Architectural Technology Architectural Technologists





What is Architectural Technology?





Architectural Technology:

- is the technology of architecture; a creative, innovative design discipline rooted in science and engineering which is applied to the design of buildings to achieve optimum functionality, efficient and effective construction and robust, durable and sustainable design solutions that perform over time;
- encompasses the impact of changing social, economic, legal, cultural, environmental, technological, business and political frameworks on the built and natural environment relating to design, within a national and international context; and
- considers health, safety, welfare and ethical issues, quality of life and social well-being to ensure that the diverse needs and requirements of everyone are recognised and that all users are able to benefit from their experience of a building, place or space regardless of their disability, age, gender, or faith.

What is Architectural Technology as the technology of architecture?

Architectural Technology, as the technology of architecture, is the link between design and construction to achieve the optimisation of production and long-term performance, with the use of technology for managing, assessing and evaluating projects. It:

- focuses on the design of buildings and their production and performance through the process, management and integral use of technology. It relates to the anatomy and physiology of a building, how it is assembled and how it should perform linked to the form, function and fabric;
- is an essential design function that is necessary to achieve functionality and buildability, usability, sustainability and durability of buildings; and
- includes understanding the behaviour of materials and components, as this is important to avoid premature failure and ensure the health, safety and use of buildings along with quality and standards of design and construction.



Harefield House, PLAICE Design Company Ltd, CIAT Registered Practice



What is a Chartered Architectural Technologist and what can they do? The Chartered Architectural Technologist leads the technological design within a project, forming the link between concept, innovation and realisation, and:

- is qualified to offer full architectural design services, and lead and manage projects from inception to completion;
- specialises in design with knowledge underpinned by building science, engineering and the technology applied to architecture within projects and plays a pivotal role in project and design management and the construction process;
- is competent to design and manage all types of project at all levels, from small domestic projects to very large, commercial buildings as a sole practitioner or in multinational and multidisciplinary practices, up to Director level;
- works collaboratively with other professionals such as architects and engineers and is recognised on a par with other Chartered professionals within the built environment sector;
- is a valued and respected regulated professional qualification and designation, which is transferable and recognised across borders. It can only be awarded by the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists; and
- is obliged to maintain currency of the qualification through CPD (continuing professional development) and follow CIAT's Code of Conduct, including the requirement to obtain and maintain adequate professional indemnity insurance.

Why use a CIAT Registered Practice?

It is a mandatory requirement for Chartered Architectural Technologists to have their practice registered with CIAT if they are providing services directly to clients. The Institute does not, therefore, issue individual certificates of registration for their practice – but you can check by visiting ciat.org.uk or call +44(0)20 7278 2206.

It is also mandatory for Chartered Members providing services directly to obtain and maintain adequate professional indemnity insurance (PII) and ensure that their terms of engagement have been given in writing to their client.

Chartered Members must adhere to a Code of Conduct that requires the proper and ethical conduct of business. There are disciplinary procedures in place by CIAT to address any infringements of the Code.

All practising members have to keep themselves informed of current developments and practices appropriate to the type and level of their responsibilities, and to comply with the Institute's guidelines for CPD.

Recognition

- Recognised by UK funding agencies and Council of Mortgage Lenders to monitor building work and provide the lender's Professional Consultant's Certificate.
- Recognised by the UK public sector on an equivalent basis as other Chartered professionals.
- CIAT-Accredited Conservationists, who must also be Chartered Architectural Technologists, are recognised by UK grant funding bodies for building conservation and heritage projects.
- CIAT is a licensed body with the authority to offer the Chartered Environmentalist qualification to suitably experienced Chartered Architectural Technologists, on behalf of the Society for the Environment.

Finding a Chartered Architectural Technologist

Finding a Chartered Architectural Technologist could not be easier. Visit ciat.org.uk/find-a-practice.html and search for a Chartered Member. You can choose to search by location, expertise or by keyword. You will find full contact details along with project examples.

Specialist Registers

If your project requires a specialist in a built environment sector, the Institute also qualifies members in additional specialisms, which are:

Chartered Environmentalist

These Chartered Members have significant and relevant environmental experience. They will have the designation CEnv. To find a Chartered Environmentalist please visit: ciat.org.uk/find-a-practice/find-a-charteredenvironmentalist.html

Accredited Conservationist

These Chartered Members are competent and recognised in the conservation of historical buildings and their surroundings. They will have the designation CIAT-Accredited Conservationist or CIAT-Recognised Conservationist. To find an Accredited Conservationist please visit: ciat.org.uk/find-a-practice/ find-an-accredited-conservationist.html





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