standard was held in a House of Lords reception hosted by the Earl of Lindsay

Standard 'must have teeth'

Hackitt said she was "delighted" by the Engineering Council's launch of a new competency register for professionally qualified structural and civil engineers to demonstrate their competence in working on HRBs, which was one of the recommendations of the CIC's Setting the Bar building safety competence report.

The Engineering Council has licensed five professional bodies for the new HRB standard registration, including the Chartered Association of Building Engineers (CABE), the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE), the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) and the Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE).

Addressing the Engineering Council, Hackitt said: "I will be very keen to hear more about the next stages you've mapped out, which will need to include driving the individual institutions who have been licensed to award this

Having delivered my report at pace in less than a year, I had hoped that that same sense of urgency and pace would be picked up by industry in fixing the many problems that I'd uncovered with regard to competence Dame Judith Hackitt

qualification in raising awareness among their members, not just of the existence of this new qualification, but driving them to register against the standard."

She continued: "We also need to be clear in due course how you will differentiate between those who do demonstrate competence and those who do not, what happens to those who fail to make the registration."

Hackitt looked around the Cholmondeley Room, packed with representatives and members of engineering institutions and industry, including the Health and Safety Executive's head of operational policy for competence, Sandra Ashcroft and the chair of the Engineering Council, John Chudley.

"The standard must mean something. It must have teeth and it must be transparent."

Hackitt concluded: "So this new standard is very welcome. It is much needed, but we now have a job to do to make it stick as part of the new system and the new culture that many of us are trying to create."

BSI publishes new MMC and fire safety standards

New PAS is first to set out processes for modern methods of construction

The British Standards Institution (BSI) has published a new modern methods of construction (MMC) specification for residential developments.

PAS 8700:2025 is the first PAS to set out comprehensive requirements and processes for the deployment of MMC in residential building projects.

The standard includes provisions for the industry on the consistent application of MMC throughout all project phases, from design and manufacturing to assembly, maintenance, adaptation and end-of-life considerations.

Additionally, BSI has updated its 2017 standard for fire alarm systems for non-domestic premises. The revised BS 5839-1 includes updated recommendations – including design, installation, commissioning and certification – so that new work, including aspects of extensions and alterations that involve

new work, can be carried out consistently.

BS 5839-1 also addresses systems that are capable of providing signals to initiate the operation of other fire protection systems or safety measures, such as smoke control systems, automatic door release mechanisms, gas or oil shut-off valves and lift grounding.

The standard's latest edition is intended to play a crucial role in supporting compliance with UK building regulations and fire safety legislation and is referenced in both volumes of Approved Document B (Fire Safety).

The standard includes provisions for the industry on the consistent application of MMC from design and manufacturing to end of life





CIOB introduces 'digital badges' for members

New technology will make it easier for members and fellows to showcase their verified skills and achievements

CIOB has launched a digital badging scheme that will allow its members. fellows and technical members to showcase their professional competence in a modern.

verifiable format.

The technology, powered by Credly, is part of the institute's push to support members in a digital-first construction industry and promote modern professionalism. It is the first major professional body in the built environment to introduce digital badging.

CIOB's digital badges are designed to provide a trusted, portable way for members to display their verified achievements and skills to clients, employers and peers. Unlike paperbased certificates, these digital

A Ruth Kennedy-Green, director of membership at CIOB credentials are embedded with metadata which allows for real-time, transparent verification.

"The construction industry is evolving, and so are the ways we recognise and share professional achievements," said Ruth Kennedy-Green, CIOB director of membership. "At CIOB, we are proud to introduce digital badges for our members and fellows - a dynamic way to showcase competence, commitment, and excellence in the built environment.

"Whether you are an MCIOB, FCIOB or TechCIOB, your badge reflects your dedication to raising standards in the industry and your adherence to the highest levels of professionalism."

Digital badging is increasingly used across industries to align professional recognition with digital platforms and workflows, CIOB sees its introduction as a means of building trust and enabling clarity, which will also help members stand out in a competitive jobs market.

"Digital badges amplify professional recognition," Kennedy-Green said. "They provide an accessible, verified way for members to highlight their achievements. More than just graphics, these badges are loaded with metadata that verifies your skills, qualifications, and the criteria met to earn them."

The system will help individuals and the wider sector, she explained. "For the industry, these badges

What are digital badges?

- Digital badges are secure online representations of professional achievements, backed by metadata that verifies the skills, criteria and awarding organisation.
- Badges can be easily shared across networks like LinkedIn and in email signatures, making accomplishments visible in a digital-first job market.
- Each badge links to a detailed record confirming the holder's qualification or membership status, ensuring instant validation.
- Digital badges are considered to be more adaptable, interactive and harder to fake than traditional credentials.

create clarity and confidence. Employers and clients can quickly identify individuals with verified expertise, ensuring that projects are led by competent and capable professionals."

CIOB believes the launch aligns with wider changes in how professional skills are recognised.

"This initiative is about recognising modern professionalism," said Kennedy-Green. "It's no longer just about what you know - it's about how you share and apply that knowledge in a rapidly changing world, with digital badges providing a trusted and transparent way to showcase your credentials.

"Your expertise deserves to be celebrated. This is just one of the ways we're helping you shine." .

CIOB digital badges – what members should expect

CIOB members and fellows will receive an email invitation from Credly by the end of May.

Once accepted, the process to claim and share a badge is straightforward. Users simply follow the instructions to set up a Credly account, claim their badge and

start sharing it across platforms like LinkedIn, CVs and email signatures.

The current rollout focuses on core membership categories, but CIOB has plans to expand the scheme to its other products and services, such as courses and certifications delivered via CIOB Academy.

Feedback A selection of readers' comments about news and issues in the industry from across the CIOB community and social media



'Our main contractor client is withholding payments. What can we do?'

This contract clinic looked at the options for a subcontractor whose main contractor failed to pay its final invoice.

Michael Hawkyard FCIOB, accredited mediator and registered adjudicator

The Late Payment of Commercial Debts Act 1998 (later amended by **Late Payment of Commercial Debts** Regulations 2013) sought to penalise late payers by draconian interest on such late debts.

The words "provide a substantial contractual remedy" within the act being pertinent. In the event of the party's express terms not so providing, the default position of 8% above base rate is specified in the act.

However, when base rates are very low, as has been the case over recent years, it is arguable that 8% added to almost nothing is NOT a "substantial remedy" and more than 8% could well be supported by the courts, depending on all the circumstances.

The act provides, in addition to interest, for a lump sum to be paid by the defaulting party, although the sums specified (dependent on the band within which the debt falls) are not large.

A caveat should be noted, and that is the act allows a delay to be contractually specified before statutory interest begins to accrue.

A further remedy (tactic?) a creditor may wish to consider is the issue of a statutory demand, a precursor to insolvency proceedings, but space precludes discussion of this. Suffice it to say that I have used this 'threat' to good effect on many occasions on behalf of clients (and myself).



Michael Hawkyard FCIOB: 'A further remedy a creditor may wish to consider is the issue of a statutory demand'

The learning process from near misses is arguably more valuable than accident investigation Michael Watts **RetMCIOB**

most important things is working in collaboration on this.

It was insightful to hear that CITB has a net zero action plan on its website.



Everything contractors should know about RIDDOR

Gateley solicitor Holly Caulwell explained when reporting an accident is required by law, and why going beyond the minimum requirements is desirable to keep employees safe.

Michael Watts RetMCIOB I think the issue of near misses should have a higher profile. The learning process from these is arguably more valuable than accident investigation – a near miss is an accident waiting to happen.



Construction consultants revive clerk of works role

A Midlands building consultancy is reviving the concept of a clerk of works as building safety and compliance become increasingly important.

David Gale FCIOB

Well done. I hope this is the start of an industrywide initiative and has longevity. The name clerk of works may change, but a trained specialist of whatever nomenclature independently focused only on quality and compliance (over and above building control) is the key to ensuring quality and safe fitness for purpose, sadly eroded over the last few decades.

21CC podcast

Do we have the skills for a retrofit revolution?

CITB's Wendy Osborn and Kevin McLoughlin FCIOB sat down with CM People's editor Nadine Buddoo to discuss the construction workforce's challenges hindering the UK's retrofit efforts.

Leeroy Mathias via LinkedIn It was good to hear Wendy talk about the two big requirements which are seeing an increase in the number of people needed in the industry and how a retrofit operates. I definitely agree with her important observation that getting the right amount of support with apprenticeships is critical.

Talking about apprenticeships, it was interesting to hear Wendy mention the different challenges in the [UK] nations in the way they work and that one of the

 Share your views on the latest industry issues by posting comments online at www.constructionmanagement.co.uk or by emailing the editor at construction-management@ atompublishing.co.uk.



Rising wage costs are eating into construction's margins

The industry's persistent skills shortage is pushing wage inflation while also thwarting project delivery, writes Nitesh Patel



Wages in construction are rising at a faster pace than across the wider economy.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) reported that average weekly earnings in the industry accelerated to 7.5% in the year to February, from 6% in January. In contrast, the average increase across the economy was 5.3%.

Softer construction demand has not meant lower wage growth. This is partly because vacancy levels, although falling, are still above their

pre-Covid levels as firms struggle to replace workers leaving the sector.

At the heart of this is the industry's most pressing issue: the chronic shortage of skilled workers. Construction's share of the UK labour force is currently at a record low, and the industry has experienced a steady loss of workers.

In 2019, there were 2.4 million workers in construction. By 2024, this figure had dropped to 2.1 million, a fall of 11.8%. During the same period, the number of self-employed workers fell by 20.3%, while those

employed dropped by 6.2%. The decline in self-employed workers could be linked to the rise in construction insolvencies, although some left for health reasons, to retire or following post-Brexit regulation changes.

Continued skilled labour shortages are driving wage inflation and hindering project delivery. Contractors have highlighted this as the most pressing challenge to deliver on projects, surpassing concerns over rising construction costs. Lack of skilled workers is also undermining project efficiency, leading to delays, reduced productivity and operational bottlenecks.

Demographic factors mean these losses to the labour force haven't just caused a short-term reduction in capacity - they're also creating long-term challenges.

Recruitment push Research by the Construction **Industry Training Board (CITB)** estimates that the UK needs to recruit an additional 251,500 construction workers by 2028 just to meet demand. To bridge this

Percentage fall in construction workforce, from 2019 to 2024

11.8

Construction's share of the UK labour force is currently at a record low, and the industry has experienced a steady loss of workers

gap, the government announced in March a package to train up to 60,000 more skilled construction workers by 2029, including engineers, bricklayers, electricians and joiners. While this is a move in the right direction, a considerable shortage of workers remains.

Initiatives such as the Growth and Skills Levy are providing ways for older tradespeople to transfer their skills to the next generation. One approach could be to incentivise workers to make a phased transition to retirement by training apprentices. Another could be upskilling between sectors, such as Network Rail's 'conversion' courses to help bricklayers with a residential building background transition into the rail sector.

Based on Building Cost Information Service (BCIS) data, skilled tradespeople, such as thermal insulators and steelworkers, saw above-industryaverage pay increases in 2024. It also reported large pay rises for semi and unskilled workers, though this data refers to Q2 2024 only.

High wage inflation is putting significant pressure on contractors' margins. On an individual project basis, contractors now typically only make a profit of between 3% and 6%. Analysis of the larger firms' financial results reveals that, in some cases, big contractors are making even less.

Margins are also being squeezed, with employers having to pay an additional 1.2% in National Insurance contributions for each staff member. This could constrain employers from granting high awards in the future.

Nitesh Patel is a lead economist at Turner & Townsend.





Caroline Gumble



Trans colleagues: you are welcome at CIOB

Following recent backlashes for the trans community in the UK and abroad, **Caroline Gumble** emphasises the importance of showing allyship with LGBTQ+ colleagues

I've always regarded having a CM

column as a privilege. In recognising the responsibility that comes with that, I have mainly focused on writing about the achievements of our members and key industry issues.

