



AT

ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY

Making waves in Blackpool

Festival House case study

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The coal scorers
Edwards Architecture strikes a rich seam

Choice offering
Custom building and the housing crisis

The heat is on
Ground and air source heat pumps

AT magazine

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**The Chartered Institute of
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397 City Road London
EC1V 1NH UK
Tel. +44(0)20 7278 2206
Fax. +44(0)20 7837 3194
info@ciat.org.uk
www.ciat.org.uk

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Chief Executive
Francesca Berriman MBE

Editor
Hugh Morrison
editorial@ciat.org.uk

Advertising
advertising@ciat.org.uk

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Editor's foreword



Welcome to the relaunched magazine for CIAT members, which reflects the rapid changes in the way the Institute communicates. By Hugh Morrison, Editor.

Welcome to the relaunched *Architectural Technology (AT)* magazine, in this the thirtieth year since its first publication. The way CIAT communicates has changed rapidly and *AT* magazine is changing with it. With the weekly Ebulletin email newsletter, social media updates and website for bringing news and discussion to members much faster than print, the new *AT* will provide the opportunity to feature more in-depth articles – a redesigned, larger quarterly packed with items, information and opinion on the industry and Institute.

When we consulted with you, our members on what you wanted in your magazine, the most common responses were 'more technical features' and 'more on the issues facing members in the industry'.

We have listened to your opinions and come up with a range of articles which we hope will be of interest. On the technical side, features include Blackpool's Festival House, a look at ground and air source heat pumps, custom construction and a mine redesign. Articles on the *Architectural Technology* discipline and practice include a

We very much welcome your views on the new magazine

look at professional indemnity claims, CPD and POP Record case studies. We very much welcome your views on the new magazine and hope that you will promote it also as a showcase for all that CIAT is and does.

Members will also find with this issue separate information on CIAT's Awards and the work of the Architects' Benevolent Society (UK members only). If we do not have your email address or you have not been receiving your copy of the weekly Ebulletin and other Institute emails please contact CIAT on +44 (0)20 7278 2206 or email info@ciat.org.uk.

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Approved for April

2013 sees several sets of changes to the Building Regulations in England. The first set ¹, coming into force on 6 April, is intended to reduce the burden of regulation on the construction industry, and includes changes to Parts B, K, M and P. By Huw M A Evans.

A further change takes place on 1 July 2013 when the European Construction Products Regulations 2011 come into force and the guidance to Regulation 7 will be aligned with them. This article addresses the April and July changes. The changes to the Approved Documents to Part B and M are minor and addressed by a Corrigenda although revised re-prints of these Approved Documents incorporating the changes are also available, but the revisions to the Approved Documents to Parts K and P and to Regulation 7 are extensive enough to require new editions of the documents. The new Approved Documents have an open, single column layout which should be easier to read, particularly on screen. Approved Documents K, P and Regulation 7 have been completely re-written to conform to plain English standards, to improve readability and remove duplication.

Part B

Approved Document B Volume 2 (Buildings other than dwellinghouses) has two minor changes in the guidance to Requirement B2 Internal fire spread:

- A new footnote to Table 10 permits decorative wall coverings which achieve European Class C-s3,d2 to be used in circulation spaces, provided they are bonded to Class A2-s3,d2 substrates. The change is intended to remove a barrier to the adoption of the European classification systems.
- The limitations on the use of type TP(b) thermoplastic diffusers and roof lights have been relaxed to allow smaller units to be used closer together: the revised limits are in table 11 and diagram 27A. It is anticipated that will facilitate energy efficient lighting layouts.

Part K

The Requirements and guidance of Parts K and N addressed protection against falling, collision and impact with glazing. At the same time, guidance in Part M (Access to and use of buildings) addressed some of the same issues, but with conflicting guidance. That unsatisfactory situation is resolved in the April 2013 revisions which transpose all the Requirements of Part N into Part K and remove the overlapping guidance from Part M. The table shows the new structure of Part K, together with the previous location of the Requirements.

The new Approved Document is not intended to introduce any new technical requirements; however, there have been some minor changes in the guidance, mainly as a consequence of rationalising the guidance from three separate documents.

- Stairs are now defined as:
Private: intended to be used only for one dwelling.

General access: the normal route between levels for all building user.

Utility: used for escape, maintenance or other purposes, but not as a normal route.

- The guidance on rise and going has been simplified and, as a result, there are differences in allowable dimensions.
- Approved Document K now contains minimum stair widths for buildings other than dwellings, of 1200 mm between enclosing walls or upstands, and 1000 mm between handrails.
- References to standards have been updated, so, for example, loading on guarding is now calculated to BS EN 1991-1-1 (with UK National Annex) and BD 6688-1-1.

Whilst the consolidated Approved Document K will assist designers by bringing all the related Requirements together, the amalgamation does have a downside. Each Approved Document divides buildings into classes in different

Changes to Part K

Part K 2013

Previous requirement

K1 Stairs ladders and ramps	K1
K2 Protection from falling	K2
K3 Vehicle barriers and loading bays	K3
K4 Protection against impact with glazing	N1
K5(1) Protection from collision with open open windows etc	K4
K5(2) Manifestation of glazing	N2
K5(3) Safe opening and closing of windows	N3
K5(4) Safe access for cleaning windows	N4
K6 Protection against impact from and trapping by doors	K5

ways. Bringing together guidance from three Approved Documents (while endeavouring not to change its original scope) means some sections of Approved Document K need careful reading to determine which guidance apply to which building types. For example, there are provisions for handrails (paragraphs 1.34–1.37) which apply to:

- All buildings
- Buildings other than dwellings and common access areas in buildings that contain flats and do not have passenger lifts
- Buildings other than dwellings
- Dwellings.

Part M

Many of the changes to Approved Document M are the part of the consolidation of Parts K, N and M. Other changes reflect the revocation of the Disability Discrimination Act and the introduction of the Equality Act 2010, while paragraph 5.6 introduces guidance on Changing Places Toilets. The most significant change, though, concerns Access Statements for building control purposes.

Research during the consultation process found that Building Control Bodies (BCB) did not find Access Statements useful, and the preparation of Access Statements did not sit easily in the design process. The Access Statement has therefore been abolished. Instead the applicant must communicate the Access Strategy, that is, convey clearly to the BCB how the approach chosen for a project demonstrates compliance with Part M. The access strategy should focus on points where the proposals diverge from the Approved Document. For smaller projects it may be sufficient to have a conversation to review proposals and record the outcome by correspondence. Larger or more complex works may require a written document accompanied by annotated drawings. The key, though, is early engagement with the BCB.

Part P

Part P is intended reduce the number of injuries and fatalities caused by poor quality electrical installation work in dwellings. Since its introduction in 2005 Part P has improved electrical safety, but there have been concerns that the range of notifiable work is too extensive and that the cost of inspection for unregistered installers is too high. The 2013 revision of Part P addresses both those issues.

All electrical installations in dwellings should be carried out to BS 7671 (incorporating amendment 1:20011), but only the following work is notifiable:

- Installation of a new circuit
- Replacement of consumer unit
- Addition or alteration to existing circuits in special locations.

Where work is notifiable, a registered competent person can self-certify the work. Non-registered installers can either have the Building Control Body certify the work, or they can arrange for third party certification by a registered third-party certifier, which should be more cost effective.

Regulation 7

Regulation 7 addresses the suitability of materials and standards of workmanship. Whilst Regulation 7 itself is not changing, the introduction of the European Construction Product Regulations (CPR) and mandatory CE marking for construction products has required revision of the Approved Document. The most significant change is in the acceptable methods for demonstrating a material or product's fitness for purpose; those are:

- CE marking under the CPR to a harmonised European Standard or European Technical Approval
- CE marking under other European legislation, such as the Gas Appliances Directive

- Assessment to a British Standard or to another national or international technical standard

- Independent certification schemes

- Tests and calculations

- Past experience.

Mandatory CE marking will make it easier for designers to demonstrate the suitability of a product. Provided the declared performance of a CE-marked product matches its intended use a BCB may not prohibit or impede the use of the product. The changes to Approved Document 7 also require corresponding changes to the guidance on materials and workmanship, independent certification schemes and technical specifications in all other Approved Documents (A, C, D, E, F, G, H, J and L).

1. As of 2011 the Welsh Assembly has the powers to set Building Regulations for Wales.

Huw M A Evans has worked as a technical author and trainer in the construction industry since 1996 and is currently a freelance consultant (www.writelines.biz)

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As a constituent body for the Society of the Environment, CIAT is able to award the Chartered Environmentalist qualification to its Chartered members. The Society for the Environment is the leading co-ordinating body in environmental matters and is a pre-eminent champion of a sustainable environment which has registered over 4800 Chartered Environmentalists (CEnv).

To be eligible to become a Chartered Environmentalist, applicants must be MCIAT and accrue a minimum of twelve units where 1 year of relevant academic experience = 2 units and/or 1 year of relevant professional/work experience = 1 unit. Applicants may be from any country.

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BIM Protocol

The Construction Industry Council Building recently published its much anticipated *Building Information Modelling (BIM) Protocol* alongside two further BIM documents: *Best Practice Guide for Professional Indemnity Insurance when using BIM* and *Outline Scope of Services for the role of Information Management*. Rosanna Bortoli looks at what the documents offer.

Building Information Modelling is an innovative and collaborative way of working that is underpinned by digital technologies which unlock more efficient methods of designing, creating and maintaining our built environment. In essence BIM embeds key product and asset data within a series of three dimensional computer models that can be used for effective management of information throughout the project lifecycle – from earliest inception through to occupation. It has been described as a game-changing ICT and cultural process for the construction sector.

The BIM Task Group, which leads the public sector implementation of the Government Construction Strategy mandate that all government construction projects will be undertaken using BIM Level 2 by 2016, has supported the co-ordination and creation of these key BIM documents.

The *Protocol* is an important document that provides the legal framework which will facilitate and promote the use of Building Information Modelling (BIM), a technology which will radically change construction practices, while at the same time producing substantial savings. It has been prepared following extensive consultation with Construction Industry Council members and with end-users in the wider construction industry.

The Protocol is a contractual document which takes precedence over existing agreements. It places an obligation on parties to provide defined elements of their services within a model or models at defined stages in a project. There is also the requirement to appoint a party to the role of information management. The Protocol encourages collaborative working methods within project teams and it operates within the adoption of common standards.

BIM Insurance Guidance

CIC has also produced a Best Practice Guide that deals with those aspects of BIM which relate to Professional Indemnity (PI) insurance. Although the general advice is that BIM level 2 should not present any obvious insurance problem, the suggestion is made that the broker ought to be consulted when BIM is used for the first time. This is particularly so if the insured party is undertaking an information management role; if a BIM co-ordinator is employed as a sub-consultant or; if there is a 'hosting' element in the BIM environment.

