TG46 - Certification in Construction

Introducing the New Task Group and Its Coordinator: Ms. Tanis Wake

The third Task Group recently established by the Programme Committee in São Paulo is the Task Group on Certification in Construction. Ms. Tanis Wake is appointed the Coordinator of this Commission. Below, you will find an introduction to the activities of the Task Group and the CV and views of the Coordinator.

Introduction to the New Task Group

Objectives and Scope
Certification issues to be dealt with by the Task Group can be related to the four "P’s": process, product, people and partnerships in construction.

The main objectives for the Task Group are:

- To make an international inventory of existing registration, certification and other related schemes and of new development initiatives.
- To identify the main sectors that will gain added value within an international framework that identifies different possible approaches, methodologies, criteria, contents etc..
- To provide a platform for experts involved in the development and implementation or application of such schemes to meet and exchange knowledge, experience and systems.

Current Work Programme
The Task Group has set itself the following Tasks:

- A detail desktop study to be carried out at an international level to determine i) what schemes are currently implemented or planned and what are their objectives, markets and criteria and ii) common issues, principles that can be addressed globally.
A survey on ideas for certification and development opportunities and an open call to the CIB Membership with an invitation to areas of interest in their own country
- Review of the impact and methodology/process of the new ISO 9001/2000
- Produce a report (as a final output) to be published by CIB and presented during a dedicated international symposium on registration / certification and related systems worldwide by the end of 2002.

Output
- 2001: Preliminary report on currently implemented and planned certification schemes
- 2001: Preliminary report on the impact and methodology of ISO 9001/
- Final report on registration and certification systems worldwide (end of 2002)
- International Symposium on Registration and Certification (end of 2002)

Meetings
The new Task Group will meet twice annually.
The final Task group meeting will be held in conjunction with an International Symposium on Registration and Certification (end of 2002)

Curriculum Vitae Tanis Wake
Tanis has been the Manager for the Centre for Performance Improvement in Construction (CPIC) since August 1998. Before joining BRE she worked with BAA for over 8 years and was the development manager on the Genesis project that first trialled CALIBRE, BRE’s performance measurement toolkit.

Field of Expertise
- Tanis is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Centre including finance and staff issues.
- She is Manager of the DBF Registration Schemes: working with members of the DBF Working Groups to develop, promote and implement Schemes for Contractors, Consultants & Designers, Specialist Suppliers and Clients.
- Based on the theme of Single Point of Responsibility.

The Coordinator’s views on the Commission
The new CIB Task Group will extent the membership to member counties organisations that have such input or are implementing similar Registration scheme in their market as well as to organisations such as ISO, EU and World Bank etc.

At BRE, we are working closely with the Design Build Foundation (DBF) to implement a Construction Registration Scheme that spans the whole supply chain. The DBF is a group of UK construction industry customers, designers, consultants, contractors, specialists, manufacturers and advisors (120 members in total) who are dedicated to the implementation of a new vision for the integration of design and construction.

The UK construction industry is increasingly expected to deliver single point of responsibility projects, cheaper, faster and with much higher all round standards of service and value for money. The DBF Registration Scheme encourages a very thorough examination of all aspects of the construction business and motivates companies and practices to change.
The Scheme involves the whole supply chain by addressing the differing responsibilities and contributions of each primary grouping superimposed on a common theme. It addresses Design Build Companies; Specialist Suppliers, Designers & Consultants and Clients.

The four part registration process is demanding, thorough and confidential. Details of the process, assessment criteria as well as rewards, reasons for registration and deliverables can be found on a dedicated web-site www.dbfregistration.com.

Other Initiatives:
There are other certification/audit/selection initiatives that are currently live globally. We do not however have details of their extensive use or effectiveness. Some of these initiatives are listed below:

- The Building Construction Authority has a contractor registration scheme well established in Singapore
- Hong Kong University - Doctorate students are looking into the selection criteria for clients when evaluating constructors and consultants
- There is an existing Belgian scheme used by the government to register contractor's capabilities to execute types of projects
- There is a scheme used by the French insurance companies to register contractor capabilities related also to defined types of projects
- There are also a number of unofficial government schemes internationally where often different terms are used to define them, but they do directly relate to the problem at hand, ie providing some kind of registration at their local construction market.

Benefits:
Those who will benefit from a global inventory / analysis of registration / certification and related schemes:

- Emerging developing countries - Countries that need to demonstrate added value of funds/loans received from the international markets will need to demonstrate that their selection of the construction organisations is rigorous and fully integrity based on international standards rather than the unproven local environments
- Emerging new contractors - Contractors from China, Russia, Eastern Europe as well as African and South American countries that wish to compete in the western market or against the western competition must demonstrate their capabilities and service standards to their potential customers at a Global Level

I feel it will be of great benefit for the CIB TG 46 to firstly, identify and become aware of all the relevant certification schemes in construction globally and secondly to be able to exchange knowledge and experience of those schemes and methodologies in a positive format with full dissemination.