Today is different as I revisit the theme from my column in March, for many reasons but not least because having a platform means that sometimes I can be a voice for those who may not want or be able to use their voices.

So let me be clear - trans women and trans men are humans with feelings, just like you and me.

Any members of the transgender community or anyone who is part of the LGBTQ+ family is welcome to become a CIOB member.

It pains me deeply that I feel compelled to write this but I have seen the - to put it politely - policy shifts in the US and read about the recent Supreme Court ruling here in the UK.

As a consequence, it's easy to imagine that someone - anyone - who doesn't fit in with accepted gender norms could potentially face unwelcome and unwarranted questioning and scrutiny and maybe worse.



Anyone who is part of the LGBTQ+ family is welcome to become a CIOB member

I won't outline the worst consequences of what can happen when a particular group is marginalised or targeted because I hope we will not see intolerance become more widespread and entrenched and that the worst will be avoided.

But if my optimism is not to be misplaced, all of us have a part to play. Recognising that different people are in different places on this matter, let me offer some suggestions:

- If you are fortunate to count trans people among your friends, check in with them. They may be feeling vulnerable and would appreciate their friends and allies reaching out.
- If you don't have many trans people in your circle, still use your voice and make your allyship known. Use whatever platforms you have, including things like meetings with colleagues.
- If you feel that trans people are the problem, look at the facts. ONS figures suggest that less than 1% of the UK population identifies as trans, although this figure may not be accurate as many trans people don't feel able to be open about their identity. This in itself is an indictment of the lack of tolerance in our society.

I feel angry about the vulnerable position trans people have been put in, for no rational, discernible reason, and I unequivocally stand with them.

Caroline Gumble is CEO of CIOB.



Jessica Taylor Diversitas

Diversitas: a new chapter for black leadership in the built environment

An independent body is reshaping construction's leadership by making top black professionals visible in the industry, explains **Jessica Taylor**



In recent years, the construction

industry has made serious attempts towards acknowledging and respecting the talents and achievements of black construction professionals within its workforce.

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) has been a leader in this by driving a key initiative under its auspices: Diversitas.

Launched in June 2023, Diversitas is an independent body with a singular focus: to profile and promote top black construction professionals into leadership positions within CIC and across the sector.

In an industry as vast and vital as construction, leadership should reflect the diverse talent that drives it forward. Yet, for too long, black construction professionals have been underrepresented at the highest levels, within construction

44

True, meaningful change won't happen without diverse leadership at the top table professional bodies and as decisionmakers within the built environment.

That's why Diversitas was created: to change the narrative, open doors and ensure that talented black professionals are not only present but acknowledged as leaders.

I chair Diversitas, supported by my vice-chair Gail Royston. We are both passionate about increasing the representation of great black construction professionals in the built environment.

Our 'fab four' founding member organisations, DiverseCity
Surveyors, the Association for
Black and Minority Ethnic Engineers
(AFBE-UK), Black Professionals in
Construction (BPIC Network) and the
BAME Planners Network, and their
leaders share our vision.

Each of them is a leading organisation in its own right and has a high profile in the industry. They are all working tirelessly to ensure that the next generation of talented black construction professionals doesn't just take part in the industry but has an equal role in leading it.

Reshaping leadership

The industry is evolving. We are seeing shifts in policies, priorities and people. But true, meaningful change won't happen without diverse leadership at the top table. black construction professionals bring expertise, innovation and invaluable perspectives, yet many still face barriers to progression.

This is where Diversitas steps in. Through our platform and our member organisations, we aim to:

- Profile and promote top black professionals in the industry.
- Advocate for talented black professionals in leadership roles.
- Create meaningful opportunities for career growth.
- Challenge industry norms and societal assumptions to ensure fair representation.

The launch of our website is another step forward in reshaping leadership in the built environment. With increased visibility, stronger networks and ongoing advocacy, Diversitas remains committed to ensuring talented black professionals have the recognition and influence they deserve.

Diversitas is more than just an initiative: it's a movement towards a more equitable industry. By championing black professionals and ensuring they have the opportunities and recognition they deserve, it is paving the way for a future where leadership truly reflects the diverse talent within the built environment.

Together, we can build a stronger, more innovative industry for everyone.

Jessica Taylor is chair of Diversitas. Visit www.diversitas.org.uk.



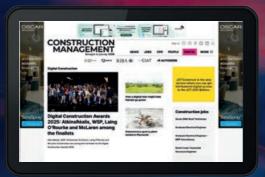


BIMplus is now CM Digital

In response to the increasing focus on information management and digitalisation among digital construction professionals, BIMplus has rebranded as CM Digital.

The same award-winning BIMplus editorial team will be creating the same high quality content, including interviews, project case studies, and news about the latest digital construction developments.

www.constructionmanagement.co.uk/digital-construction







CIOB Awards 2025

Sponsored by







Construction Manager of the Year 2025 Renovation & Restoration





★Gold Overall Winner
Jason Hunt MCIOB,
Willmott Dixon

Project: Bristol Beacon **Scope:** Renovation and transformation of Grade II-listed building into a concert hall and performance hub, completed in 235 weeks

Client: Bristol City Council

Value: £95m

Project director Jason Hunt's

solutions-focused leadership, risk insight and determination overcame major historic defects on this ambitious project. These ranged from poorly executed previous alterations to fire-weakened masonry.

Hunt averted financial catastrophe through shrewd technical stewardship, propping and supporting fragile heritage elements while creating new spaces and installing new structures.

He instilled a collaborative mindset across the whole team, which created and drove an engaged project dynamic. This approach delivered for the client, determined to have a world-class facility, exactly what it had envisioned.

Bolts from the blue on this scheme landed with enough force to sink the entire project. Shock setbacks included the discovery that the existing decorative brickwork columns were hollow. It turned out they had been part of a historic hot-air heating system that also included open trenches in the floors.

Yet the design relied on these columns to support a new steel and concrete floor in the ▶

Hunt averted financial catastrophe through shrewd technical stewardship, supporting fragile heritage elements while creating new spaces and installing new structures



- The renovated Bristol Beacon complex brings together modern and heritage elements
- The Beacon Hall interior has been refurbished with an increased capacity and seating size

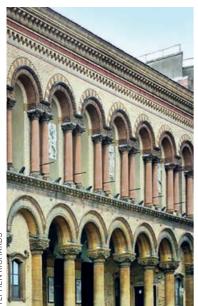
Renovation & Restoration

auditorium above. Hunt's solution involved temporarily supporting the columns and filling them with structural concrete.

Further surprises included three hidden Elizabethan wells found in the basement areas, immediately beneath load-bearing walls and a planned lift pit. Hunt had them filled with concrete and monitored for movement, reprogramming work around them as he developed and implemented his structural solutions.

Hunt's shrewd technical leadership saw off all these challenges. Meanwhile, his projectfirst strategy of making decisions based solely on what was right for the scheme, and resolving the commercial or programme implications afterwards, were key to fostering a collaborative mindset that drove the project's success. It led to a handover with a client and user thrilled to have a facility of such tangible quality and craftsmanship.







Other finalists

Jonathan Brock MCIOR Beard

Colin Cameron MCIOB Morgan Sindall

James Friedmann Eric Wright Construction



Value: £500,000

★Winner Steven Gilbert MCIOB, **Abbey Extensions &** Renovations

Project: Rollscourt Avenue, London Scope: Extension and refurbishment of Edwardian house, completed in 30 weeks **Client:** Private

Director Steven Gilbert set the goal

of becoming the best residential developer in the UK when he set up his company five years ago. This project – to construct a side extension, convert a mansard roof into liveable space and refurbish an Edwardian house - illustrates his ambition.

Gilbert was recommended to the architect and packed nine months of work into a six-month timeline. due to the fixed deadlines with severe financial penalties.

Before the steel-framed glazing could be ordered, the window arches needed to be fully formed and the kitchen installed. Gilbert tested moisture levels daily to ensure his temporary weatherproofing solution was working properly.

Gilbert demonstrated he worked with his clients in mind. He suggested, for example, creating a fun, secret crawlspace in the eaves between the bedrooms of the clients' two daughters. The clients were delighted, and Gilbert's business is now working on another three projects with the architect.

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Congratulations to the 2025 CIOB Awards winners & nominees

Elecosoft is proud to support the people driving excellence in construction as we celebrate innovation and leadership. Asta software has long been a trusted partner for CIOB members and award winners, helping teams to plan, track and deliver complex projects with confidence and precision.

Find out how Asta solutions can help you deliver excellence on your next project by scanning the QR code below.



Enabling smart outcomes

High Rise Accommodation





★ Gold David John MCIOB, Willmott Dixon Construction

Project: Millwrights Place and Coopers Court, Bristol

Scope: Construction of 15-storey and 10-storey blocks with 297 apartments, completed in 168 weeks

Client: Cubex Land Value: £57m

Handing over a defect-free

residential tower is notoriously difficult. David John not only managed the feat, on time and to budget, but delivered a quality that blew the client away.

Covering everything from sample apartments to fire-stopping details and envelope sections, his early benchmark apartment was described as "insanely good" by the scheme funder, and the standard was maintained through to completion.

Meanwhile, the local authority's building control inspectors have recognised the project as an exemplar as a result of John's

absolute attention to detail on fire safety compliance.

The problematic logistics on the city-centre site, with no storage space, included not blocking the route of fire engines at a neighbouring fire station. John's response was to rent an offsite materials storage yard and bring in a logistics manager. After organising a lessons-learned workshop from a previous project, he created a more robust and cost-effective building by prefabricating the balconies and bolting them on.

When serious hold-ups to an adjacent development prevented him deploying a 60-tonne piling rig to operate from an upper ground floor, John had a propping system designed and installed to cut short the setback.

Faced with a nail-biting, monthslong delay – beyond his control - in connecting to the district heat network. John devised a solution that allowed the structural frame to progress while accommodating network installation later on. What client wouldn't have been thrilled?



★Silver Matthew Legg, **Vinci Construction**

Project: New Victoria, Manchester Scope: Construction of 520 apartments in a 20-storey and a 25-storey tower, completed in 159 weeks

Client: Muse Value: £122m

Matt Legg saw off multiple

challenges on this towers project. The tight city-centre location demanded constant diplomatic but decisive engagement with Network Rail and other stakeholders. He facilitated 15 service diversions and disconnections before construction began, rerouted a sewer via a pair of 14-metre-deep shafts, and incorporated a £5m linkbridge variation mid-construction.

When Network Rail insisted the project's piles exert no force whatsoever on its culvert under the site, threatening to halt the scheme, he found a solution. The relieving slab structure added nine weeks to the programme and £350k to the budget but kept the project moving.

Legg cultivated robust relationships with his responsive approach. He delivered the scheme, to budget, with impressive quality, and a thumping 24 weeks early.



Other finalists

Matthew Baglow JJ Rhatigan Building Contractors

Mark Brady McAleer & Rushe

Zak Carroll MCIOB McLaren

Construction Mark Chamberlain **FCIOB**

Willmott Dixon **Paddy Connolly**

MCIOB McAleer & Rushe Contracts UK

Andy Howarth MCIOB Willmott Dixon

Oliver Lester **FCIOB** Willmott Dixon

Low Rise Accommodation



★ Gold **Graham Potts. Kier Construction**

Project: Marylebone Square,

London W1

Scope: Construction of 79 apartments in nine-storey block, completed in 158 weeks

Client: Concord London

Value: £124m

A constrained site in central

London, the entire footprint taken up by the building itself, and surrounded by busy roads, schools and commercial premises, posed a tough construction challenge.

This was amplified by the complex technical design and ambitious aesthetic. This was a nine-storey building (including a three-level basement) with bespoke internal and external facades, terraces, a fivestorey atrium and premium fit out.

Graham Potts used powerful programming and planning to deliver this scheme. He appointed a management team purposely

diverse from a gender, cultural, age and experience perspective. This was in line with the CIOB key driver which includes diversity and inclusion, sending a clear message of working as one team.