Outline Scope of Services for the role of Information Management

This document outlines the role description of information management which may be included within a Scope of Service Agreement. This sets out

the duty to establish a common data environment; establish, agree, and implement the information structure, enabling integration and co-ordination of information; and agree formats for outputs.

Simon Rawlinson, Chair of the Legal, Contracts and Insurance Working Group of the BIM Task Group and CIC Executive Board Member said: 'CIC's suite of documentation represents a major step forward for the implementation of BIM in the UK. The *Protocol* provides a generally applicable contractual framework for the use of BIM on projects, representing the interests of the employer and model originators. We have also taken steps to define the scope of the role of Information Management and have addressed some common concerns in connection with the insurance industry. From my perspective, the great step forward has been to unify these documents around PAS 1192-2 and the information flows that are crucial to the BIM value proposition. I would like to congratulate the team for their excellent work in bringing the suite together'.

All three documents are available to download free at www.cic.org.uk

Rosa Bortoli is Press and PR Officer at CIC.



"The great step forward has been to unify these documents around PAS 1192-2"

Simon Rawlinson, CIC

Making waves in Blackpool

Located on Blackpool's recently modernised seafront promenade and designed by London-based architects dRMM, the attractive Festival House literally leaves a shimmering impression.

By Klaus Sikora.

The English seaside resort of Blackpool is not a likely first choice for a sightseeing tour of modern architecture. For over 100 years, the old classic Blackpool Tower has been the prominent landmark of a town so well-known throughout the UK and abroad as a synonym for holiday fun, and the resort's latest sculptural structure is definitely not meant to compete with this symbolism. The new Festival House is, however, an outstanding architectural achievement in its own right.

The project

Blackpool's seemingly endless promenade stretches for nearly seven miles along the coastline. The Golden Mile between the

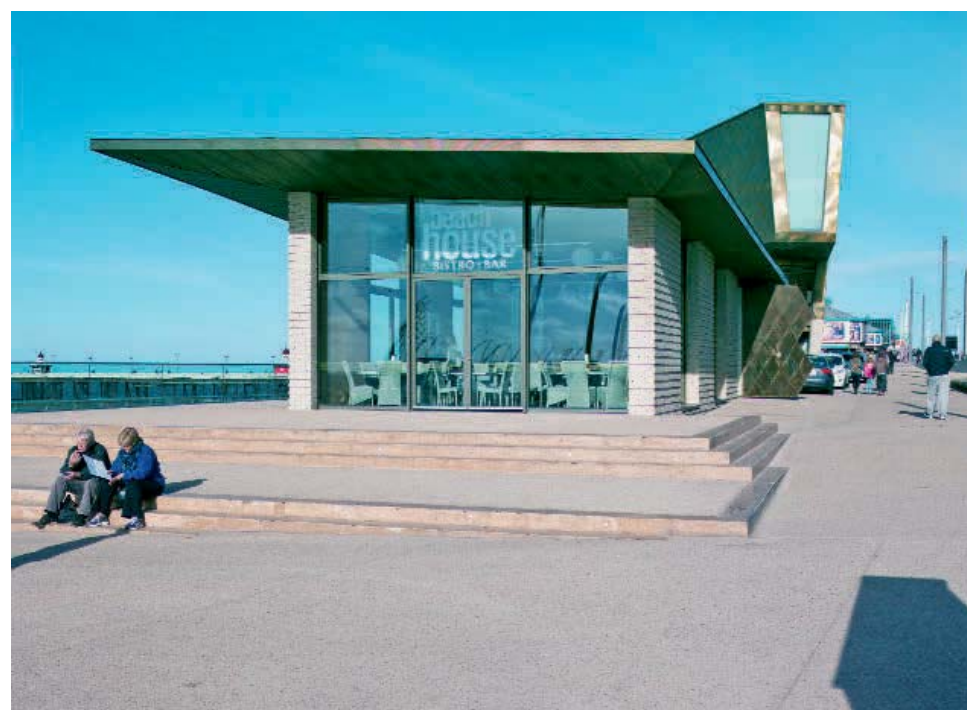
North Pier and the South Pier dazzles with entertainment for young and old alike in many different dimensions and qualities. Right in the middle of all this, the 150-metre high steel frame of the Blackpool Tower rises to present a scaled replica of the Eiffel Tower.

The traditional Illuminations have long been turning the promenade into a sea of light that makes even many big-city Christmas displays seem dull in comparison. Now, the Illuminations throw their light on new and promising scenery: the much needed 2012 promenade renovation.



The resort's latest sculptural structure

The new promenade, designed in reddish-yellow sandstone, is modern and inviting, almost a little surreal in these surroundings. To the one side, the revitalised tram line and the road, which has now been reduced to two lanes, and the town behind, and to the other side the wide, arching 'Spanish Steps' facing the shoreline beyond. This aesthetically impressive replacement for the former sea wall now allows plenty of access to the section of beach between the piers at low tide. In the northern part, towards the tower and North Pier, the promenade widens towards the Tower Festival Headland, an area featuring several conspicuous objects. Like over-dimensioned pebbles, organically shaped stone sculptures invite visitors to take a rest.

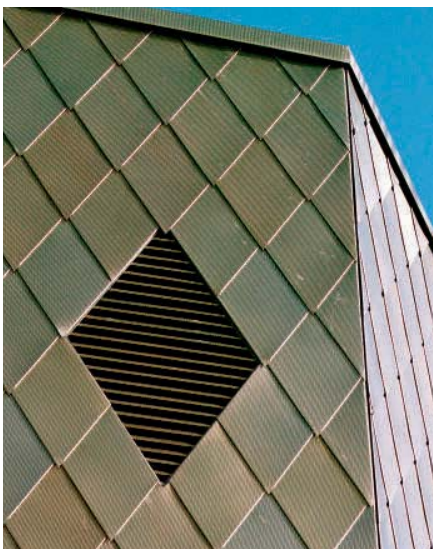


A one-storey building with an elegant seamed flat roof projecting on all sides unveils its restaurant interior through a

large glass front, to the south merges into a 'mini tower' with two additional storeys on the opposite side.

The architectural highlight of this ensemble is located on the north side of the Festival Headland. A one-storey building with an elegant seamed flat roof projecting on all sides that unveils its restaurant interior through a large glass front, to the south merges into a 'mini tower' with two additional storeys on the opposite side. The formal play with different angles in different directions creates areas of facade with various trapezoid shapes and a distinctive oriel-like top floor, whose glass front cuts the line of sight with a good view of the Blackpool Tower. London-based architects dRMM achieved a surprising result with this successful design vocabulary, while simultaneously retaining the high merit they have shown in

The formal play with different directions creates areas of facade with various trapezoid shapes



Rhombus-shaped shingles

many other projects with their intuitive use of innovative materials. In this case, the all-round metal sleeve of the tower structure immediately attracts attention. Even in a snapshot, the pattern of rhombus-shaped shingles exhibits a multi-faceted play with structure and

colour. Depending on the light quality, each shingle has a characteristic basic colour with an individual colour gradient – from emerald green to gold-yellow, from reddish brown to bluish violet.

The incidence of light creates the corresponding varied reflections in the different angles of the façade surfaces and the different phases of the changing light conditions create an amazing sequence of many different visual impressions, so that it is actually quite difficult to characterise the façade in terms of specific colours. In extreme circumstances, it appears to be veiled in brass, but then seems cast in gold. The secret of this 'chameleon skin' is the coloured stainless steel with a cleverly designed structure, which, thanks to extremely precise pre-fabrication and project planning, unfolds fully its unrivalled aesthetic effect. At least as appealing are the obvious material benefits, such as high resistance and long life, especially when in autumn the

stormy disposition of the Irish Sea whips the seawater over the promenade and even the Blackpool Tower is coated with a salty crust to a height of more than 90 metres.

The function of the building becomes clear on access from the east side facing dry land: 'Festival House' can be read in raised letters beside the entrance on the light-coloured stepped concrete base with the luminous glass inserts that surrounds the ground floor. The glazed entrance where the tower segment meets the front building takes visitors directly to the local Tourist Information Centre, and the stairway, well lit through the generously sized windows, leads to the local registrar's office, which occupies the two upper floors. At the very top, the projecting oriel discloses its function as a wedding ceremony room. Like the rest of the building interior, its walls and ceiling are clad with sheets of cross laminated timber (CLT). The glass front at the

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narrow end of the trapezoid room looks directly over to the Blackpool Tower. Thus, from the marriage registrar's desk, the bride and bridegroom have a full view of this permanent, silent witness. The congenial interior design of the restaurant plays on the structural design of the building.

The metal facade

The unique aesthetic effect of the poly-spectral colours on the metal facade of Festival House is based on the interaction of several factors. The rhombus-shaped planTEC® system shingles from north German company MN Metallverarbeitung Neustadt offer characteristic reflection properties due to their special surface structure. In this case an individual positive/negative embossing solution was developed, creating many different refractions and reflections of light and, consequently, countless colour nuances. The base material here is stainless steel sheet reworked using the ColourTex® process of British manufacturer Rimex, which due to its characteristic colour gradients has additional light variations on the Mirror Gold 6WL surface. Additionally, a special characteristic of traditional shingle cladding is that not all rhombus elements are at exactly the same angle to incident light, and thus they reflect the light in slightly different ways.

The stainless steel sheet colour is produced by enriching the oxide layer, which also optimises the material's corrosion resistance – another important consideration given the exposed location of Festival House is that the metal is resistant to weathering and UV and is said to be absolutely colour fast to 200°C. Ageing effects as well as cracks or flaking can be ruled out, as can material changes caused by light or weather. The material is also very easy to work with: processes such as laser cutting, edging, bending or deep drawing are all possible with the coloured surfaces, since the oxide layer is bonded to the base material and thus has a very high degree of elasticity.

However, the positive/negative embossing of the metal does cause problems in relation to traditional processing techniques, since the thickness that has to be taken into consideration from a technical point of



The narrow end of the trapezoid room looks directly over to the Blackpool Tower. Thus, from the marriage

registrar's desk, the bride and bridegroom have a full view of this permanent, silent witness.

view is 2 to 3 mm and not between 0.5 and 0.8 mm as is usual with stainless steel sheet. In combination with the high design demands of the project and the highly individualised system requirements, an exceptionally high level of expertise in pre-fabrication and project planning was required – probably unique for what is actually a traditional roof and facade system.

