



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

# INFORMATION

May 2005

## New Publication

### TG39 – Deconstruction

## Deconstruction and Materials Reuse – An International Overview

CIB Publication No: 300

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### Editor

Abdol R. Chini

### Summary

The demolition of buildings produces enormous amounts of debris that in most countries results in a significant portion of the total municipal waste stream. Deconstruction is emerging as an alternative to demolition around the world. Deconstruction is the systematic disassembly of buildings in order to maximize recovered materials reuse and recycling. While the process of demolition often leads to the mixing of various materials and contamination of non-hazardous components, deconstruction is actually the source separation of materials.

Task Group 39 of International Council for Research and Innovation in Building Construction (CIB) was formed on 5 May 1999 in Gainesville, Florida (University of Florida) to produce a comprehensive analysis of, and a report on, worldwide building deconstruction and materials reuse programs that address the key technical, economic, and policy issues needed to make deconstruction and reuse of building materials a viable option to demolition and land-filling.

The report titled "Deconstruction and Materials Reuse – An International Overview" is the final report of TG39. It is a state-of-the-art report on deconstruction and materials reuse in ten countries: Australia, Germany, Israel, Japan, the Netherlands, New

Zealand, Norway, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States. In addition to the authors of these reports, several members of TG39 had major impacts in completion of this report and their contributions are acknowledged. Helen Bowes, Bryn Golton, Bradley Guy, Dennis Macozoma, Anette Muller, Axel Seemann, Carlos Suarez, Catarina Thormark, and David Wyatt. Special thanks to Charles Kibert and Clodagh Mc Grath who served as co-coordinators of TG39 1999 – 2000 and Gilli Hobbs, co-coordinator until the termination of TG39 in 2005.

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