His close management and stringent control of the extensive use of offsite manufacture assured quality, buildability and programme compliance. The factory-made glazed ceramic cladding, cast aluminium balustrading for inset balconies, internal steel bridges and MEP services were ready for delivery when needed, speeding up build time.

Potts put huge emphasis on benchmarking to ensure quality standards. Many materials, such as the terracotta facade pieces and bathroom stone, were expensive and difficult to work with. He built a full facade visual mock-up off site, a complete working bathroom on site, and created a 'first in series apartment' 12 weeks prior to completion. These early benchmarks set high quality expectations, which were fully met.





★Silver Matthew Lewis MCIOB. Wates

Project: Aspen Grove, Cardiff Scope: Construction of 170 houses, completed in 190 weeks

Client: Cardiff County Council

Value: £45m

This was Matt Lewis' first residential project, which he delivered 10 weeks early, under budget, incorporating sustainable tech and boosting the contractor satisfaction rating from two stars to the maximum five.

Building scores of houses simultaneously is challenging. Lewis kept key subcontractors on site for the project's duration, and divided the project into 22 phases. At the same time, he oversaw delivery of homes to hundreds of happy buyers.

The jump in customer satisfaction came from him working closely with all site workers, sales and aftersales to drive up the build standard.

Lewis saved £150,000 on the groundworks package by removing superfluous works. He cut material and excavation costs by eliminating manifolds for the pipework. And he greatly reduced operational costs by using electricity generated by the solar panels in the show plot to power the site setup.



Andrew Canning Caddick Construction

Dominic Coxshall Willmott Dixon

Alan French Willmott Dixon

Jon Kelly MCIOB Storey Homes

Stephen McGinty McAleer & Rushe

Commercial & Leisure





Project: Norton Folgate, Shoreditch, London Scope: Refurbishment, extension and redevelopment of six building plots to create over 300,000 sq ft of office and retail space, completed in 158 weeks

Client: British Land Value: £232m

Graham Mercer brought 40 years'

construction experience, engineering skills, adaptability and problemsolving to this project. He introduced a precast strategy that gave the construction project certainty, introducing 13 sectional completions to give the client commercial benefit by allowing early tenant access.

Mercer's championing of a precast facade mitigated the risks associated with working near a major rail line.

It also improved labour efficiency, enhanced quality and eliminated scaffolding, expanded the floor area, and shaved three months off the project completion time.

Every floor plate was different across the 12 buildings, and 67 floors were being worked on simultaneously. Each had a unique design, making standardisation impossible and bespoke solutions necessary at every level. Mercer tackled the challenges with meticulous planning and coordination.

To deliver on quality, Mercer created a quality management team drawing members from each project discipline together. He also worked to foster a culture of openness that allowed issues to be addressed promptly and proactively.

The judges agreed with the client's assessment of Mercer's delivery of this complex development as 'heroic'. Mercer's collaborative, transparency and value-driven culture inspired a shared purpose among the team and delivered client joy.



★Silver Connor McMahon, McAleer & Rushe

Project: City Square House, Leeds Scope: Construction of 140,000 sq ft of office space over 12 storeys, completed in 145 weeks

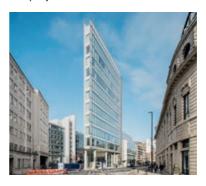
Client: MRP Value: £43m

At practical completion 85% of the space had already been pre-let, resulting in happy tenants and an even happier client. Connor McMahon's can-do approach earned him a fit-out contract for two of the floors.

He expertly managed piling the site, which had already been piled twice, crimping existing piles, executing extensive temporary works with A-frame props and overseeing the late introduction of a secant wall.

He championed slipforming the building core for speed, quality and strength. When the subcontractor went into administration, he directly employed the labour to keep the project on track. Similarly, when the curtain-walling subcontractor went out of business, he directly employed its key personnel.

With limited room to construct the basement car park, he redesigned the project to retain the basement.



Other finalists

Simon Bywater Willmott Dixon

Jason Elphick Willmott Dixon

Alex Heath MCIOB Willmott Dixon

Jason Sims MCIOB Caddick Construction

Dillon Siva MCIOB Willmott Dixon

Fraser Tanner MCIOB McI aren Construction

Chris White MCIOB Willmott Dixon

Healthcare



Project: Singleton Hospital,

Swansea

Scope: Replacement of front facade, completed

in 155 weeks

Client: Swansea Bay University Health Board/Bwrdd Iechyd Prifvsgol Bae Abertawe

Value: £11m

Dean Williams was brought in as

operational lead two-thirds of the way through the project, bringing a fresh approach to phased facade replacement. Drawing on lessons learned on previous phases, Williams maintained the design aesthetic while firmly focusing on project delivery, budget and quality.

The sheer size of the facade required a complex and repetitive process of ward relocations to allow asbestos removal, demolition of



the original facade and installation of new cladding and windows.

Williams tackled a two-week delay by resequencing the external works, synchronising the scaffolding and hoist dismantling with the ongoing permanent works, to get back on track.

He delivered sizeable cost savings by challenging the sequencing and methodology of work for a neonatal ward. Time savings were made by replacing a brise soleil with specialised window film that was more effective in reducing solar

heat gain and glare while also improving end-user privacy.

Ongoing quality issues with previous phases were eliminated by Williams' introduction of a simple inspection and snagging protocol to allow a no-defect handover.

This award recognises Williams' calm leadership style, which brought an increased urgency to day-to-day tasks, while re-energising the site team and focusing attention on quality and delivery. Collaborative and proactive, Williams delivered the project on time.

Other finalists

Gareth Drake MCIOB

Tilbury Douglas

Wayne Fleet Barnes Construction

Andy Gray MCIOB Willmott Dixon Interiors

Matthew Keen BAM Construct UK



Project: Lowther Road Integrated Community Mental Health Facility, Islington, London

Scope: Construction of four-storey block, completed in 86 weeks

Client: Camden & Islington NHS **Foundation Trust**

Value: £18m

This constrained site faced

locational challenges including the need to gain oversail agreement

from neighbouring properties for a tower crane. Scaffolding had to be installed over adjacent buildings to construct the facade, and noise and disruption from demolition of the existing facility had to be minimised.

Project manager Steve Musson was the main point of contact for neighbourhood liaison. Deliveries were restricted to working hours, and the community was kept up-to-date with monthly paper and e-newsletters.

Musson gained stakeholder buy-in through early mock-ups, samples and visuals. His early planning for a new substation de-risked the scheme. He put in deeper foundations to support

the crane and scaffold, increasing the upper floors loading capacity and expanding site storage on a tight footprint. His robust inspection, testing and snagging regime delivered quality results.



Education





Michael Braiden MCIOB, Morgan Sindall Construction

Project: Maybole Community Campus, South Ayrshire Scope: Construction of school campus and community hub, completed in 151 weeks Client: Hub South West Scotland for South Ayrshire Council Value: £59m

A succession of storms badly

damaged a crucial 100m retaining wall and backfill, on which this project's structural frame was dependent, resulting in a 12-week delay. Michael Braiden was brought in as project director to avert programme doom and reset the project dynamic. His 40+ years of successful project delivery, managerial skills and dedication to achieving quality projects on time and to budget were equal to the task.

Braiden restructured the team, to better leverage its knowledge

and skills, and work and plan more collaboratively. He also brought in an independent tester to map a compliance route. Braiden drove the programme, inspiring the design team and supply chain, and monitored all activities and implemented recovery measures whenever required.

His interventions were key to the success of the programme. Braiden introduced, for example, prefabricated modular plant rooms as well as retaining and reusing excavated soil to construct additional sports pitches. He rolled out a completion criteria dashboard that managed the commissioning process right through to effective handover.

On a location far from the Scottish central belt and all the benefits that brings in terms of costs, procurement and labour pools, Braiden nevertheless delivered a building completed to the highest quality and compliance standards. The thrilled client has singled him out for work on future projects.



★Silver Greg Browne MCIOB. **BAM Construct**

Project: Babbage Building, Plymouth Scope: Refurbishment of five-storey block and construction of 3,160 sq m extension, completed in 147 weeks Client: University of Plymouth

Value: £40m

This ever-evolving project involved

installing a wind tunnel, a heavy structures lab with a 60 tonne cast-iron bed plate, and a clutch of precision labs. The research equipment in the heavily serviced block was so cutting-edge that some simply did not exist at precontract.

One big switch required specialist labs be turned into clean rooms. Another was the introduction of local exhaust ventilation systems, which needed bespoke support to elevate them above the air handling units that already filled the roof space.

Project manager Greg Browne faced steep challenges, including making £3m in cost savings. He won client approval by bringing proposed changes to life with imagery and fly-throughs on the BIM platform. Big savings were made by reducing internal glazing, removing a piled retaining wall and reducing the width of the linking extension corridors.

Other finalists

Liam Evans Willmott Dixon Gareth Fallows Willmott Dixon **Chris Scoins MCIOB BAM Construct UK**

Apex Contractors

Neil Smith



Public



★Gold Steve Fennell MCIOB. **Bovis Construction**

Project: HMP Fosse Way, Leicester

Scope: Construction of new prison with eight four-storey house blocks,

completed in 149 weeks **Client:** Ministry of Justice

Value: £303m

On this mammoth project around

13,000 factory-made concrete components were brought in, alongside 50,000 cast-in elements for the M&E, and the doors and the windows. These pre-cast elements accounted for 60% of the total contract value.

Operations director Steve Fennell's use of prefabrication brought value by driving out installation defects and accelerating the build, allowing groundworks and building preparation to run concurrently with component production. Meanwhile, his use of quality assurance software to manage



Other finalists Paul Ingram

the prefabrication and installation improved precision.

But Fennell's innovation reach extended further. After a cost analysis demonstrated the longterm durability of resin compared with the previously specified epoxy paint, he applied it to the floors and shower walls of cells. This change added maintenance value and quality at no extra cost.

Fosse Way prison has a focus on training and resettlement and incorporates 24 classrooms and workshops, including one for making concrete sections (supported

by a CAD qualification) for the construction industry and an HGV driving simulator.

Fennell ensured the ethos of the prison was also reflected in the site workforce. Of the 77 prisoners on temporary leave who worked on this project across its duration, three-quarters secured employment through the supply chain on release.

The success of Fennell's determined, professional, and collaborative leadership is clear from the client's award of a further £85m house block and ancillary buildings following this contract.



★Silver Paul Fletcher MCIOB, Kier

Project: Plymouth Crematorium at The Park, Devon

Scope: Construction of crematorium, completed in 97 weeks

Client: Plymouth City Council Value: £21m

Paul Fletcher joined partway

through the delayed build. Attention had been focused on landscaping the site's 6.8 hectares, including the development of wildflower meadows, attenuation ponds and

ornamental pond. But this was at the expense of progress on the zinc-roofed main building, which Fletcher reprioritised.

Numerous alterations to the roof's multiple pitches were also delaying the scaffold take-down, so Fletcher replaced this with scissor-lifts. Fletcher also increased the size of the workforce, accelerating progress further.

To maintain quality, he fostered a no-blame culture encouraging openness about mistakes, so they were not compounded. He set up the snagging system so only the client could sign off on defect closures.

Fletcher oversaw the design and building of bespoke 2.4 metre high internal doors to allow for shoulderborne coffins, and coordinated the building and M&E systems with client-supplied cremators.



Rising Star



Rohit Malhotra's special quality

was evident right from the start, impressing both his employers as well as the judges. In his first permanent role as a planning engineer at McLaren Construction

on a project in the UAE, unforeseen delays threatened the schedule. Malhotra swiftly identified the issues and recommended strategies to get the project back on track.

With a potential cost overrun looming on a second project, his comprehensive risk breakdown and mitigation proposals helped resolve the problem. Malhotra's technical, managerial and problem-solving prowess is equally clear in his current role as NEC project manager for AtkinsRéalis, as are his significant mentoring contributions as a CIOB Tomorrow's Leaders champion and STEM Ambassador.