MN was able to deliver the entire metal cladding ready for assembly and also acted as the interface for all the trades involved in the construction work. The company's extensive experience with creative metalwork according to individual customer requirements, coupled with the unrivalled possibilities of a modern sheet metal machining centre enabled the tasks to be bundled in a highly concentrated manner: pre-assembly of the complete metal skin, development of special tools for the individual systems, internal processing of the laser cuts, implementation of the complete construction system, including ventilation elements, coping, internal gutters. The specific challenges were not limited to the most spectacular aspects of the building's cladding; the cleverly designed seamed roof of the restaurant is based on a traditional

standing seam cladding with multiple angles that demanded special solutions for the cuts because of the longitudinal and transverse expansion of the material. This made the chameleon skin a hybrid project in more ways than one: traditional stainless steel plate with high-tech finish, traditional assembly technique with today's industrial expertise.

Klaus Sikora is the press representative of MN Metalwerke.

Project partners:

Client: Blackpool Council

Architects: dRMM, London

User: Blackpool registrar's office; Tourist Information Centre; Restaurant

Builder: Parkinson Building Contractors

Project management: LDA Design

Landscape design: LDA Design

Supporting structure: Michael Hadi Associates

Building services: Michael Popper Associates

Metal cladding: Facade system: planTEC® system

Development, pre-fabrication, project planning:

MN Metallwerke Neustadt

Contractor: Richardson Roofing, London

Building costs: £2.85 million

Completion: January 2012

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The coal scorers

CIAT-registered practice Edward Architecture entered an international competition to design a pioneering new visitor destination on a former colliery site in Cronton, Merseyside. Graham Edward MCIAT outlines the project and explains how the practice benefited from it.

The competition was run by The Land Trust in association with RIBA Competitions and was open to architectural practices and multi-disciplinary design teams from the built and open environment. Edward Architecture had limited competition experience, having entered an RIBA competition to design a landmark building at Calls Landing, Leeds in 2009. As competition work is not fee-paying, it can put a significant strain on a practice's workload and resources.

This can be a deterrent to smaller practices in particular. All five Edward Architecture staff worked on the scheme, much of this in our spare time. The exercise proved extremely worthwhile however as we were delighted to learn that our entry was shortlisted and subsequently received a runner's up prize. This was awarded by Euan Hall, Chief Executive of The Land Trust at an award ceremony in April last year. The following transcript is a summary of our competition entry.

The brief was to create a public open space and visitor destination

The 106 acre Cronton Colliery is located just south of Junction 6 of the M62 between Knowsley and Widnes in a country side setting making it an ideal location for a country park. The competition brief was to create: 'A public open space and visitor destination embracing the Sustrans 'Mineral Greenway' route and enhance the local wildlife, landscape and biodiversity; with benefits in education, health, community and the local economy, whilst embracing The Land Trust's



aspirations for the site.' Prior to coal mining activities, which were carried out from Victorian times until the 1980s, the countryside consisted of a series of fields and woodlands with a brook meandering through the site. The colliery activities have left the core of the site with an unnatural and man-made landscape of forced river lines, steep banks and plateaus. The site still boasts fantastic views across the countryside to the Liverpool skyline and is home to historic woodlands of Significant Biodiversity Interest (SBI).

In our view, this provided a unique opportunity to transform and revitalise the Cronton Colliery site back to a natural landscape setting and to install many of its lost historical and natural features.

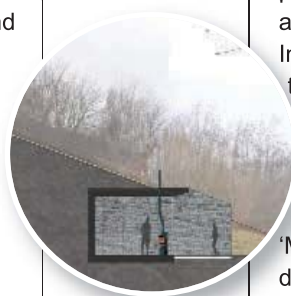
The concept

During the initial concept development we were keen to celebrate the former mining use of the site through the architecture and design. The large site is already home to a number of

native grass species and rich in wildlife and biodiversity. We decided to embrace these features through a country park and nature reserve. We felt that the large site would benefit from a number of uses and as the brief asked for proposals to be self-sufficient, a certain level of revenue would have to be generated through the proposals. We felt that the proximity of the site to the motorway network and nearby cities of Liverpool and Manchester made this an opportunity to create a national tourist attraction.

In order to attract visitors from across the country our proposal had to be unique. The country park and nature reserve would serve as a local visitor attraction but would be unlikely to rival similar parks on a national scale. Edward Architecture created 'EPI-Centre'; a multi-activity, dynamic country park, and biological educational facility built around extreme sports and a nature reserve. The key to mixing these contradicting uses was to separate the sports activities from the nature areas with clever

The site still boasts fantastic views across the countryside to the Liverpool skyline



landscaping and provide unique and exciting viewing experiences to the 'man free' nature zones.

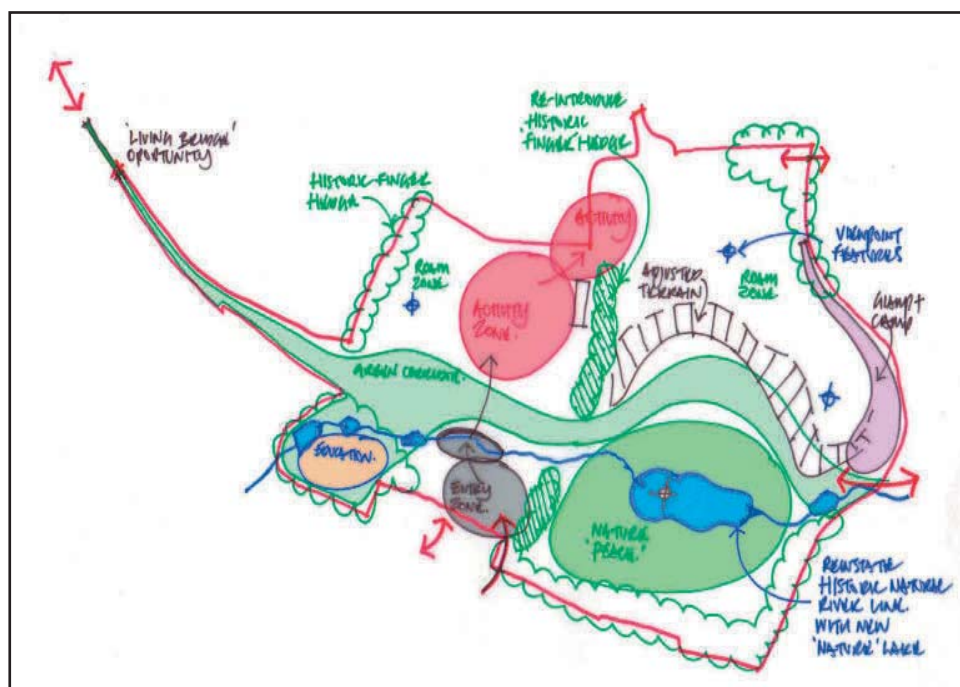
Proposals

EPI-Centre embraces the former mining use of the site which features prominently in the design through series of tunnels and shafts which incorporate a plethora of underground activities and adventure.

In addition to the series of tunnels, a green corridor has been introduced to form a spinal route connecting the east and west of the site representing the primary line of the Sustrans 'Mineral Greenway' route. The disused Potters Bridge which spans the M62 is transformed into Britain's first 'living bridge' with planting and wildlife routes connecting the site with Halsnead Park whilst giving the scheme visibility from the M62.

A new lake will encourage wetland species to the area which can be viewed from a series of bird-watching trenches which encircle the north of the reserve whilst remaining hidden from view. An aquatic panopticon, the first of its kind, rises out of the lake and provides viewing areas at two levels with panoramic views of both the underwater lake bed and surrounding wetlands. Other proposals include camping provisions, 'glamping' yurts, sky-walks, an extreme mountain biking trail and a series of walking, cycling and bridleway routes and a visitor centre with educational facilities.

Separated from the nature reserve by a reinstated historical 'finger' hedge and tree line, is a hi-tech glazed geodesic dome which houses the major attraction to the EPI-Centre country park, the 'Shaft of Fun'. The 60m deep shaft was inspired by the site's former mining operations and would be home to a subterranean multi-use extreme sports facility, the scale of which would be unrivalled. This was to be the



Edward Architecture created 'EPI-Centre'; a multi-activity, dynamic country park, and biological educational facility built around extreme sports and a nature

reserve. Sports activities were separated from the nature areas with clever landscaping. Above, inset: a 'glamping' yurt.

The heat is on...

Heat pumps capture ambient heat from the air or the ground and transfer it inside a building. This feature from the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) summarises the use of heat pump technology for residential buildings and the prospects for their uptake in the UK.

By Dr Stephen Allen and Dr Jonathan Wentworth, POST advisors

Half the energy sold to UK consumers is used for heating, most of which is in the form of space and water heating in residential buildings.¹ There are two ways to reduce the carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and increase the contribution from renewable energy in line with UK and EU legislative targets:²

- improved insulation to reduce the heat demand of buildings
- reduced carbon intensity of heating by a switch to low-carbon heating systems, such as heat pumps.³

Residential heat pumps use electricity to capture heat from sources such as the air or the ground and increase its temperature, so that it can be used to heat space and water. Most residential heat pumps distribute the captured heat via a system of heat emitters that include radiators or underfloor heating. Since heat pumps run on electricity, their CO₂ emissions will be further reduced if electricity supplies are successfully decarbonised, the main aim of the government's Energy Bill 2012-13. Heat pump installation is being incentivised through public

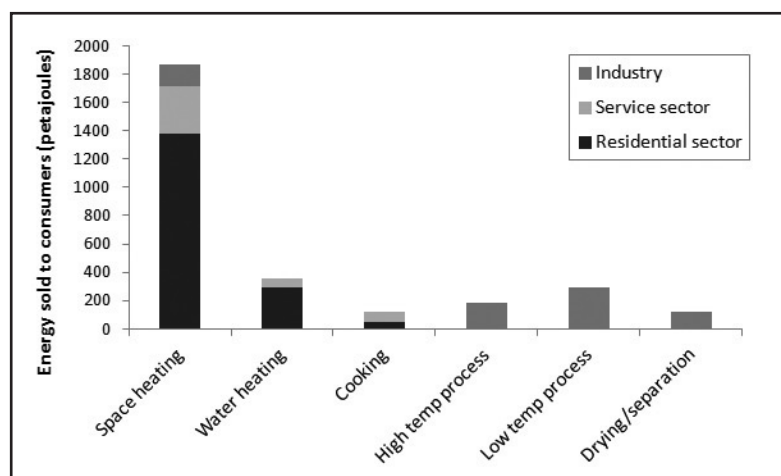
Residential heat pumps use electricity to capture heat from sources such as the air or the ground

policy in the UK and other countries.

Financial support

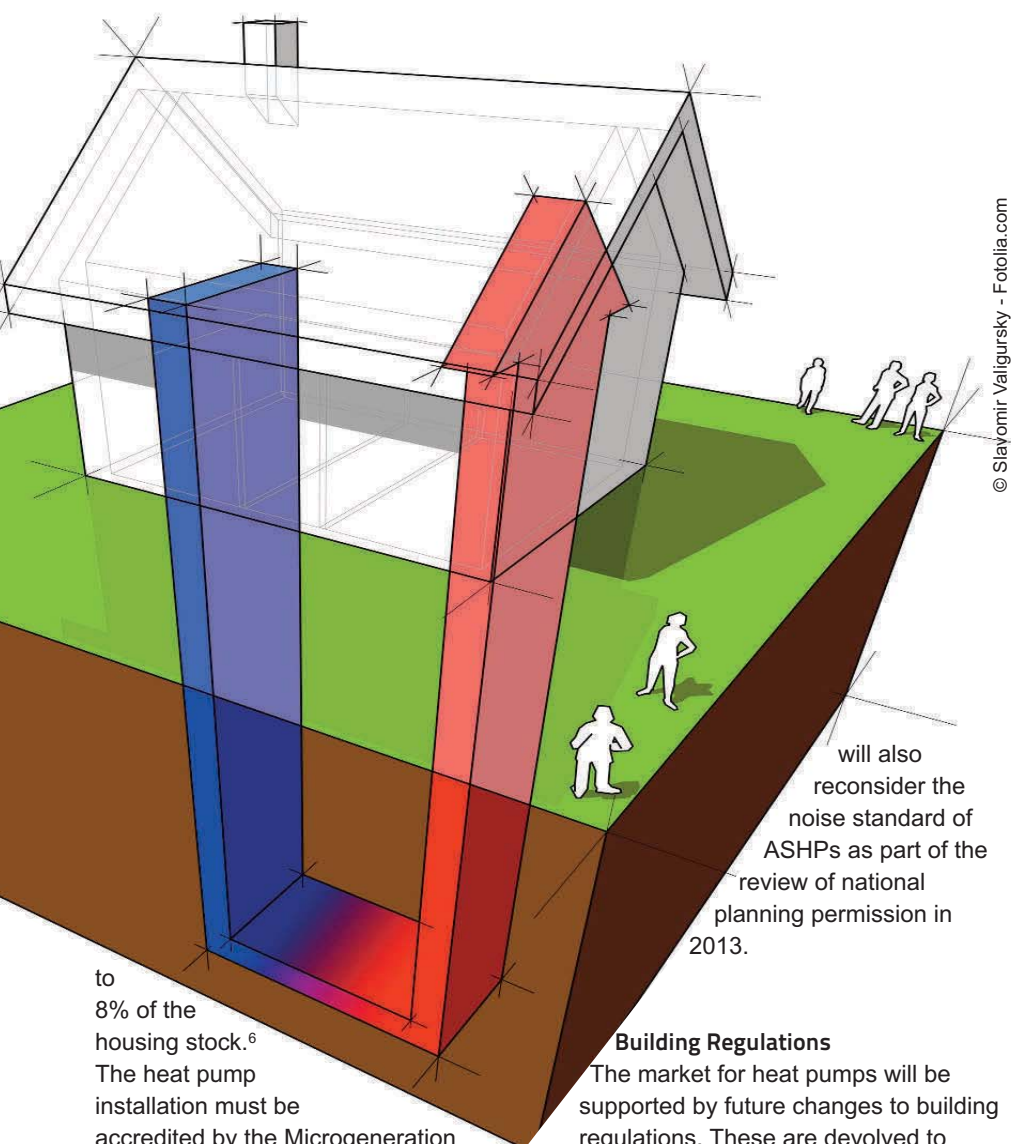
Low-carbon heating technologies such as heat pumps can be financially attractive in certain circumstances, but are more expensive than conventional options such as gas-fired boilers. The government's main policy for low-carbon heating is currently a financial incentive, the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI). This provides a payment for each unit of heat produced, with tariff levels varying depending on the type of heat pump and its size.

The RHI is similar to the Feed In Tariff scheme, which is available for small electricity-generating technologies. The RHI is being introduced in two phases.⁴ Phase 1 began in November 2011 and provides tariffs for installations in non-residential buildings, which can include houses that are on a district heating system. Phase 2 will extend RHI tariffs to the residential sector in summer 2013. In the interim, one-off grants known as 'Renewable Heat Premium Payments' are available for residential properties.⁵ Eligibility requires that the properties must be off the gas grid. There are 4 million such homes across Britain, amounting



Of the energy sold to consumers for heating, 71% comes from natural gas, 13% from electricity, 9% from oil, 3% from solid fuel, 2% heat from district heating

networks, and 2% is bioenergy and waste. Overall, this energy use represents one third of the UK's territorial greenhouse gas emissions.



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to 8% of the housing stock.⁶

The heat pump installation must be accredited by the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) to receive RHI payments, which also provides quality assurance for consumers. Although it will still be legal to install heat pumps without following MCS procedures, it may increase running costs and reduce performance.

Planning system

In addition to financial support, the government has made it easier to install heat pumps through changes to the planning system. Permitted development rights were introduced for residential and some commercial heat pumps in England in accordance with the Green Energy (Definition and Promotion) Act 2009. They have since been extended to Wales, whilst Scotland already allows air source heat pumps (ASHPs) as long as they are 100m apart. These rights give national planning permission, subject to qualifying conditions, to development that would otherwise need permission from a local authority. The government

will also reconsider the noise standard of ASHPs as part of the review of national planning permission in 2013.

Building Regulations

The market for heat pumps will be supported by future changes to building regulations. These are devolved to Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. In England, they specify a minimum energy performance standard for new buildings and for building work on existing properties. Since the adoption of the EU Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings in 2006, this standard has been specified in terms of CO₂ emissions. The standard is due to tighten towards 'zero carbon' for new homes by 2016, which will require higher levels of insulation and probably the adoption of low-carbon technologies such as heat pumps.

Heat Pump Performance

Heat pumps operate on the same principles as refrigerators and air conditioners. All these devices capture heat from a cool location (eg inside a fridge) and transfer it to a warmer location (eg the kitchen), thus allowing temperature control. They do this by evaporating and then condensing a refrigerant fluid in a closed cycle; as the fluid evaporates it absorbs heat, and as

it is condensed it releases heat. In this way, heat pumps capture heat from an external source and provide it to the inside of a building.⁷ The operating efficiency of a heat pump must be above a certain threshold if it is to offer energy and carbon savings compared to conventional heating systems.

UK trials demonstrated that appropriate installation is crucial – particularly the size of the heat pump and the selection of heat emitters (eg radiators). Optimal types of heat emitters for heat pumps are common in Germany, with a market share of 50% for underfloor heating in detached and semi-detached new build houses.⁸

The better performance of heat pumps in Germany and Switzerland is partly because the technology is more established in those countries, meaning there is greater experience among installers of the technology, although it is also partly because those trials defined performance differently.

The UK trial was carried out before the the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) an industry-led quality assurance scheme, was updated in March 2012. This update introduced sizing guidelines for heat pumps and for heat emitters (such as radiators), which MCS installation companies must use. Future installations should therefore see improved performance compared to the field trial results.

Any heat pump receiving a Renewable Heat Premium Payment (RHPP) may be chosen for a metering package, so that data can be collected by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), to allow further learning about field performance of heat pumps. Several heat pump manufacturers are investigating the possibility of remote monitoring of their heat pumps and better diagnostics of faults.

Installation in the UK

Most heat pumps in the UK are currently installed off the gas grid to replace conventional electrical heaters, oil-fired boilers and Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) boilers. Electrical heaters, oil-fired and

Ground Source Heat Pumps

GSHPs capture heat by passing a cool liquid through a system of pipes installed under the ground. These pipes can be orientated horizontally, as shown in the picture below, or vertically, in a borehole. Heat from solar radiation is naturally stored under the ground at 10-15°C all year round, and is absorbed by the cool liquid as it flows around the piping. A GSHP unit increases this heat to a higher temperature and transfers it into the home. Black piping brings the circulating liquid from the ground loop to the heat pump, which connects to the house through the wall.



Installing horizontal ground loops.
Image: Kensa Engineering.

Air Source Heat Pumps

ASHPs are based on components similar to those found in air-conditioning units, but provide heating instead of cooling. A fan draws air into the unit, where heat is absorbed, increased to a higher temperature, and transferred into the home. Air temperatures vary more than ground temperatures throughout the year, so the performance of ASHPs is more variable than Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHPs).



Air Source Heat Pump (Mitsubishi Electric).

LPG boilers are more expensive to run and also produce higher carbon emissions than gas boilers.⁹ A key market is social housing, which is required by government to be assessed against the Code for Sustainable Homes, which includes energy efficiency standards. Heat pumps are a mature technology with established markets in other European countries. Although UK numbers are small, they have been increasing: installations across both residential and commercial buildings increased from 2,000 to 21,000 per year over the period 2006-11.¹⁰ The market research organisation BSRIA expect annual installations to reach 49,000 per year by 2015, though this will be sensitive to policies such as the RHI.

Expanding the market

For a mass market to develop in the UK, costs will need to be brought down to compete with gas central heating boilers, the dominant heating technology. This is one of the aims of the RHI, which aims to provide certainty to investors in the heat pump industry.

Although heat pumps use established components found in a range of technologies (such as air conditioning), a study for the Low Carbon Innovation Co-ordination Group¹⁴ suggested innovations in design and installation could deliver significant cost savings.¹⁵ The capital cost of installing a heat pump, including pipe work, water storage tanks and radiator replacements, is approximately £6,000 to £10,000 for an ASHP and £9,000 to £17,000 for a GSHP.¹⁶ The running cost depends on operational efficiency and electricity price.¹² Heat pumps work most efficiently when the temperature difference between the outside heat source and the inside plumbing system is small. They are usually designed for the limit of an outside temperature of -3°C and 21°C inside, but the lower the temperature outside the more electricity is used per unit of heat produced. ASHPs perform least well on the coldest days, and may need to run as direct electric heaters if they freeze, resulting in higher costs, emissions and extra load for the electricity network.

Consumer confidence

For heat pump sales to increase in the UK, installers and consumers need to understand where they are suitable and have confidence in the technology. Suitability depends on how well insulated a building is, whether there is sufficient space available (particularly for GSHPs), the proximity of other dwellings for ASHPs (because of noise issues) and acceptance by the user of the operating characteristics of the heat pump.