Inspired by his father, who also works in the construction industry, Malhotra says he wants to leave his own legacy by shaping the built environment, and creating spaces that improve people's lives. His aim is to contribute positively and leave the sector "in a better place than I found it".

It makes sense then that if he hadn't gone into construction,

Growing up in Dubai. with construction in his blood and surrounded by iconic structures like the Burj Al Arab and Burj Khalifa skyscrapers, he was inspired to follow his dream of working in the industry



Rohit Malhotra: passionate about green building practices

Malhotra would have pursued a career in psychology or teaching. But growing up in Dubai, with construction in his blood and surrounded by iconic structures like the Burj Al Arab and Burj Khalifa skyscrapers, he was inspired to follow his dream of working in the industry.

Malhotra is also passionate about green building practices and the adoption of eco-friendly materials, and believes more focus and attention ought to be given to sustainability and innovation. He is also optimistic that automation

and digitalisation can provide some of the answers here, while also improving safety and efficiency.

Malhotra plans to focus his career within contracts management and is particularly interested in NEC contracts and dispute resolution.

A postgraduate student in construction and project management of Queen's University Belfast, Malhotra was recently invited back to become the face of the university graduate programme to inspire new generations of construction graduates.

Team





This complex project delivered

12 buildings across six plots in a conservation area, which generated considerable acrimony in planning. Some 500 protestors joined hands around the area in 2015, and Tower Hamlets Council rejected the scheme. It was overruled by the then mayor of London, Boris Johnson.

By incorporating a broad spectrum of stakeholders and using the project charter to build loyalty, commitment and social value, the project execution team turned around the fraught community relationships. It never avoided a difficult conversation, and communicated non-stop via weekly door knocks, newsletters, monthly face-to-face meetings and a project blog.

The team took on more preservation work than initially envisaged, as requested by the mayor, who was responding to consultations with

local people and the Spitalfields Trust. This included rows of Victorian warehouses on Blossom Street, and more Victorian buildings, plus one Georgian property, across Shoreditch High Street, Folgate Street and Elder Street. All were in varying degrees of preservation.

The core values of the scheme, as described by British Land project director Lynn Summerfield were "being open and honest, having difficult conversations early and doing what's right for the project, not what's easy". These were embraced by the whole project team including a project charter group comprising the client, contractor and consultants.

This was an ambitious and challenging project, with five different architects, and buildings that were old, new, rebuilt or with retained features. With so many elements to the project, and multiple consultants and contractors, good communication was vital. To address this, the team initiated half-hour updates of 'big information dumps' for everyone over Teams. Questions

could be asked anonymously, to encourage engagement.

A local concern was that the project could drive out smaller, and local, businesses. However, the variety of spaces created can be used by big or small firms, and there are also spaces for shorter-term lets.

Completed on time, the £232m development in London's Spitalfields is unique, beautiful and a model of how creating a positive and trusting team culture brings tangible value to a client. Summerfield said that, during the build, "every week I ask to walk around the site with someone different, and everyone has this bounce in their step because I think they know we're doing something special."



- ▲ The team working on the Norton Folgate project
- ◀ The project delivered 12 buildings in an inner London conservation area

Client



Other finalists

British Land Transport for Greater Manchester The Guinness **Partnership** The Christie NHS **Foundation Trust** Ministry of Justice London Borough of Hounslow



The new Merseyside Fire & Rescue

Service Training and Development Academy in Aintree will be used to help fire and rescue teams up and down the country prepare for emerging risks. The state-of-the-art development houses a four-bay operational fire station, the National Resilience Centre of Excellence, and canine training facilities. The academy's eight skills zones include both real-life and immersive fire-fighting training simulations.

'Good enough is never good enough' is the mindset for Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority that drives quality and continual gains. As a client its fostering of design, and construction creativity, has helped

deliver out-of-the-box solutions such as installing precast ramps and leading edges to create collapsed buildings for firefighter training.

Where the safe construction of intentionally dangerous structures for training purposes proved impossible, it found digital specialists to collaborate in building virtual reality rooms. Along with its support for co-developed solutions, design and component standardisation, and a long-term building partnership with Wates, this client brings a totally professional approach.

Chief fire officer Phil Garrigan said: "We must train for potential risks from marine incidents, wildfires, flooding, large waste fires and terrorist related incidents but also for localised risks in Merseyside with our extensive coastline, shipping and docks, airport, busy road and rail networks, tunnels and heritage sites."

The 4.85 hectare site will employ more than 40 training staff and 60 operational staff and has a suite of practical skills classrooms. The eight training zones will include scenarios such as: a six-storey high-rise building; a row of three terraced houses; a motorway scene; a hazardous materials training rig; an urban search and rescue zone; an overground and underground rail scenario; specialist vehicle garages; as well as a high-volume pump (HVP) training area.

The new academy will also host the National Resilience Assurance Team (NRAT), the UK International Search and Rescue team (UKISAR). and secondary fire control. It has been built with sustainability in mind, supporting net zero targets, with 23 electric vehicle charging points and improved biodiversity, and over 150 mature trees have been planted.

EDI Individual



As joint lead for the Clear

Pathways culture change programme, Gary Jones has had remarkable success in addressing the ethnicity pay gap within the Houses of Parliament. Clear Pathways provides learning and development support for the career aspirations of Black, Asian and minority ethnic colleagues.

With more than 75% of participants in this EDI programme experiencing career progression and promotion, Jones' initiatives have been highly effective. His strategic vision, coupled with a mastery of organisational design and change management, has been instrumental in driving change and empowering individuals. His data-driven, analytical approach ensured the programme's impact has been measured, optimised and continually enhanced.

Jones is a multi-award-winning "professional problem solver" delivering results-driven, resilient, and adaptable transformation and cultural change. He has led initiatives across a diverse range of industries, including the UK parliament, construction, culture and digital environments, automotive retail, central government,

With more than 75% of participants in the Clear Pathways programme experiencing career progression and promotion, Jones' initiatives have been highly effective

immigration, health, residential, higher education, scientific research, retail and telecoms.

Jones has acted as a construction adviser to Dellar and Dellar, focusing on ethical property investment, as well as serving as a trustee for the social mobility charity Building Self Belief in the UK. He is a co-founder of International Visas, an enterprise based in Harare, Zimbabwe, delivering migrant solutions for various markets.

He has also negotiated a joint venture between Zimbabwean and UK-based companies to identify

investment fund opportunities in minerals and infrastructure, as well as co-founding an energy performance certificate (EPC) and Home Inspectors Company, which he presented to the BBC Dragons Den programme.

Jones and fellow co-founder of Clear Pathways, Layo Obembe, now plan to develop Clear Corporate, a pan-parliamentary offering, so all colleagues of any background can benefit from the personal and organisational impact principles of the Clear Pathways project.

Other finalists

Martin Griffin GHD Leigh Renshaw **FCIOB** AstraZeneca



EDI Team





A specialist in high-end residential

and commercial projects in London, Dobuild is no paper tiger, and has a commitment to equality, diversity and inclusivity that goes well beyond policy documents. Over a third of its staff come from minority ethnic backgrounds, bringing new business opportunities and expanding the client base.

The company develops talent from all backgrounds, including ex-service personnel and ex-offenders. Through mentoring, tailored development plans and clear progression paths, employees can progress to leading managerial positions.

Its high employee retention figure comes from fostering a sense of belonging through cultural events, team-building activities and employee resource groups. It supports mental wellbeing and equal pay, and requires all suppliers and partners to commit to diversity and inclusion too.

DoBuild aims to become the leading construction firm in the London residential market, as well as customer first choice for construction and project development. Its motto is that "true excellence is achieved only by going beyond standard approaches to construction".

The company works to five core values: customer commitment; innovation while listening and learning from customers; integrity

and strong ethical standards backed by sincerity and honesty; passion and commitment; and excellence and exceptional service. It has diverse experience working on prestigious projects in Belgravia, Knightsbridge and Mayfair, on estates including Cadogan, The Crown and Grosvenor.

DoBuild has noted a growing trend in the capital for premier basement conversions, but this can present practical challenges given London's architecture. Its historic and sometimes restrictive building structures require professional expertise and tailored solutions.

The team has found Londoners desire flexible spaces for multiple uses, natural light, open layouts, with integrated tech and sustainable features.

Other finalists

McCann **RED Engineering** Design **Core Recruiter**

ACCURIS



Information and expertise in partnership.

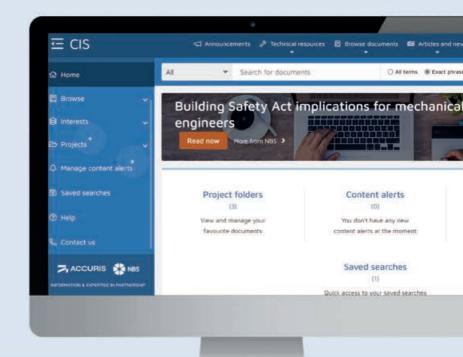
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Sustainability

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Ian Pritchett is a visionary

entrepreneur with a relentless commitment to sustainable construction. A physics graduate from Durham University, Pritchett has more than 35 years of experience in specialist construction and a 20-year track record championing low carbon buildings. He shares his expertise and inspires others through workshops and publications and

has helped bring about a cultural shift in favour of sustainability in construction.

His first business used traditional materials and methods to preserve heritage while incorporating sustainability principles long before they became mainstream.

Recognising the environmental impact of cement, he co-founded a company pioneering traditional lime mortars in new builds. Producing lime mortar generates less carbon than cement in manufacturing, and also reabsorbs carbon as it cures.

Pritchett then co-founded housebuilding firm Greencore

Greencore's timber-frame panel system, insulated with hemp, lime and natural wood fibre, results in homes that are net zero in operation and net zero plus in embodied carbon

Homes, which aims to deliver over 10,000 climate-positive homes by 2035, where he is currently innovation director.

Greencore developed a special timber-frame panel system insulated with hemp, lime and natural wood fibre, which is so energy-efficient it results in homes that are net zero in operation and net zero plus in embodied carbon.

Industrial hemp takes just
14 weeks to grow to 4 metres in
height, and locks in carbon at a
much faster rate than trees and
most other plants. This means each
external wall panel can capture over
30kg of carbon per sq metre.

As well as building sustainable homes to Passivhaus standards, Greencore supports green initiatives such as a car sharing scheme for its employees and free onsite EV charging, and operates a low emission forklift.

Last year the company installed 726 solar PV panels and battery storage at its Oxfordshire factory. Pritchett said at the time: "We put solar PV on all of our houses, which are designed to be net zero energy in use, so it makes perfect sense that we should try and get as close to that for our office and factory as well."

Other finalists

Sheryl Owen Mott MacDonald

Roxann Dawson Tilbury Douglas

Andrew Crimston Geosentinel (UK)

Daniel CoyleRyebridge
Construction

Paul Broadbent LocatED



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President's Award



Exceptional leadership

CIOB president Mike Kagioglou chose Caroline Gumble as recipient of the 2025 President's Award for her work as chief executive of CIOB

Caroline Gumble has had an

extraordinary impact on the sector and has led the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) with dedication. vision and unwavering commitment since 2019. It is right to not only celebrate her achievements but also to express gratitude for the legacy she leaves behind.

Taking on the role of chief executive is no small task, but Gumble embraced it with confidence and purpose. In her first 12 months. she faced the unprecedented challenge of a global pandemic. Her leadership during that time was exceptional, ensuring members had the support they needed and working closely with government and other industry bodies. And she kept CIOB at the forefront of discussions about the future of construction.

Under her guidance, CIOB underwent a significant brand refresh in 2021, modernising its image, strengthening its identity and reinforcing its position as a leading global professional body. She also played a key role in refocusing CIOB's efforts on delivering public benefit, aligning its work with the needs of both industry and society.

One of Gumble's many strengths has been her commitment to supporting the next generation. She led the transformation of the institute's young professionals' network from the Novus brand to Tomorrow's Leaders, ensuring that those entering the industry have a clear pathway for professional development and a stronger voice in shaping its future.