Continuous low-temperature heat

In contrast to most heating systems, heat pumps operate best by providing continuous, low-temperature heating. For example, by providing heat to radiators at between 35°C-50°C, instead of the 60-70°C supplied by a gas boiler. Users need to understand and accept this different operating approach. Heat storage could help maximise heat pump performance. However, daily heat storage in water requires space for a large (up to a 1,000 litre) tank, limiting its feasibility to larger properties.¹⁵

Suitability of properties

For continuous low power heat to work effectively for space heating, buildings need to be well insulated. There also needs to be space to install the heat pump. ASHP systems are more suitable for retrofitting in medium to low density housing such as semi-detached or detached houses. An alternative for higher density housing is large-scale district heating systems that could use large network heat pumps to exploit sea, rivers, sewage systems, geothermal heat or industrial waste heat as the heat source. Widespread adoption of reinforcing residential heat pumps could also result in disruptive changes in electricity distribution.

Water heating

Heat pumps can be used to heat domestic hot water tanks. However, as the pump operates at a lower temperature (less than 55°C) compared to 70°C for a gas boiler it may be necessary to use an immersion heater to top up the heat for frequent hot water use. This will reduce the system's overall energy efficiency. By contrast, unused hot water will waste heat that would otherwise have been used for space heating, reducing overall

effectiveness of the heating system.¹² Water should also be heated to at least 60°C once a week to minimise risks from Legionnaire's disease.

Adaptation of infrastructure

If heat pumps are fitted to replace oil and gas boilers, then the UK's electricity generation and distribution networks would need to be reinforced to accommodate the power needed for large numbers of heat pumps. However, if pumps are fitted to replace electric heating systems (approximately 6% of residential space and water heating), the demand on the generation and networks would be reduced. In addition to the network issues, more (low carbon) generation capacity would be required.

Policy certainty

In addition to consumer confidence, stability of government support has been

shown to be critical.¹¹ There has been policy uncertainty in the UK, with delays and changes in the implementation of RHI.¹⁸ At present, it is not possible to get both a Green Deal loan and the RHI for a heat pump installation, but DECC are considering a linkage.

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Carbon intensity and seasonal performance

The overall carbon saving from providing heating to a building with a heat pump depends on two things:

- the carbon intensity of electricity that is generated and distributed to households (the 'upstream' electricity system), and;
- the efficiency with which the heat pump uses this electricity to provide heating (the seasonal performance factor, SPF).

The carbon intensity of the electricity system is a function of the type of power stations used to generate electricity. A coal plant emits nearly twice as much carbon as a gas plant per unit of energy generated. The carbon intensity of electricity will be reduced as electricity is decarbonised, and as a consequence the emissions from electrical heating technologies will also reduce. At present, an ordinary electric heater provides less than one unit of heat from one unit of electricity.

On average, a heat pump produces more than one unit of heat from one unit of electricity (the SPF) and so its effective carbon emissions will be less. The operating efficiency of a heat pump primarily depends upon the temperature difference between the heating distribution system and the heat

source. The smaller the difference, the more efficiently the heat pump operates, as the heat pump expends less energy increasing the temperature of the heat captured from outside the building. This means that large radiators or under-floor heating, which can operate at 35°C, systems improve performance, as the temperature difference is much less. In trials in Germany and Switzerland, GSHPs were found to provide an overall average seasonal performance factor (SPF) of above 2.6. For very energy efficient buildings, SPF of 5.0 were measured. For ASHPs, the trials gave an SPF of 2.2-3.4.¹¹ In UK trials, the SPF of GSHPs was 1.6-3.4, while ASHPs were 1.2-2.2.¹² The UK field trial figures are not directly comparable to those from Germany and Switzerland because of slight differences in the way performance is defined, but these differences do not completely account for the reduced performance of UK installations.¹³

The efficiency of generating distributing electricity would need to be considered along with the efficiency of extracting and transporting gas. At around a SPF 2.5,⁷ a heat pump's carbon efficiency is approximately equivalent to a gas boiler, but with decarbonisation of the electricity system, this 'breakeven' SPF will decrease, with heat pumps having the potential to be the lowest carbon intensity option for space heating.



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On average, a heat pump produces more than one unit of heat from one unit of electricity (the SPF) and so its effective carbon emissions will be less.



Choice offering

Could custom-building offer a way out of the housing crisis, as well as deliver better returns on public subsidy and improved designs? By Katie Puckett.

When the gates of Windmill Hill Primary School closed for the last time, the land buyers of the major housebuilders were not exactly circling. The site in west Swindon is not an obvious choice for a new housing project, even though it's in the middle of a residential area and suitable for little else. 'It's a relatively small

site, and a lot of it is protected from development under the Education Act,' explains Jonathan Coats, principal valuer at Swindon Borough Council. 'There's a lot of old services in the ground too, from an old main road, so it's not one of those sites where a national housebuilder could go in quickly and throw up some houses.' But after more than four

"We want to make it affordable for local people, rather than elitist"

years of hard graft by the council and Swindon-based self-build specialist BuildStore, which will act as project manager, the Windmill Green development is reaching the final planning and legal hurdles. If these are overcome, it will provide 15 serviced plots for local people to build their own homes, with 13 to follow in a second phase. It's a

flagship for the self-build movement nationwide, which foresees a future where alternative models of housebuilding could play a much bigger part in addressing the national housing shortage, while also delivering a better quality product at a more affordable price.

At Windmill Hill, plots will cost around £55,000, and the build around £100,000, compared with the £279,000 asking price for a new-build four-bed home in Swindon. 'We want to make it affordable for local people, rather than an elitist thing,' says Jaclyn Thorburn, communications manager for BuildStore. 'This is a trial to see how much demand there is and whether the model works,' says Coats. 'If it does, we will look at rolling it out to other sites. But why is the council getting involved? It's bringing diversity to the housing supply, rather than relying on national housebuilders.'

Finding new ways to deliver housing —somewhere between the Barratt-and- Bellway proposition and social housing — is certainly a priority. Conventional self-build already accounts for 12,000-14,000 units a year, but the government is hoping that a larger scale 'custom-build' approach can help reverse the slump in housing starts. Custom-building aims to take the most difficult and least rewarding parts of the process out of the hands of self-builders, involving an 'enabling developer', such as a housebuilder or local authority, to help them. It could also provide an antidote to the expensive, small and poorly built housing delivered by some national housebuilders — according to an RIBA survey only an estimated quarter of people would buy a house built in the past 10 years.

Council backing

To work on a national level, custom-build would need councils to get behind the idea, writing it into their housing strategies, or acting as broker or project manager. It would also require a new breed of custom-build enabling companies: contractors that can benefit from de-risked schemes with identified buyers, or traditional small housebuilders taking advantage of the improved cash-flow proposition of custom-build to scale up their activities. But it would also need new financing and mortgage options. David Birkbeck, chief executive of housing design champion Design for Homes, believes that the key to unlocking the 'huge' potential of custom-building is to copy the Dutch model, which allows people to build on government land and defer the cost until their house is complete and they can borrow against it. 'Nothing will help as much as deferring the land cost — that's the deal breaker,' he says.

Resolving this problem is the secret of the much-admired Almere township in the Netherlands, Europe's largest self-build scheme with 3,000 homes, where people were allowed three years to build their house, and could defer payment for a further three years if they ran into trouble. Birkbeck refers to the UK government's Build Now, Pay Later scheme, through which developers can defer the land cost of building homes on public land, saying: 'We need a version of that for the self-build market.' The Netherlands is also a source of inspiration in terms of servicing sites. Stephen Hill, director of land consultancy C2O Futureplanners, argues that the roots of the undersupply issue goes back much further than the funding crisis of 2008. He says it originated in the 1970s, when the government ruled that infrastructure would be paid for by developers, rather than from general taxation.

'We desperately need a new way of paying for infrastructure without making every development pay for its own,' says Hill. 'It's becoming progressively more

difficult as the infrastructure deficit grows. To expect communities or self-builders to overcome these problems is expecting too much.' Again, the solution could lie in the Dutch model, where the local authority and local banks pay for infrastructure to support development, and get their returns from the increase in land value and future land tax revenues. But even if the ideal legal and legislative conditions aren't yet in place, custom-build is already making headway. Ted Stevens, chair of the National Self Build Association (NaSBA), says he knows of around 50 councils considering custom-build schemes, which could deliver between 1,000 and 2,000 homes in the next 12 months. 'There are typically between 10 and 20 homes in a group scheme, but there are also potentially one or two very large schemes which would include up to 2,000 homes,' says Stevens.

Short-term finance

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) has a £30m fund to provide short-term finance for group custom-build schemes, and has put forward seven of its own sites as pilot projects. Meanwhile, London mayor Boris Johnson has an £8m fund, which Newham Council is accessing to support a custom-build design competition. The Prince of Wales has even been won over, with his Foundation leading a project of 12-16 self-build homes at the Queen's Balmoral estate.

The concept also offers opportunities for smaller contractors which would usually be excluded from mainstream housing delivery, without the balance sheets to bid against the big players for land. It's an opportunity that Ron Gibbons and Simon Pugh, the founders of Urban Self Build, are keen to take. An architect and developer, respectively, they are marketing their first project, an 11-plot site in Peterborough, with two more in the pipeline for this year. 'What attracted us to self-build is that despite the fact that this is a relatively unsupported and unrecognised sector of housebuilding,

people still managed to build 12,000 homes every year,' says Gibbons. 'There is significant demand there, and we want to liberate that by de-risking the prospect of self-build for everyone involved, from landowners, planners, mortgage providers, building contractors right through to the owners.' Their model could be termed 'enabled self-build', where a developer such as themselves brings the professional skills to enable people to access funding, land and planning approval and offer them as much, or as little, support as they want. 'There are lots of different types of self-builders,' says Pugh. 'We can instruct a contractor to build a house up to watertight stage and they can finish it themselves, or offer a bespoke turnkey approach, where the house is built to their specification and at the end they're handed the keys.'

East Midlands-based housebuilder Fairgrove Homes is also dipping a toe into enabled self-build, with three plots currently available and an application made to the HCA fund to buy another site. Managing director Steve Midgley says his biggest challenge is consumer awareness. 'For most people it's something completely new,' he says. He is using social media to spread the word. 'There is significant demand there, and we want to liberate that by de-risking the prospect of self-build for everyone involved.'



Small companies such as Urban Self Build are providing 'one stop shops' for self build projects with easy to follow guides such as the one shown above.

More choice for less money

Ron Gibbons, Urban Self Build is also talking to a developer with a similar offer in another part of the country about pooling resources at consumer events. Midgley's message is more choice for less money. Self-build mortgages allow homeowners to pay upfront for the land and then to draw down stage payments for the construction, so there is less risk for the housebuilder, which means they can settle for a lower margin. The saving passed on to the buyer will vary, depending on land costs in different parts of the country. But in the East Midlands he estimates it offers about a 10% saving on a new home bought in the traditional way. Increasing numbers of lenders are taking the custom-build market seriously.

However, for the options described above, significant upfront investment would still be required, restricting custom-building to wealthier first-time buyers or those already on the housing ladder who have built up equity in their properties. However, an alternative way to make custom-build or self-build more widely affordable is to remove the cost of land through Community Land Trusts (CLTs).

American model

In the US, there are more than 240 CLTs, accounting for more than 5,000 homes, which are built on public-sector land and intended specifically for local people who cannot afford to buy on the open market. They take out a mortgage on the house itself but the land freehold is retained in the trust, giving them a fixed proportion of the equity, typically around 30%. According to the National CLT Network, there are now around 130-140 nascent or developing CLTs in England and Wales, of all shapes and sizes, following rapid growth over the past couple of years. Many are small sites in rural areas where locals have been priced out by second-home owners, such as the well-known development in Rock, Cornwall.

There is already a major urban scheme, on a former hospital site in Bow, east London, where 25-30 units out of 2,000 homes will be made available at prices

carefully pegged to local incomes. 'What CLTs do better than anything else is retain public subsidy, so you only need to subsidise it once,' says Dave Smith, project director for the East London CLT. He suggests CLTs could be used for every development that has a component of intermediate ownership.

Other ideas that could bring down construction costs for custom-built schemes include the London Popular Home Initiative, developed by consultant Urban Initiatives with backing from United House and Bouygues, as well as six London councils. It proposes a new set of standard housing types for the capital, helping to speed up the planning process and encouraging standardisation in the supply chain. Urban Initiatives' consultant director Kelvin Campbell says that structuring choice in this way would open up the market to a much wider range of players, 'from self-builder to mass contractor and everything in-between'.

True self-build will always account for a limited number of new homes, says Campbell, but he would like to bring the principle into every development. 'That's how we can bring interest and diversity into a place.' He also points out that the solution to Britain's housing crisis could lie in a project-by-project approach: 'We shouldn't think in terms of needing to build 40,000 homes, we need to think of building six homes here, 10 homes here, and then one day we'll turn around and we'll have built 40,000.'

At Windmill Green in Swindon, they have the same philosophy. 'You could say 25 plots is not that much, but it's 25 homes that would otherwise not be there. The council had no use for the land and they couldn't dispose of it, so it was just going to waste,' says BuildStore's Thorburn. If every local authority took the same attitude, the housing start statistics could soon look slightly healthier.

Katie Puckett is a freelance journalist, editor and researcher. Reproduced by permission of Construction Manager. For more news, views and technical features visit: www.construction-manager.co.uk

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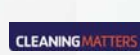


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The comprehensive free CPD accredited seminar programme consists of debate and discussion on a wide range of topical issues, including Energy Efficiency, Green Deal, Building Energy Management Systems, Behavioural Change, Smart Metering, Influencing the Supply Chain & Procurement, Optimising your Power Supply & Renewable Technologies. The programme will feature expert speakers offering insight and advice into the latest industry developments, as well as showcasing new innovations across the energy sector.

Highlights of the NEMEX seminar programme include **DECC** discussing Energy Policy; **KiWi Power** presenting on Energy Usage; a focus on Smart Metering; the **Energy Networks Association** running a session on the Low Carbon Networks Fund followed shortly after by **Energy Team** presenting on how to Reduce Bills and Use Smart Networks. **Siemens** will present on Behavioural Change and there will be several speakers highlighting issues around Building Energy Management Systems.

With so much on offer, **NEMEX energy Live** is a must-attend event for all industry professionals looking to network with like-minded individuals and source the latest product and services information to keep their organisation at the leading edge of innovation.

For up-to-date show news, details on how to exhibit or to register for free entry, visit

www.nemex.co.uk

The Eco Technology Show

Education is the key to staying competitive...

It's an interesting time to be involved in Architectural Technology. Building Regulations are changing on an almost yearly basis, driving innovative thinking as well as product and technological development. No longer are the old ways of doing things enough to rely on in a dynamic, ever-changing market that is becoming increasingly competitive. And despite the recession and the squeeze on costs, green building is becoming more mainstream. 'Environmentally conscious design and build is no longer seen as a niche area of the build and retrofit industry due to gradual popular and government acknowledgement of the issues,' says Nicola Gunstone, commercial director of The Eco Technology Show. 'The net effect for the industry is that it now has European and national targets for achieving higher and higher energy efficiency in new build and eco-retrofit projects,' she continues.

Yet, despite growing awareness, there are still a lot of misconceptions around green homes and energy efficiency. Designers need to

demystify technologies and building design for customers, as well as understand the commercial opportunities new regulations and technologies will create in the market.

The Eco Technology Show 2013 places education and networking at the heart of its two-day exhibition (14-15 June) — the Friday is for trade, the Saturday is open to the public. After a successful debut last year, which saw more than 4,000 visitors interact with 115 exhibitors, this year's show has switched to a central Brighton venue with a host of new features.

The Communications Hub is one such innovation. This is a series of bookable meetings allowing, for example, architects to talk to suppliers about their products and services, or members of the public to ask about how they can build an energy efficient home.

Through its conference and two-day seminar programme, The Eco Technology Show gives legislative, regulatory and market context to the products and services on offer. The 2013

"There are still a lot of misconceptions around green homes"


Nicola Gunstone

one-day conference is still being finalised, but confirmed topics include: the Green Deal for SMEs — Green Deal installer courses and benefits of SMEs working together; BIM: Building Information Management what you need to know; and Planning regulations in the context of energy efficiency and renewable energy, permitted development and conservation areas.

'There's a good combination of innovative products and interesting networks there,' says Duncan Baker-Brown, co-founder of BBM Sustainable Design, who attended The Eco Technology Show last year.

'As an architect, it also really got me thinking about new ways of doing things — for instance, using Freegle, the recycling network, to reuse : "waste" from retrofit projects we are working on. It's a show that's full of creative invention.'

Meet CIAT's South East Region at The Eco Technology Show 2013 at The Brighton Centre on 14-15 June.
www.ecotechnologyshow.co.uk



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CE Mark: the key to quality

For peace of mind, always choose a CE marked product from a Door and Hardware Federation member supplier

As a member of the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists you may be called upon to specify industrial doors and shutters when choosing products for an industrial or commercial building project.

It is vital you choose CE marked products from suppliers that are members of the Door and Hardware Federation. There is a very good reason for this. It gives you peace of mind that the product has been checked to ensure it complies with health and safety and some environmental regulations. Neither you nor the architect needs to check compliance (but a check still needs to be made to ensure it complies with Building Regulations).

Nor will any risk assessments have to take place (except by the building owner or user). **Choosing a CE marked product from a DHF member company means that the CE mark is evidence of compliance relating to product safety under health and safety legislation, and so it helps protect the architect's client against litigation in the event of an accident occurring.**

As a CIAT member, you need to be aware that the legislative landscape surrounding CE marking is changing. In this article we outline the benefits of understanding the implications of CE marking of industrial doors and shutters.

And we also urge you to download the just-published *DHF Guide to Specifying CE marked industrial doors* via the link at the end of this article. This advisory document is aimed directly at Architectural Technology professionals and architects. It details all the important new changes in law coming into effect from 1 July this year governing CE marking of construction products including industrial doors and shutters.

At its simplest, a CE mark on a product is a legal declaration by a manufacturer that the product meets the essential health and safety requirements specified in the relevant legislation. This means a CE mark can be accepted as evidence that the product will perform as stated in its declaration of performance.

In some cases, CE marking is compulsory and has been for a number of years. This is true in the case of powered industrial doors. All powered doors manufactured and supplied by DHF member companies are CE marked under the Machinery Directive. Non-fire doors can be CE marked under the Construction Products Directive (CPD). Voluntary CE marking under this directive has been possible since 2004. Indeed, many DHF members already CE mark under this legislation to give health and safety and environmental assurance to their customers (amongst other product-specific assurances such as thermal performance and wind/water penetration).

Architectural Technology professionals and architects need to be aware that from 1 July this year, it will become a legal requirement to place CE marks on all industrial doors except for fire shutters. In fact it will be a criminal offence to place a construction product on the market without a CE mark, provided there is a harmonised European standard in force for the product, which is the case with industrial doors and shutters.

This means that by choosing a DHF company rather than a non member company, the specifier is assured that the manufacturer's CE marking obligations have been met.

The new Construction Products Regulation (CPR) sweeps away the current voluntary CE marking under CPD and CE marking will start to become compulsory. The architectural technology professional, or indeed any specifier, would need to spend some time acquiring the necessary understanding of the legal obligations surrounding CE marking. However, by ensuring every CE marked industrial door or shutter is supplied by a DHF member, the specifier has peace of mind regarding compliance.

There are other benefits, too, in the AT professional choosing a DHF member company. In particular, he or she is assured that every DHF



member company abides by the DHF's stringent Quality Assured technical standard of capability, customer service and quality. These are further backed up by DHF members' adherence to a Code of Conduct governing members' standards of workmanship, quality assurance, training, safety and business integrity. And there is a guarantee that the product will meet the performance levels stated in the declaration of performance.

So the message to CIAT members is clear: for peace of mind, always choose a CE marked product from a DHF member supplier.

For further information you are urged to download the *DHF Guide to Specifying CE marked industrial doors* from the DHF website ([see link below](#)). This gives extensive and clear details of the legal CE marking obligations of the Architectural Technology professional when specifying industrial doors and shutters. It also details how the CE mark declaration of performance can guide the specifier towards the ability of the CE marked product to contribute towards meeting building performance requirements. These can include: hygiene, health and the environment; safety and accessibility in use; and energy economy and heat retention.

So not only is CE marking a legal requirement, it can also help the Architectural Technology professional make an informed choice of product when specifying industrial doors and shutters.

The DHF Guide to Specifying CE marked industrial doors can be downloaded direct from www.dhfonline.org.uk/downloads/pub205.pdf

Overheating in new homes: a review of the evidence

As new homes are built with more thermal insulation and to improved standards of airtightness, concerns are emerging of an increased risk of overheating. Alongside the key issue of indoor air quality, overheating is a risk that needs to be managed carefully as we move further towards the aim of zero carbon new homes.

This report is aimed primarily at policy makers and stakeholders in the house-building industry. It is based on the findings of a review project conducted by BRE for the NHBC Foundation. The review project was initiated following increasing anecdotal evidence of cases of overheating in the UK, and a series of investigations into dwellings where overheating had been reported – a significant number of them being of very recent construction.

It is evident that a crucial starting point is to define exactly what the effects of overheating are in medical terms, since without a workable definition designs cannot be properly evaluated and robust benchmarks cannot be determined. It is also recognised that as evidence of overheating in existing dwellings increases, there is a need for a standard definition for use by assessors to determine whether a dwelling is overheating, or whether there is a risk of overheating occurring in future. Based on such a definition, robust thresholds for various levels of intervention should then be established.