A major milestone of her tenure has been the introduction of CIOB's Corporate Plan for 2023-2028. This strategic roadmap is built on three key pillars: environmental

Gumble has given so much to the organisation, and, as she prepares to step down in July, CIOB wanted to recognise her service

sustainability, quality and safety, and tackling skills shortages. It embodies the principle of modern professionalism – ensuring that high standards are not only something to aspire to, but something that becomes the norm across the industry. Through this plan, Gumble has set CIOB on a course for long-term success and greater impact.

But her contributions extend beyond CIOB. She has been recognised with an honorary doctorate from the University of Wolverhampton for her work in promoting women in construction, and she was appointed visiting professor of global engagement and transformation - built environment at Loughborough University, reinforcing her role as a leader in professional development.

Gumble has given so much to the organisation, and as she prepares to step down in July to take on a leadership role in the engineering sector, CIOB wanted to recognise her service. Awarding Gumble the President's Award is a small token of CIOB's immense gratitude.

The institute, its members and everyone whose lives Gumble has touched during her time as CEO are thankful. Gumble has led with integrity, passion and with a firm belief in the power of professionalism. Thanks to her, CIOB is stronger, more dynamic and better prepared for the future.

Good luck to this year's shortlist!

We're delighted to be sponsoring the Digital Collaboration of the Year Award at this year's prestigious Digital Construction awards. We would like to wish all the semi-finalists the best of luck for the finals, and we're looking forward to celebrating with you all in July!





'How can I fight a wrong adjudication award?'

This month's contract clinic question comes from a contractor on the sharp end of an adjudication award over a cladding remediation project. Nicholas Zeolla sets out the options for contesting an adjudication

THE QUESTION:

Help-I have received a (wrong) adjudication award against my construction company as a result of a dispute over costs resulting from delays to cladding remediation on a residential block in Coventry. I am worried that if I pay out the award now, the subcontractor with the award will go bankrupt and I won't be able to recover my money in the courts. What can I do?

THE ANSWER

One option in this scenario is to consider applying for a stay of execution of the adjudication award until the issues in the adjudication have been finally determined through the courts.

In principle, a court may grant a stay of execution of a judgment. This will either be absolutely, or for such period and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit, if the court is satisfied that "there are special circumstances which render it inexpedient to enforce the judgment or order".

The principles applicable to the granting of a stay of execution of

an adjudication award where there are concerns as to the solvency of a judgment creditor (in this case the subcontractor) were set out in Wimbledon Construction Co 2000 Ltd v Vago [2005] 101 Con LR 99, at paragraph 26.

That case recognised that a stay of execution may be appropriate where there is "a probable inability of the claimant to repay the judgment sum (awarded by the adjudicator and enforced by way of summary judgment) at the end of the substantive trial, or arbitration hearing".

Where the claimant is actually in insolvent liquidation or where there is "no dispute on the evidence that the claimant is insolvent", a stay will "usually be granted".

That can be contrasted with where the claimant's financial position suggests only a "probable inability" to repay the judgment sum. In that case it must (usually, at least) further be proved that:

 The claimant's financial position has deteriorated when compared with when the contract was made: and

In principle, a court may grant a stay of execution of a judgment. This will either be absolutely, or for such period and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit

The claimant's poor and deteriorating condition was not caused either wholly or in significant part by the defendant's failure to pay the sums awarded by the adjudicator.

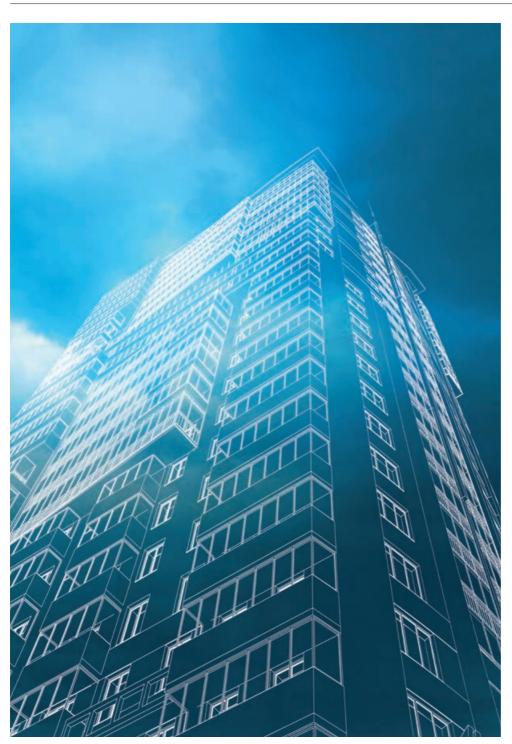
It was further established in Gosvenor London Ltd v Aygun Aluminium UK Ltd [2018] BUS LR 1439 that a stay will be justified where there is a "real risk" that the judgment would go unsatisfied by reason of the claimant "organising its financial affairs with the purpose of dissipating or disposing of the adjudication sum so that it would not be available to be repaid".

If any of the above factors are satisfied in relation to your award and the subcontractor in question, a stay of execution might be an appropriate solution for you. It is important, however, to bear in mind that:

- The burden will be on you (and your legal advisers) to establish that those factors are satisfied.
- You will not be entitled to "embark on a fishing expedition" to demand further information from the claimant to prove your case.



Question for contract clinic? Email construction-management@atompublishing.co.uk



It is not necessary to have commenced proceedings in the courts already to obtain a stay of execution of an adjudication award. However, doing so is likely to be seen as helpful

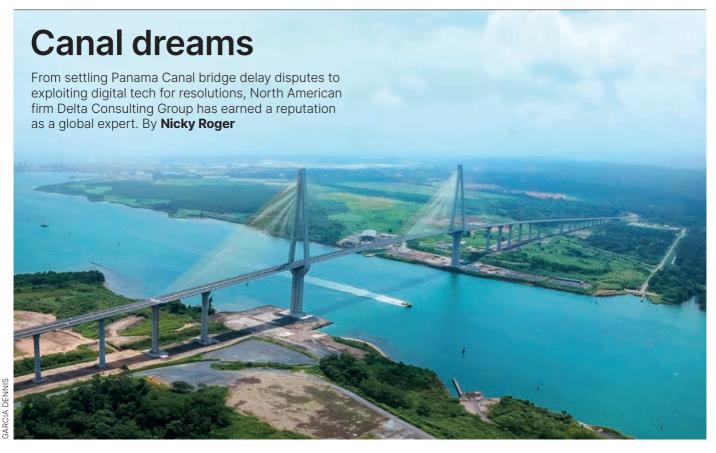
• It must be clear to the judge hearing the application that the financial position of the claimant is such that at any final determination of the award, the money paid out for the award is unlikely to be repaid by the claimant.

It is not necessary to have commenced proceedings in the courts already to obtain a stay of execution of an adjudication award. However, doing so is likely to be seen as helpful. In any case, it will be necessary to do so to undo the effect of the award which will only be 'in suspense' during a stay: Toppan Holdings Ltd v Simply Construct (UK) LLP [2021] Bus LR 27 at paragraph 44.

Conclusions

If the test for a stay of execution is satisfied, that is one way to avoid your concerns about the solvency of the subcontractor in your case. Any application for a stay of execution could sensibly be coupled with a jurisdictional and/ or natural justice challenge against the enforcement of the adjudication award (if there are any). In any case, you will need to at least show an intention to commence proceedings to seek a final determination on the issues referred to in the adjudication.

Nicholas Zeolla is a barrister at Atkin Chambers.



elta Consulting Group - provider of project advisory, investigations, risk mitigation and dispute resolution services to clients around the world - was engaged by the Panama Canal Authority to evaluate a \$300m (£225m) claim from the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractor for the construction of a bridge over the canal.

The project consisted of a cablestayed bridge with two towers and four piers, an east approach viaduct with 19 piers and a west approach viaduct with 16 piers. The total project value was \$400m (£300m). The original contract duration was 3.5 years but the project incurred over three years of delay. The authority granted time

extensions totalling about one year. The contractor submitted a delay claim for an additional two years.

Delta evaluated the delay analyses and prepared a rebuttal based on the project schedules, contract, contract modifications and project records. It performed an independent delay analysis to determine the source, magnitude, cause and responsibility for the critical path delays, as well as a cost and damages analysis.

The dispute was heard by an ICC arbitration tribunal. "In arbitration, our staff addressed the claimed damages, including direct cost claims, delay and disruption damages, thickening of staff, added risk, and loss of productivity," says Toronto-based director Duan van der Merwe.

A bridge across the Panama Canal was the focus of a contract dispute resolved by Delta **Consulting Group**

Over the three-year project, 33 people from the firm worked on the engagement, and four Delta experts testified on the matter. "Our work on the Panama Canal has helped us cement our reputation as a global expert and a service leader in Latin America," says van der Merwe.

Middle market specialist

Delta says it can take on cases like the Panama Canal delay thanks to its well-defined professional focus when it comes to specialisation.

"Rather than being a 'jack-ofall-trades', we have assembled a team of talented professionals who specialise in an array of complementary services," says van de Merwe, "This includes

Delta Consulting Group in figures

vears old established in 2000

personnel

languages spoken

countries clients are global

locations -Washington DC, Toronto, London

scheduling and project planning, forensic scheduling or delay analysis, contractual/commercial, quantity surveying/quantification of damages and finally project risk assessments that complement our project advisory, forensics, investigation and disputes services."

Delta has a number of competitive differentiators. "In a sea of large, consolidated firms and small sole proprietorships, Delta is leading the development of a middle market that allows us to adapt quickly, innovate, attract exceptional talent and capitalise on growth opportunities," says van de Merwe.

"This market position also gives us the resources to ensure senior-level oversight of every engagement, ensuring that our exacting standards are followed to the benefit of our clients. As in construction, quality control is a critical part of our advisory work.

"Delta has established rigorous processes and procedures around peer review, including the development of a Quality Control Committee that will review and evaluate expert reports, case studies and whitepapers. This type of continuous improvement influences everything we do."

Another differentiator is its CIOB chartered company status. Van der Merwe - already an MCIOB - knew this would bring advantages. "When we learned that there were no North American companies chartered

under CIOB, we were excited to try to be the first to break that barrier. It would demonstrate to the global market our strong capabilities and the quality of our work. It is a rigorous but worthwhile process.

"For our clients, it's confirmation that we can be trusted to do the right thing on their behalf. It also means that when you and your competitors offer similar services, being a CIOB chartered company can be the difference between winning and losing the work.

"But it's more than a competitive advantage, it's more than just a marketing tool. It's a reflection of our shared values and our commitment to the construction industry. For our employees, it means access to the resources that come with being a CIOB chartered company."

Digital native

Keen to keep competitive, Delta is an enthusiastic user of digital tech. "One of the more interesting innovations we've seen recently

▼ Delta evaluated a \$300m delay claim for the Panama Canal bridge





When you and your competitors offer similar services, being a CIOB chartered company can be the difference between winning and losing the work

Duan van der Merwe, **Delta Consulting Group**

is the integration of digital twin technology where you are able to combine a BIM model with real-time site progress using a 360° camera during walkthroughs to capture a complete view of site progress at any given time," says van der Merwe.

He explains: "This not only gives you a time machine of how the work progressed over time but also gives you an as-built view of how things were routed or constructed before enclosing them with finishes. From a project management perspective, it also allows you to highlight onsite issues remotely to efficiently resolve issues without waiting on physical or in-person site visits.

"It also pairs with construction project management software solutions to raise and resolve requests for information and changes without the need to bring everyone to site. It enables resolution of issues in real time greatly improving efficiency." CIOB company membership: For more information on becoming a CIOB company member, please visit: www.ciob.org/

company-membership.



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CIOBJobs.com



Job spotlight:

Natalie Webb, social value manager, **Ashe Construction**

With the Procurement Act now in full swing, social value is under the spotlight again. New recruit Natalie Webb explains why it's such an important aspect of Ashe Construction's operations

What does a social value manager do?

My job is to liaise with the communities surrounding our projects to identify ways in which we can add something positive beyond just the physical infrastructure. I'll evaluate and report on our social value activities, which is a requirement of our clients and framework partners.

What attracted you to the role?

I thought – that's me! It's all the things I want out of a job. Much of Ashe's work is in public sector projects like

healthcare and education, and one of the things I'll be doing is to help boost local skills and encourage young people to join our industry.

I've spent most of my career so far in a local authority, managing projects with the aim of raising aspirations and career prospects for hundreds of disadvantaged young people.

I'm going to enjoy showing people all the opportunities in construction there are for them, from new apprentices to helping to retain seasoned tradespeople. This role builds on my experience - I'm a perfect fit.

Natalie Webb: 'It's all the things I want out of a job'

I'm going to enjoy showing people all the opportunities in construction there are for them, from new apprentices to helping to retain seasoned tradespeople

Natalie Webb. **Ashe Construction**

What is a typical day for you?

Being new to the industry, there's a great deal to learn. I'm meeting lots of people to find out how we can all work together to maximise our social value, like managing events for young people at the schools, colleges and universities we build. These activities give Ashe contact with people from all kinds of backgrounds and have resulted in us recruiting several apprentices.

I'll find ways we can sponsor local organisations or support local charities, not just by donating money, but getting employees involved, like when Ashe's staff recently volunteered to paint a homeless shelter they had refurbished due to a shortfall in local authority funding.

What do you think social value means to people? Are there any misconceptions about the term?

When I got the job, friends and family asked what social value was. When I explained that it is about the company operating with purpose and having a positive effect on society, not just focusing on the bottom line, they all said: "That's brilliant, I didn't know it was a thing!"

There are undoubtedly people who think it's not important and just the 'fluffy' part of the business but that's not my opinion - it's definitely built in and not a bolt-on.

Masonry matters: a mission to boost skills

A new association promises to solve the masonry sector's recruitment and training challenges with an approach that targets micro companies. By Kristina Smith

March this year saw the launch of

the Masonry Association of Great Britain (MAGB), a new organisation which aims to boost recruitment and upskilling in the masonry sector.

Current systems are not working, says the association's CEO, Eve Livett, because they don't recognise the fact that the industry is largely made up of micro companies and self-employed people.

MAGB wants to change the structure of apprenticeships and make training more relevant and accessible to a wider range of companies and individuals. It will deliver training through its National Masonry Academy from a network of locations around the country.

"There have been a lot of barriers to training and issues with training

providers," says Livett. "They don't align to the industry needs or are slightly behind what is required by the industry."

Livett, who previously led the Association of Brickwork Contractors and the Brick Development Association, co-founded MAGB alongside Phoenix Group chair Christian Watson and Malc Hancock, Phoenix's construction director.

A perfect storm

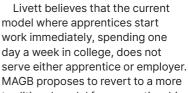
Like many trades, bricklaying finds itself in a perfect storm.

The Home Builders Federation estimates that the sector needs 20,000 new bricklayers to meet the government's ambitious plan to build 1.5 million homes during this parliament – or more than



There have been a lot of barriers to training and issues providers Eve Livett,





300,000 homes a year. To put that in perspective, just 1,990 bricklaving

apprentices qualified in 2023/24.

The construction industry also has

a problem retaining the apprentices

report from the British Association of

Construction Heads highlighted that

it does recruit. A September 2024

there was a 47% drop-out rate for

construction apprentices.

traditional model for apprenticeships with block release rather than day release, where apprentices start their training with eight weeks in a training centre or college.

"That means that they will be productive from day one and it will support retention which we struggle a lot with," says Livett. "For that first eight weeks, the whole cohort will come together and bond, before they go out to work and then come

back together for the next block."

Looking ahead, Livett would like to set up pre-apprenticeship schemes, so both learner and employer can 'try before they buy'. Ensuring that apprentices are committed aims to make the onboarding process less challenging for employers, which would be particularly valuable for small companies.



Malc Hancock and Eve Livett, two of the founders of MAGB

■ The sector needs 20,000 new bricklayers to meet government targets





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- 5. Range of construction management roles across the UK and worldwide



CIOBJobs

Further information:
Darren Burns, Commercial Manager

- darren.burns@atompublishing.co.uk
- www.ciobjobs.com



And the digital construction Oscar goes to...

AtkinsRéalis, WSP, Chetwoods, Laing O'Rourke and McLaren are among the major names competing for a digital construction Oscar



■ Winners celebrate at the 2024 awards ceremony

tkinsRéalis, WSP, Chetwoods Architects, Laing O'Rourke and McLaren Construction are among the nominees for the Digital Construction Awards 2025.

The Digital Construction Awards 2025 are organised by Digital Construction Week, CM and CIOB. They attracted more than 170 entries, 85 of which have been shortlisted.

AtkinsRéalis either leads or features among nine shortlisted entries. Its work to make electricity transmission substation site visits more productive and safer is shortlisted in three categories: Digital Innovation in Health, Safety and Wellbeing; Digital Innovation in Productivity; and Best Application of Technology.

AtkinsRéalis's work on the Bridgwater tidal barrier with the **Environment Agency and Kier** is shortlisted for both Design Innovation and Delivering Sustainability with Digital Innovation.

Two different teams from AtkinsRéalis are also shortlisted for Digital Team of the Year, where they face competition from BAM UK & Ireland, Laing O'Rourke, McLaren Construction and WSP.

The latter leads or is involved in another four shortlisted entries, including Design Innovation, and in both Digital Collaboration of the Year and Information Management Best Practice as part of the Smart Motorways Programme Alliance.

Chetwoods Architects features on the shortlists for Design Innovation and twice for Delivering Sustainability with Digital Innovation.

The coveted title of Digital Project of the Year will be fought out by Canary Wharf Group's 40 Charter Street, Belfast Grand Central Station, the National Rehabilitation Centre and Woodham Academy.

Innovations and best practice from across the built and managed environment feature on the shortlists - and not just from the major contractors, consultancies and suppliers.

Morta and nima's work on the UK BIM Framework is shortlisted for Digital Team of the Year and Best Application of Technology.

winners will be revealed at the gala dinner on 1 July at the Brewery in London

The remote control tower crane technology developed by Skyline Cockpit makes the latter category and Digital Innovation in Productivity.

The Al-enabled muon tomography non-destructive testing system from GScan, National Highways and AtkinsRéalis features on the Product Innovation of the Year list, where it faces competition from the likes of RLB Digital's social value platform and SmartViz's 'digital twin in a box'.

Alconex Infrastructure and Solutions find itself competing against BAM UK & Ireland, McLaren Construction and MWH Treatment for the title of Digital Contractor of the Year.

All the winners will be revealed at the gala dinner on 1 July at the Brewery in London. You can join the shortlisted entrants by booking your seats at the awards.

To book seats and to find out more about the awards, visit digitalconstructionawards.co.uk. To become an awards sponsor, email Karolina Orecchini at korecchini@divcom.co.uk.

The shortlists in full

Digital Construction Project of the Year

- 40 Charter Street, Canary Wharf. KPF/Canary Wharf Group/Aecom/Revizto
- Belfast Grand Central Station. Translink/Farrans Sacyr JV/Babcock
- National Rehabilitation Centre. IHP (Vinci Building/ Sir Robert McAlpine)/ **Buildots**
- Woodham Academy. Department for Education/ Galliford Try/Space Group/RLB **Digital/Space Architects**

Digital Contractor of the Year

- Alconex Infrastructure and Solutions
- BAM UK & Ireland
- McLaren Construction
- MWH Treatment

Digital Consultancy of the Year

- BIMBox. Frimley Park Hospital
- Mace Consult. Ministry of Justice Small Secure Houseblock Programme
- Majenta Solutions. University of St Andrews Strategic Review - Digital Nexus
- Okana. BMW Group
- ONE Creative Environments. **ONE TwinVis**
- RLB Digital

Digital Collaboration of the Year

Sponsored by Bluebeam

- 40 Charter Street, Canary Wharf. KPF/Canary Wharf Group/ Aecom/Revizto
- Heathrow's When & Where Map. Costain/Heathrow
- Old Newton School Project. GS1 UK/Natural Building Systems/ Circuland/OrcaScan
- Operational Delivery of a Golden Thread. Bouygues UK/ Westminster City Council
- Scottish Water's Digital Leadership Hub. Scottish Water/ Caledonia Water Alliance/ RSE/ESD/George Leslie/ Morrison Water Services/

WGM Engineering/Galliford Try

 Smart Motorways Programme Alliance. Fluor/Jacobs/WSP/ Costain/Balfour Beatty/BAM Nuttall - Morgan Sindall JV/ National Highways

Digital Team of the Year

- AtkinsRéalis Digital Centre of **Excellence Team Formation**
- AtkinsRéalis Transportation Information Management Network
- BAM UK & Ireland Realising the value of a digital team
- Digital transformation within **Prism Offsite Manufacturing**
- Laing O'Rourke's digital team
- McLaren Construction's digital information management team >

- Translink BIM team on Belfast **Grand Central Station**
- WSP on Surface Transport Infrastructure Construction -**Brent Cross TfL Structures**

Design Innovation

- Bridgwater Tidal Barrier. **AtkinsRéalis**
- Complex Data Centre Campus. McLaren Construction/Solibri
- Enhancing Facade Design with GRETA: A Parametric Approach to Daily Challenges. WSP
- Prefabricated partitions on high-rise residential projects. **KOPE AI/Saint-Gobain Intewall**
- RESTOR: Reuse of structural steel in construction. Chetwoods Architects/University of Cambridge/University of Birmingham
- Transpennine Route Upgrade East. Systra/Network Rail/TRU **East Alliance**

Information Management Best Practice

- Information Management Framework. AtkinsRéalis
- Ministry of Justice Small Secure Houseblock Programme. Mace Consult
- Pioneering Practical Information Management. XD House
- Smart Motorways Programme Alliance. Fluor/Jacobs/WSP/ Costain/Balfour Beatty/BAM Nuttall - Morgan Sindall JV/ **National Highways**
- Transforming information delivery planning. Tilbury Douglas/Asite

Best Use of Al

- Automating Digital Handover. **Build Prompt and HS2**
- BuildAudit. BRE Group
- Cost Validation Tool. DMRC
- Sweco Al Ecosystem. Sweco UK & Ireland
- UK BIM Framework: Ask Morta Al. nima/Morta



▲ Balfour Beatty won Project of the Year in 2024

Digital Innovation in Health, Safety and Wellbeing

- Countess of Chester Hospital. Dalkia Engineering/Hilti Corporation
- Electricity Transmission Substation Site Visits. AtkinsRéalis
- T2 Baggage Programme. Heathrow / Aecom
- e-RAMS. Laing O'Rourke
- Moata Safe by Design. Mott MacDonald
- Signal Operator Rostering System. Flannery Plant

Digital Innovation in **Productivity**

- Electricity Transmission Substation Site Visits. AtkinsRéalis
- innDex and FM Conway
- National Rehabilitation Centre. IHP (Vinci Building/Sir Robert McAlpine)/Buildots
- Prefabricated partitions on high-rise residential projects. KOPE AI/Saint-Gobain Intewall
- Skyline Cockpit
- Smartwaste Scan. Cielo Costa/BRE Group
- Willmott Dixon in partnership with Nialli and Ascentae

Delivering Sustainability with Digital Innovation

- Baytree Nuneaton Digital Strategy. Chetwoods Architects
- Bridgwater Tidal Barrier. **AtkinsRéalis**
- Project Costa, Old Paradise Street. SustainiQ/Gilbert-Ash
- RESTOR: Reuse of structural steel in construction. Chetwoods Architects/University of Cambridge/ University of Birmingham
- Smart Massing Tool. Eckersley O'Callaghan

Best Application of Technology

- Arup Fuse
- Automating Assurance: a data-driven transformation to deliver complex assurance efficiently. Laminar Projects
- Electricity Transmission Substation Site Visits. AtkinsRéalis
- Improving Access to the UK BIM Framework Guidance. nima/Morta
- Improving construction sequencing on infrastructure projects. Skanska and Esri ArcGIS
- Deliverables Review Platform. Mace
- PVS Data

- Skyline Cockpit
- Transforming information delivery planning, Tilbury Douglas/Asite
- Water Industry Printfrastructure. United Utilities/Scottish Water/ Manchester Metropolitan University/ChangeMaker 3D
- WholeHouse. Travis Perkins

Product Innovation of the Year

- Al-powered building analytics solution for all - Digital Twin in a Box. SmartViz
- ALICE Technologies
- Al-enabled muon tomography non-destructive testing system. GScan/National Highways/ **AtkinsRéalis**
- Prefabricated partitions on highrise residential projects. KOPE AI/ Saint-Gobain InteWall
- RLB Digital Social Value Platform

Asset Management Best Practice

- De Montfort University. Gleeds
- innDex and FM Conway
- Project ALICE for the Defence Infrastructure Organisation. Glider Technology
- Student Roost's journey towards building safety compliance. Zutec
- University of St Andrews Strategic Review - Digital Nexus. Majenta Solutions
- Using building analytics to transform campus spaces at Cardiff Metropolitan University. SmartViz/ **Cardiff Metropolitan University**

Digital Rising Star of the Year Sponsored by CIOB

- Isabelle Barron. WSP
- Giovanni Bortolin. Cast Consultancy
- Daniel Chesson. Bond Bryan Architects
- Georgia Eaton. Proicere Digital
- Josephine McGoldrick. Rider Levett Bucknall UK

Digital Construction Champion of the Year

• The winner will be revealed on the night.