Therefore Section 3 of the report initially considers the current definitions of overheating and presents the findings of a literature review of the medical effects of heat and overheating on human beings. The literature review was led by an HPA medical registrar in association with BRE.

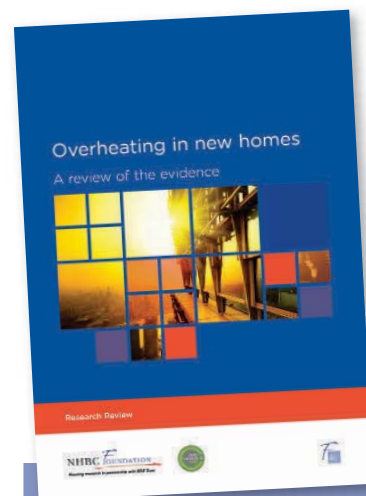
Section 4 considers the causes of overheating in existing dwellings based on basic building physics principles by considering aspects of building design that may contribute to the problem, and by reference to case studies of overheating investigations carried out by BRE.

Section 5 discusses the ways in which overheating may be reduced. It is important to look forward and find ways in which all parts of the house-building supply chain can lessen the risk of building dwellings that have the potential to overheat and cause harm to occupants. The particular challenges presented by occupant behaviour, climate change, the low/zero carbon agenda and urban locations are considered in detail.

Section 6 of the report presents the main conclusions drawn from the review project and provides recommendations for areas of future research.

The full report may be read online or downloaded in PDF format free of charge (registration required) at www.nhbcfoundation.org/

A crucial starting point is to establish the effects of overheating in medical terms



By Dr Andy Dengel, Associate Director, Building Technology Group, BRE, and Michael Swainson, Principal Engineer, Building Diagnostics and HVAC Engineering, BRE.

Published by NHBC Foundation, Milton Keynes, Bucks.

Free of charge

Software: a Uniclass act

The new Uniclass2 classification system, which provides a logical platform for Building Information Modelling (BIM), has been launched for use and review in live projects.

Uniclass2 has been developed, with full industry consultation, by the Uniclass working group of the Construction Project Information committee (CPIC), of which CIAT is a member.

Available free of charge at www.bimtaskgroup.org

Practical Building Conservation: Glass and Glazing

In a similar fashion to the work on timber, glass shared a volume in the 1988 Practical Building Conservation series, and was shoe-horned into around 30 pages to describe the problems and possible repair strategies for the material. English Heritage and Ashgate Publishing have unfettered the subject and produced a work with a significantly wider scope and thus offered the conservation professional and student of glass a more useful and effective tool. The use of glass is ubiquitous in residential properties of all ages, yet it is a material that can often be less well understood and as a result, poorly repaired or specified in otherwise high quality restoration and conservation work.

This volume follows the now familiar format of the newly published Series by describing the history of its manufacture and usage, the main causes of deterioration and damage, and the main methods of treatment and repair. The same methodology is adopted in

successive sections, which deal with windows, stained glass and modern glazing. Specialist glass such as silver-backed mirrors, modern architectural glass and the modern uses of glass (eg glass blocks) are also reviewed.

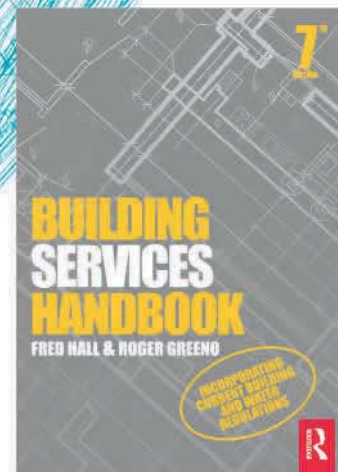
Like the other books in the series, this volume is well illustrated, with clear tables, a comprehensive glossary and additional reading lists for the researcher requiring additional information on specific subjects. This work (and the series in general) will become the essential starting point in researching the decay and repair of historic materials and will form the backbone to the library of any serious conservation professional for many years to come in the same way that the original 1988 Ashurst series has done.

Review by Paul Travis MCIAT

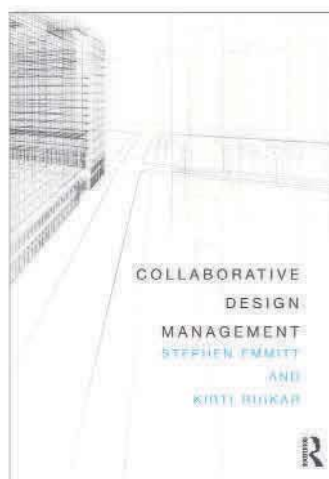
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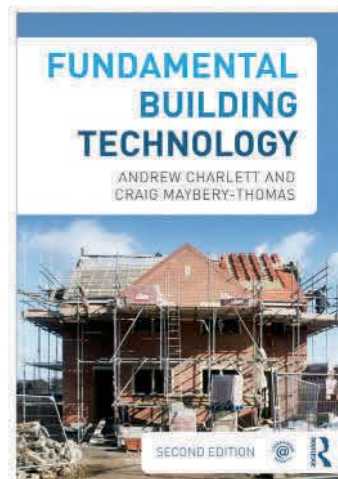
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CPD and Performance Standards

All members of CIAT except students must undertake Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Holly Banks, Education and CPD Administrator, explains how.

Within the Institute's Code of Conduct it states that the 'members (excluding student members) shall keep themselves informed of current practices and developments appropriate to the type and level of their responsibilities¹; and be able to provide evidence that they have complied with the requirements for continuing professional development (CPD) as published by the Institute from time to time¹'.

The Institute has also set the requirement that such members have a professional obligation to undertake a minimum of 35 hours structured CPD in any one year, May to April¹.

This is for the members' own benefit, and for that of the Institute, and is embodied within CIAT's Code of Conduct. Members should also, where possible and appropriate, support the professional development of fellow members and potential members of their profession. It is worth remembering that any professional qualification gained has a limited shelf life when considered against the length of careers. The knowledge obtained when qualifying does not remain current, but is updated by training and personal experiences, ie by continuing professional development.

The Institute defines CPD as 'the systematic maintenance, improvement and broadening of knowledge and skills for the development of personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties throughout the practitioner's working life'. This definition is shared by other professionals in the Construction Industry Council (CIC), of which CIAT is a member.

Every year CIAT will undertake random monitoring of the eligible membership.

Failure to reply to this monitoring could result in members being monitored for their CPD for three years to ensure that they demonstrate their compliance. Any failure to undertake the CPD requirements could result in referral to the Conduct Committee for breach of the Institute's Code of Conduct.

The Institute considers that it is the responsibility of the individual to determine the method and content of their own CPD which should be appropriate to their professional obligations. Members are required to develop their own Personal Development Plan (PDP) at the beginning of each year to identify CPD activities they wish to undertake in support of their own objectives. Both the plan and the card will be provided annually by the Institute.

CIAT has a set of standards that are the minimum benchmarks of competence for a Chartered Architectural Technologist, MCIAT, or an Architectural Technician, TCIAT. At the point of professional qualification a candidate is assessed against the CIAT Professional and Occupational Performance (POP) Record for that qualification. For Chartered Members, MCIAT, this assessment includes a Professional Practice Interview.

As the CIAT Performance Standards define the minimum competence required for the professional qualification, they also serve as a useful self-assessment tool for already qualified members wishing to ensure their level of competence is being maintained. They can also be used to plan, structure and assess CPD activities in terms of their value to the maintenance of professional competence and therefore the value of the CIAT professional qualification, throughout a member's career.

However, it is recognised that other CPD activities relevant to a member may be above, or even fall outside of, these minimum standards. This article describes how the set of CIAT Performance Standards can be used to plan, structure and evaluate your CPD activities.

Stage one: identification and prioritisation of CPD areas/activities

The first step is to undertake a self assessment of your own competence against the CIAT Performance Standards, ie the requirements necessary to be a Chartered Architectural Technologist, MCIAT or a professional qualified Architectural Technician, TCIAT. This should identify areas/activities for update.

Then plotting the frequency of a particular activity from the CIAT Performance Standards against the critical nature of the activity, as detailed below, will allow your areas/activities to be placed into one of four categories.

1. Frequent and critical
2. Infrequent and critical
3. Frequent and non-critical
4. Infrequent and non-critical

Thus, type 1 activities should form a key part of planned CPD activities and be a higher priority than type 4 activities.

Stage two: planning CPD areas/activities

Effective CPD planning should incorporate a time period over which the activities will be undertaken. This will allow the less frequent activities ie. types 3 and 4, to be included within a structured CPD mechanism. The more frequent activities, types 1 and 2, are likely to appear more than once within such a plan. There are also areas where the knowledge requirements and even workplace activities change rapidly and regularly. The entire set of CIAT

Performance Standards should therefore be incorporated within a review cycle, of say five years, with the included areas/activities broken down into the following categories:

Activity/area category

1. Type 1 and 2 activities as defined in stage 1
2. Type 3 and 4 activities as defined in stage 1
3. Areas/activities with rapid/frequent changes in knowledge (eg Building Regulations)
4. Areas/activities with rapid/frequent changes in workplace performance (eg IT procedures/processes)
5. Areas/activities which remain relatively constant
6. Areas/activities with updates scheduled
7. Areas/activities with related events planned

Each area/activity can then be scheduled into the review cycle with the appropriate number of occurrences within that cycle. It should be remembered that the Institute's obligation is for a minimum of 35 hours' CPD in any one year. This should not be used to limit exposure to CPD activities as the professional obligation to clients, employers and professional colleagues may require more than this. It will be important to retain some flexibility within the cycle, to allow for other changes, specific events or identification of a new requirement from either your own, employer or client perspective.

Stage three: evaluating CPD areas and activities

CPD activities alone will not be sufficient and should be complemented with an evaluation of the relevance, quality and consequential validity of that activity. Activities which are found to have a low relevance should be rare, as non-relevant activities should be excluded through the CPD planning process. This is more likely to happen if the purpose of events/activities is not clearly communicated or reflected upon before attendance. Such non-relevant activities can be considered invalid as part of a structured CPD programme as they are unlikely to add value to the objective of maintaining competence.

Poor quality events are inevitable and can be difficult to foresee. There will however be an impact upon your CPD planning if the event does not live up to your expectations in terms of maintaining competence, effectively making the event invalid. Events and/or activities which you regard as invalid, that is they did not deliver the expected/anticipated outcomes, are likely to have a detrimental effect upon your CPD plan, as that particular area of competence may need to be revisited, either within the same year or soon after. This should not be seen as a poor reflection upon you but should be borne in mind when selecting other events.

So, when considering a potential CPD event, it is important that you bear in mind the relevance and likely quality of the event and its consequential impact upon your overall CPD plan and development objectives; its true value. This is also not to say that you should not consider a last-minute CPD opportunity, which may be very relevant etc but not necessarily scheduled for that particular time. CPD plans need to retain an element of flexibility, allowing you to respond quickly to changes in industry or employer/client requirements.