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CIOB Community



Inaugural Wales construction conference tackles big issues

CIOB Wales hosted a variety of built environment experts at its first Construction Cymru conference

CIOB Wales held the inaugural

CIOB Wales Construction Cymru conference in early spring, providing a platform for sharing best practice and industry trends, and acting as a one-stop-shop for CIOB members to meet their CPD requirements for the year.

The sell-out event - sponsored by Lancer Scott, Morgan Sindall and Green Hat Consulting - was held at Swansea Arena, a deliberate move to give those based further west the opportunity to attend.

A variety of experts representing different sectors of the industry spoke to inform, debate and discuss the issues that matter to the construction community in Wales.

Modern professionalism, compliance and competence were the key themes from speakers who included: CIOB Wales chair Wyn Harries; CIOB CEO Caroline Gumble; CIOB president Professor Mike Kagioglou; and Nick Bennett, director, planning economics, Savills. Bennett presented a built environment economic outlook for Wales which was not an "indulgence in Welsh miserabilism".

David Kirby and Stuart Brown presented the CIOB research and report Constructing Wales: Risks and Opportunities for SMEs in Wales.

Professor John Edwards presented Retrofit - The Damp & Mould Dilemma and Phillip Graham

- ▲ The conference was held in the Swansea Arena
- ▼ Members were able to network as well as fulfilling CPD requirements

presented a legal update including an update on JCT 2024.

Building a Safer Wales - Building Safety Act was discussed by Mark Tambini, head of building regulations policy with the Welsh government; Peter Dawber, from the Industry Competence Committee advising the Building Safety Regulator; William Tomlinson of Cubex Land: and Waseem Mahmood of JLL.

A Tomorrow's Leaders breakout session on Talent Management and Career Enhancement was led by TL representative Carl Randell of Kier.



JCT updates 'may catch out the unaware'

CIOB Midlands shines spotlight on safety and contracts



With JCT 2016 due to be taken out of print next year, experts are urging users of the suite to understand changes in the 2024 contract.

The subject was discussed at a CIOB Midlands CPD event focused on two key topics shaping the future of construction: JCT 2024 contracts and the Building Safety Act.

A line-up of experts spoke at the event, which was attended by industry professionals from across the Midlands.

The JCT 2024 contracts were debated in a panel discussion featuring Samuel Townend KC, Sean Smylie of Quantex Consulting, Philip Vickers from Winvic, Geraldine Fleming from Diales and Michael Bennett from TLT LLP.

The updated contracts reflect a stronger emphasis on collaboration and sustainability, better aligning project delivery with net zero ambitions. Enhancements to dispute resolution frameworks and payment structures also aim to drive efficiency and reduce risk.

Michael Bennett, partner at law firm TLT LLP, advocated getting familiar with the update.

"With the JCT 2016 being taken out of print on 31 March 2026, it is important that users of the JCT suite become familiar with the new 2024 forms," he said.

"While the updates are not as all-encompassing as in some previous versions, there are a number of issues which may catch out the unaware and all users should know how the suite now deals with the Building Safety Act."

Later Nottingham Hub vicechair Mark Johnston MCIOB, from Cube Construction Consultants, and George Parker MCIOB, from AtkinsRéalis, emphasised the need for the industry to embrace the act.

"The core principles of competence, compliance, change and capability need to be central in our thoughts and reflected in our behaviours," said Johnston.

"Positive engagement can have a lasting change on our industry, raising standards, expectations and producing buildings that we know are safe for those who occupy them."

They discussed how, a year into its implementation, the act is reshaping the regulatory environment, with the evolving role of dutyholders, rising competency expectations from the Building Safety Regulator and the importance of proactive compliance.

The talks highlighted that the new JCT introduces clearer risk allocation and payment provisions and that the Building Safety Act underscores the need for defined responsibilities and early-stage planning, with competency now a non-negotiable pillar of project execution.

Winvic Construction, Careys and BSN Group Construction sponsored the event.

With the JCT 2016 being taken out of print on 31 March 2026, it is important that users of the JCT suite become familiar with the new 2024 forms Michael Bennett, TLT LLP



Be part of CIOB Ireland **Awards** celebration

CIOB in Ireland Awards will celebrate winners at a black-tie dinner at Croke Park, Dublin on 18 September.

Judaina is currently underway and the finalists will be announced in August.

Winners to be declared at the ceremony in September will include categories such as Client of the Year, Team of the Year and Rising Star.

The CIOB Awards are judged by industry experts and have a reputation for identifying the future leaders and top teams in the industry, from the largest to the smallest companies.

To book a table visit www.ciob.ora/ events.



- George Parker (left) and Mark Johnston
- Attendees at the Midlands half-day CPD event



CIOB Apprentice of the Month

Martha Penney, quantity surveyor, Level 6 construction, Barratt Redrow

What was your favourite project to work on over the course of your apprenticeship?

A site at Macclesfield. It's the biggest site that I've worked on since I've been there and it's the flagship site for the [rental homes] division. I took it from very, very early on - we'd just started getting the roads and sewers into it. It was quite technically and commercially complex; it's on a hill and was a remediation job. We came up against a lot of of issues and I learned a lot from all the problems we had.

What is one piece advice that you'd give to someone enrolling on to a construction apprenticeship?

Say yes to every opportunity. There's no better way to learn and progress in your career other than just to say "yeah, I'll give that a go" and get out of your comfort zone.

Has that positive attitude brought you opportunities?

I've actually moved into a different role as a result of meeting different people that I've said yes to. I've done lots of different networking with loads of different people from all over the business. I've done a lot of work out in schools and been on the radio and in the newspaper. That was all just because I said yes.

How do you feel the apprenticeship has prepared you for your career in the industry?

It's helped me to learn theory and how to apply it. I didn't come from a construction background, so I came in quite blind to what construction was like. If I'd just experienced classroom learning then come into industry it would have been difficult to marry up the two. And I've been able just to ring people and get help, which you just wouldn't get if you're not on an apprenticeship route.

What do you think is the most important issue facing the industry at the moment?

The skills shortage is a big one for me. Yes, we're short of people on site, but there is a shortage of people in the industry as a whole.

For example, the planning reforms are going to help us address the housing shortage but where are all the planners? Where are all the people skilled and knowledgeable enough to process all of that information? All the new sustainable ideas: where are the skills of the people researching them? Where are the people who know the technical details?

What are your future career ambitions and where would you like to end up?

I've changed roles so I'm a private rented sector manager now for Barratt Group. Barratt is working with investors to do multi-unit deals and sell big chunks of site for private rental to help ease the rental crisis. I think I would like to be a director within Barratt; there are opportunities in this role and it's a new and expanding area of the business that we're looking to grow.

Salford consultancy firm receives six-figure funding to support growth

Chartered company to expand PFP business

Salford-based RECOM Solutions,

a CIOB chartered company, has secured a six-figure funding investment to scale up its business and create new jobs.

The funding has been provided by NPIF II - FW Capital Debt Finance, which is managed by FW Capital as part of the Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II (NPIF II).

Founded in 2015 by directors Jason McKnight and Joseph Dillon, the firm undertakes project management and main contracting work across healthcare, education, retail and leisure, commercial and residential.

It also provides consultancy services to assist in the design and delivery of health and safety, sustainability, passive fire protection (PFP) and cladding projects.

McKnight said: "We've seen significant growth in PFP and this side of our business is currently growing 40% per year. To meet this increased demand and take our business to the next level we need additional investment. The funding from FW Capital has boosted our working capital and enabled us to grow. We've also created five new jobs."

The funding from FW Capital has boosted our working capital and enabled us to grow. We've also created five new iobs Jason McKnight, RECOM Solutions

Sustainability in SMEs: How one company is leading the way

Workplace specialist Denton is showing how companies can take their responsible business strategy to the next level

Since completing the Climate for

SMEs: 4 Steps to Action course in 2024, workplace specialist Denton has been actively supporting other SMEs on their net-zero journeys.

Denton recently completed the Net-Zero Accelerator programme in partnership with Heart of the City. To further its commitment, it is now undertaking the Foundations for Responsible Business programme, aiming to fully embed responsible and sustainable practices across the business by August 2025.

Through partnerships with CIOB, Heart of the City, SKA and other industry bodies, the company is taking its responsible business strategy to the next level.

Denton's clients and supply chain are supported by its responsible

procurement policy (RPP) and in-house Tier 1, 2, 3 Subcontractor Scheme – a new structured framework helping Denton to rapidly respond to project requirements while being sustainable.

Denton director Richard Douglas explains: "Operating as a responsible business is about being a force for good, for the benefit of the business, clients and society."

He continues: "As interior design and fit-out specialists, our responsibility goes beyond creating great spaces. It's also about minimising the environmental and social impact of our work."

For many SMEs, setting and achieving ESG targets can feel like a challenge. Limited budgets, pressure for short-term profitability,

▼ One of Denton's interiors for Stevens & Bolton LLP, Guildford





As interior design and fit-out specialists, our responsibility goes beyond creating great spaces. It's also about minimising the environmental and social impact of our work Richard Douglas, Denton

and value engineering often put sustainability at risk. Add to that the need for cultural change, clear KPIs and a fast-paced commercial environment – and it's easy to see why progress can stall.

Despite these challenges, Denton is proving that embedding ESG into operations isn't just possible – it's a strategic advantage. It puts its success down to aligning ESG with its core values.

Denton's values align with the nine principles of a sustainable society, as defined by the World Conservation Strategy – particularly Principle 6: Change Attitudes and Practices.

"It's not about box-ticking; it's about building a business that thrives commercially while acting responsibly and ethically," says Douglas.

One of its ongoing challenges is balancing commercial delivery with the level of sustainability guidance typically expected from larger consultancies. Its solution? "To act as a responsible, transparent partner – one that's just as focused on people and the planet as on profit," says Douglas.

Extend your knowledge and expand your qualifications

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CIOB and IOSH dutyholder event

CDM and BSA discussion marked out shared interests



From left: Carly Hughes, Kane Bliss-Appleton, Caroline Gumble and Emily Bowman

CIOB and the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) hosted a joint event in Norwich in April.

The event, Duty Holders under the Building Safety Act 2022 and the CDM Regulations 2015, marked the first official collaboration between CIOB and the IOSH East Anglia branch - an important step in strengthening partnerships across the built environment to address key safety challenges.

The event opened with welcoming remarks from Kane Bliss-Appleton, chair of IOSH East Anglia, followed by an address from Caroline Gumble, chief executive of CIOB.

The main session was led by Emily Bowman, vice-chair of the CIOB Norwich Hub. and Carly Hughes, vice-chair of IOSH East Anglia. They delivered a clear and practical overview of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations and the evolving duties set out in the **Building Safety Act.**

Saul Humphrey, vice-president of CIOB, attended in support of the event, underlining the value of leadership involvement in promoting a safer, better-regulated industry. Also present were Sarah Laing and Sonia Short from CIOB and Liz Mills MBE, IOSH regional development manager.

Both parties share a strong appetite for continued collaboration. As building safety remains a priority across the industry, events like this provide the foundation for meaningful dialogue and professional development.

Modern professionalism in action at Manchester

Wates project engages CIOB members

CIOB's Manchester Hub and

quests recently joined the Wates Group construction team to visit a residential development in Manchester.

The development, at Rodney Street, Ancoats, will include 119 apartments spread across two buildings - a mix of 28 one-bed and 91 two-bed homes - alongside 10 town houses.

Members were particularly interested to hear about the management of quality and safety, health and environmental (SHE) assurance, as these areas align with the CIOB Corporate Plan and its modern professionalism values.

Sustainability also plays a significant role in the project's design: the buildings are being

developed in line with the Association for Environment Conscious Building's low-carbon standard. They are also fossil fuel free and use passive solar design.

The combination of mechanical ventilation and heat recovery (MVHR) and heat pump technology will help to keep the energy costs low for future occupants.

This strict adherence to quality assurance, alongside Passivhaus design principles, is driving the tightest of tolerances.

CIOB members are hoping to further learn from Wates in regard to the digital quality management systems (QMS) and SHE systems that support this sustainable design, which is expected to be occupied this summer.



Members particularly interested to hear about the management of quality and SHE assurance

▼ CGI showing how Wates Group's **Rodney Street** development will look





▲ Atlantic Technological University in Sligo will host the camp

Teen girls' summer camp to promote built environment

ATU event organisers plan to roll out format to other universities

The Atlantic Technological

University (ATU) in Ireland will be hosting a Built Environment Summer Camp for 12-14 yr old girls in June.

The first of its kind in Ireland, the event will assist in raising awareness around careers in the construction and engineering sector, aiming to increase female participation in study and apprenticeships.

Attendees will experience a taste of project management and quantity surveying as well as civil, electrical and mechanical engineering through interactive fun activities.

The four-day camp runs on ATU's Sligo campus from 16-19 June, from 10am-3pm, and is delivered by female lecturers and role models.

Plans are underway to expand to other ATU campuses next year, including Galway and Donegal, and discussions are in place with TUD

in Dublin and DKIT in Dundalk to roll the model out on the east coast.

It is also intended to link in with southern and midland universities next year in a bid to create a national series of camps.

If any firms would like to support the expansion in summer 2026, by offering young successful female role models to visit a camp, or offer financial assistance, please contact Lisa Brennan MCIOB, a lecturer at ATU, at lisa.brennan@atu.ie.

The four-day camp runs on Atlantic Technological University's Sligo campus from 16-19 June and is delivered by female lecturers and role models

One to watch

Andy Page, commercial manager at SRC Group

Why did you choose demolition?

I chose demolition because of its unique challenges and the opportunity to make a tangible impact on the built environment. Demolition isn't just about dismantling structures; it's about paving the way for renewal and progress.

What do you love about demolition Industry and what would you change? Every project is unique, requiring strategic planning, precision and teamwork to dismantle structures safely

The opportunity to transform spaces and make way for new developments is deeply fulfilling.

and efficiently.

The blend of hands-on work with cutting-edge technology, like advanced machinery and sustainability-focused practices, makes it a continually evolving field.

As a sustainability ambassador for CIOB, I find myself focusing more on what we can do within the demolition industry regarding reutilising existing buildings and recycling or repurposing arisings.



the construction process. Enhancing awareness of its environmental contributions, such as recycling and sustainable practices, would better reflect its true value.

What are your career ambitions?

My ambitions centre on growth, leadership and innovation. I aim to become a leader who not only manages largescale, complex projects but also inspires and mentors others in the field. Developing expertise in cutting-edge techniques, such as deconstruction for maximum material recovery and advanced safety technologies, is a priority.

I aspire to play a pivotal role in driving sustainability in demolition, ensuring that projects are not just efficient but environmentally responsible. My goal is to champion practices that minimise waste, maximise recycling and support greener construction initiatives.

What do you do in vour spare time? Fitness is a big part of

playing football. I also dedicate time to charity work, recently participating in events like Strictly St Luke's - I've now learnt a new skill in ballroom

dancing!



In association with



Show business

InstallerSHOW 2025 is connecting 30,000 industry professionals

nstallerSHOW is the UK's must-visit event focusing on sustainability in the built environment, bringing together more than 800 exhibitors and 30,000 visitors across three halls and three days at the NEC Birmingham in June 2025.

In addition to the wealth of technologies and services on show, including a raft of product launches, InstallerSHOW incorporates multiple live content areas which offer an informative and engaging timetable featuring a roster of compelling hosts and speakers.

InstallerSHOW 2025 will include enhanced areas focusing on heating and plumbing, renewables, cooling, kitchens and bathrooms, surfaces, flooring and tiling, roofing, and

tools and workwear, as well as new features such as InstallerELECTRIC and InstallerBUILD.

InstallerBUILD

InstallerSHOW is tackling the key issue of building sustainably and retrofitting buildings by launching InstallerBUILD at the 2025 event. Located in Hall 4, it is designed to foster collaboration between trades and specifiers as the industry heads towards net zero.

InstallerBUILD is the natural progression of the InstallerSHOW ethos of bringing industry communities together to work towards meeting shared goals - welcoming decision makers and influencers working on both commercial and residential buildings.

▲ More than 800 exhibitors and 30.000 visitors are expected over the three-day show

InstallerSHOW incorporates multiple live content areas with a roster of compelling hosts and speakers

The HAUS

InstallerBUILD will also feature The HAUS - a full scale two-storey house build. Designed by award-winning architect IF_DO and built using regenerative materials by Natural Building Systems (NBS), it will sit at the centre of InstallerBUILD.

The HAUS will be built using NBS's ADEPT integrated and demountable modular system to ensure it can be completed inside three days. ADEPT is designed for non-destructive disassembly to aid circularity and reuse. After InstallerSHOW, it will demonstrate its capabilities in a real-world housing project.

InstallerROOFING

To support the rapidly growing solar market, InstallerROOFING returns to the event. The zone will feature the latest in roofing, cladding, insulation and solar integration.

From smart roofing systems to state-of-the-art techniques, InstallerSHOW will bring visitors the future of roofing technology and give practical guidance for installers about products and techniques that can help them grow their business.

Roofing professionals can see tools and techniques up close as well as watch live demonstrations.

A milestone celebration

2025 marks the 10th anniversary of InstallerSHOW. Since 2015, exhibitor and visitor numbers have increased more than tenfold - while retaining the sense of community and festival feel. To celebrate, there will be special events and promotions, including a £10,000 giveaway for visitors.

InstallerSHOW is at the NEC. Birmingham, from 24-26 June 2025. Register for FREE here: https://forms. reg.buzz/installer-2025-visitor/ ciob-print-may.



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Diary dates

Highlights of the CIOB Calendar for the coming month

Site visit: Crown Place

▶ 5 June, 10am-12pm, Birmingham This site visit, hosted by Winvic, will explore the ongoing works at Crown Place, Birmingham.

This 33-storey purpose-built student accommodation (PBSA) on an compact city-centre site, is a showcase of modern methods of construction (MMC) and cuttingedge technology.

The innovative approach includes: a hybrid in-situ/precast concrete frame, modular bathroom pods and HP Siteprint robotic setting-out, while AMPD Enertainer lithium-ion battery storage powers the project sustainably.

It features Skyline cockpit, the UK's first remotely operated tower crane and Gamma AR - augmented reality integration of the BIM model into the live construction works.

Advanced logistical techniques include climbing screens (up to four storeys high), a table lifting system, tie-and-climb tower crane erection, placing boom and fully electric material movement.

Contact: gfloyd@ciob.org.uk

Site visit: The Ranges, **Bicester Motion**

▶ 5 June, 3.30-5.30pm, Bicester The Ranges is being constructed as the UK HQ of British electric motor manufacturer YASA at the Bicester Motion estate in Oxfordshire.

Kier was appointed to construct YASA's new HQ - which will total 8,361 sq metres - by Bicester Motion, which is at the forefront of shaping the future of mobility and spans automotive, mobility tech, aviation, powertrains and more.

Completion has been targeted for summer 2025.

Contact: cgarner@ciob.org.uk

Site visit: Heritage Assets **Restoration Programme**

▶ 6 June, 10am-12pm, Southampton This site visit will tour the Heritage Assets Restoration Programme in Southampton with Paye Stonework & Restoration.

This initiative delivered essential conservation works to 11 medieval wall assets in the city centre. Using specialised conservation

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methods for medieval stonework, it successfully preserved these significant historical structures while enhancing their accessibility and educational value to the public.

This visit will look at the works undertaken, such as repointing with lime mortar, conservation works, roofing works and consolidation of masonry, including application of sheltercoat and other sacrificial lavers. Contact: ghawkes@ciob.org

Aligning People with Digital -Addressing the Skills Gap in

Construction

▶ 18 June, 5.30-7pm, Exeter The digital skills gap is often seen as a technical issue rather than a people-focused challenge. This session explores how to bridge that gap, ensuring digital transformation is practical, inclusive and embraced at every level of the industry.

This CPD will move beyond the tech, focusing on engagement, skills development and cultural change. It will include actionable insights drawn from successful digital adoption, and how to balance vision with reality and think big about the future while ensuring frontline workers aren't left behind.

Live VR demos will be delivered by Immersive Industry Experiences. Contact: estreames@ciob.org.uk

Site visit: York Minster Centre of **Excellence (joint with RICS)**

▶ 19 June, 1-4pm, York Join us for this joint RICS/CIOB visit to the Centre of Excellence for Heritage Craft Skills and Estate Management.

The York Minster precinct has been established as a world-class campus facility for research, education and training in traditional craft skills.

It is creating capacity to allow world-class stonemasons to undertake commissions for other ecclesiastical institutions and heritage estates using state-ofthe-art cutting technology.

Through the £9.3m project, two sites have been developed: The Heritage Quad and The Works and Technology Hub.

Contact: msimons@ciob.org.uk

Site visit: TQA1 - former Royal Mail sorting office, Bristol

≥ 26 June, 4-6pm, Bristol This site visit and CPD at the Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus (TQEC) building in Bristol will feature a presentation by Sir Robert McAlpine, along with a site walk to show progress to date. Contact: nbreakspear@ciob.org.uk

For a full list of events and to register visit www.ciob.org/events.



CIOB





Stephen Quirke

stephen@atompublishing.co.uk

Editor: Will Mann will.mann@atompublishing.co.uk Deputy editor: Cristina Lago cristina.lago@atompublishing.co.uk Production editor: Sarah Cutforth Art editor: Heather Rugeley Community editor: Nicky Roger nicky.roger@atompublishing.co.uk Advertising manager: Dave Smith david.smith@atompublishing.co.uk Key account manager: Tom Peardon tom.peardon@atompublishing.co.uk Credit control: Eva Rugeley eva@atompublishing.co.uk Managing director:

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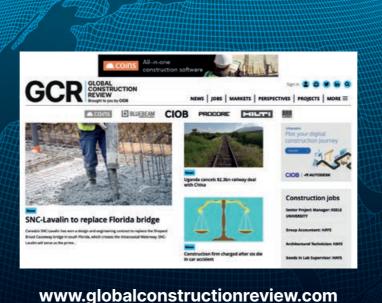
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