Stage four: overall/end of year evaluation

As the year's end approaches, which should, if possible, coincide with any annual appraisal you may have, you will be able to look at your CPD plan and evaluate its effectiveness with respect to your overall competence, as in stage one earlier. This is where ineffective activities, or those which for any reason were delayed/not undertaken, can be rescheduled and new activities can be incorporated.

Summary

The CIAT Performance Standards can facilitate a flexible, competence based approach to planning, structuring and evaluating CPD, which allows members to assess and plan for the maintenance of their own professional competence using a wide range of CPD events/activities. This will allow members to retain control of their own development planning and opportunities and can be undertaken in conjunction with other developmental requirements

such as performance reviews and appraisals. The stages outlined can be regarded as part of a CPD process, which when combined constitute the maintenance of professional competence with respect to CIAT's minimum standards of professional qualification.

Further information

For further information on CPD and CIAT's requirements visit www.ciat.org.uk, or email info@ciat.org.uk. For further information on Performance Standards, please contact James Banks, Membership Director on 020 7278 2206. Email james@ciat.org.uk

Footnote

¹ If a member has fully retired from their involvement in Architectural Technology there will be no 'level of responsibility' and CPD would not apply. However, many members who have ceased to work as a principal (ie a member who is a sole practitioner, director, partner or limited liability member of a practice; this includes any member offering and/or providing a service) or as an employee, or who have changed their career path, choose to keep themselves updated for either their personal benefit or because they wish to participate with and assist the Institute in, for example:

- writing articles for *Architectural Technology*;
- attending Regional/Centre events;
- attending Institute Committee or Task Force meetings;
- supporting CIAT at exhibitions;
- promoting the discipline at career based exhibitions;
- responding to consultations;
- acting as POP Panel Assessors;
- acting as POP Record Supervisors/Mentors;
- acting as Professional Practice Interview Assessors;
- acting as POP Record or Professional Practice Interview Moderators;
- applying/sharing their knowledge and expertise to help develop the profession through their local universities and colleges;
- mentoring through their respective Region/Centre; or
- involvement with their local community.

In return, CIAT would endeavour to keep the member up to date with the profession and its developments. Many retired members choose to remain actively involved with their Institute and continually maintain their CPD. An objective of the Institute is to ensure that all members maintain a level of professionalism regardless of whether they are practising or not.

Claim, set and match

How can you avoid jeopardising your PI insurance protection when a claim arises? Colin Bradley shows how to stay on the right side of the insurers.

It's bad enough incurring a professional indemnity claim in the first place. Not only has someone questioned your professional competence but having to take time to deal with the matter can be a significant distraction from your more profitable activities. Don't allow your insurance provider to add insult to injury by affording them the option of refusing to provide your insurance cover for the claim because you failed to comply with the claims conditions of the policy.

A professional indemnity insurance (PII) policy is a legal contract under which the insurer promises to indemnify you for claims (as set out on the policy document), provided that you adhere to certain conditions. Those conditions are laid out in the policy document. You might characterise them as 'the small print'. The claims conditions of most PII policies are not unfair: they are designed to enable the insurer to deal with the claim as effectively as possible and to avoid unnecessary escalation in the cost of claims because of unreasonable behaviour on the part of the policyholder. It is ultimately in the interest of both parties that claims costs are contained as much as possible. Indeed, that is in the interest of the profession as a whole, bearing in mind that the premiums of those who do not incur claims are used to fund the claims of those who do.

So, how can you avoid jeopardising your insurance protection when a claim – or, very importantly, a potential claim –

arises? As administrators of the exclusive PII scheme for CIAT members, working closely with insurers' claims handlers, PI Protect Legal Services, we are well placed to see the problems that arise when members fail to follow the requirements of their insurance policies for the notification and handling of claims. In truth, precisely the same problems and issues occur with every other profession.

I will base my comments on the policy wording of the CIAT PII scheme. Policies issued by other insurers will contain conditions which are similar in effect, although in many cases they might be slanted more towards protecting the insurer's position and thus more onerous to the policyholder.

Without doubt, the late notification of claims and potential claims is the main source of dispute between PII insurers and their policyholder(s).

The policy provides that 'the Insured shall give notice to (the insurer) as soon as practicable of any Claim': nothing too complicated or obscure there. The word 'Claim' has a capital initial letter because it is a term defined elsewhere in the policy. The definition is straightforward and actual claims are quite easy to spot when they come along. It should however be noted that the policy goes on to require the Insured to give notice of 'the receipt from any party of an intention to make a Claim', so any threat of a claim is similarly notifiable. Insurers also have to

The simple rule to follow is to waste no time in telling your insurers about any of these matters

be notified of developments in connection with previously notified claims: 'regardless of any previous notice' the Insured is obliged to inform the insurer of any 'Claim Form, Particulars of Claim, Arbitration Notice or any other formal document commencing legal proceedings'. There is no obscurity about any of this and the simple rule to follow is to waste no time in telling your insurers about any of these matters.

More difficult is the question of potential claims. The policy also provides as follows:

'If the Insured shall become aware during the Period of Insurance of any Circumstance the Insured shall give notice as soon as practical to the Company during the Period of Insurance. Such notice having been received by the Company during the Period of Insurance any Claim subsequently made against the Insured, arising out of the Circumstance, shall be deemed to have first been made against the Insured during the Period of Insurance.'

'Circumstance' is defined as: 'a situation which may give rise to a claim'. The effect of this is that if you become aware of a state of affairs that could lead to a claim, you must inform your insurers of it straight away. The insurer is then fixed with liability for any actual claim that subsequently materialises, whenever that might occur. Even if the subsequent claim is received after the policy has expired, the insurer who had been notified of the

'Circumstance' is liable for the claim. It may help you to understand the reason for this.

Conventional liability insurance, such as public or employer's liability, is written on an 'occurrence' basis: the policy in force at the time of the occurrence giving rise to the claim will respond to the claim. Thus, if a visitor to your office tripped over a dangerous trailing cable on 25 May 2010 and subsequently pursued a claim against you, the PL policy in force at that date would apply. In contrast, PII is written on a 'claims made' basis: the policy in force at the time the claim is made responds to the claim. This has important consequences. When you fill in your annual application form for PII, you will note that one of the questions asked concerns the existence of any known 'circumstance'.

As you would expect, if you are asking an insurer to provide cover for any claims that might be received during the forthcoming 12 months, he wants to know whether you are aware of any potential claims. If you declare any, the insurer might still agree to insure you, but he will exclude the known potential claim from cover. You wouldn't expect a prospective property insurer to cover your house if it was already catching fire, which would be a comparable situation. Therefore, the way in which PII deals with potential claims is that if the Insured becomes aware of one, he must tell his current insurer, and that insurer will then be obliged to deal with any actual claim subsequently received as a result of the 'Circumstance'. The difficult part can be recognising that a state of affairs amounts to a 'Circumstance' but that is a subject for another article.

For reasons founded in insurance law, the consequence of failing to disclose known claims or potential claims in the annual application form can be that the policy is rendered null and void, which would leave you without cover for all claims notified under it. If you notify your insurers of such matters as they arise you are less likely to forget about them when the time comes to fill in your form, with this unfortunate possible consequence.

After the late notification of claims and 'Circumstances', the claims condition

that is most often breached is the requirement for the Insured not to (a) admit liability or (b) make any offer or payment, without the prior written consent of the insurer. In your dealings with your client or other interested parties it can be all too easy to admit, whether intentionally or unintentionally, that you are liable for a claim or potential claim.

Surprisingly, it is not uncommon for insured parties even to make offers of payment or settlement without insurers' knowledge and consent. You might become involved in what seems to be a minor dispute, and possibly offer, say, to repay your fee, in the expectation that that will be the end of the matter, only for the client subsequently to instruct solicitors leading to escalation of the claim. If all of that has happened without your insurers' consent, you could find yourself uninsured for the claim, or for the costs of defending it.

The claims conditions of the policy are stated to be 'conditions precedent to liability', which means that they must be strictly complied with or else the insurer is entitled to deny cover. That is the case even if the insurer has suffered no prejudice as a consequence of the Insured's breach of any condition.

The consequences of non-compliance are therefore potentially serious. I recommend that you read your policy and familiarise yourself with its requirements for the notification and conduct of claims. Trust me, the print will not actually be small! If anything is unclear, or if you are unsure whether a situation that has come to your notice is notifiable under your policy, you should obtain guidance from your insurance broker.

Two final comments. You should disregard the amount of the claim in deciding whether to report a matter to your insurers. Even if it involves little money, it might still be necessary to incur legal costs to deal with it and the policy excess does not apply to such costs; moreover, there is often the possibility that a claim will unexpectedly escalate. You emphatically should not take your own views on the merits of any claim into account in deciding whether to report it to your insurers: the claimant obviously has different views from your own, and the court might just side with him.

Colin Bradley is Director of MFL Professional, a trading division of CIAT Insurers McParland Finn Ltd.



Problems arise when members fail to follow the requirements of their

insurance policies for the notification and handling of claims.

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MEDIA PARTNERS



The CIAT Member Hub



The CIAT Member Hub is a group formed by members for members, independent of the Institute, to network and discuss issues relating to Architectural Technology and CIAT. This sits alongside the Institute's own group and forums both on LinkedIn and the website. By Mark Wilson MCIAT.

It's February 2012 and five CIAT members are having a live Twitter exchange: Dan Clements, Adrian Williamson, Adrian Fleet, Karl Beeby and me, Mark Wilson. It wasn't so much a discussion as a series of blurts, which is all anyone can hope to achieve with the 140 character tweet limit. It seemed, as would be the case, that most of the tweeting hinged around Institute issues and how they should be addressed. It was agreed there was a lack of an unofficial online voice for members; the only mechanisms had been via the Regions or Centres or the official channels such as the LinkedIn, discussion forums and the Institute website itself. Whether the case or not, it was felt that more freedom would result in wider discussions

We launched the CIAT Member Hub on Twitter on 22 February 2012 without fanfare, and not even sure where it was going. There was just a feeling amongst the five that this is what was needed. An inauspicious start, true, but a wildfire spread via the Twitter machine and today the @CIATHub has a modest but meaningful 282 followers. More importantly the 'Hub' is establishing itself as a point of reference for CIAT members. This has proved to be the point; the Hub is a members only club.

However the Hub needed another outlet. Whilst the Twitter feed was very successful, it became clear that a dedicated forum was required for some real discussion. It was democratically discussed and agreed that a LinkedIn group could fulfil the need, again for CIAT members only. This was a first as far as the five were concerned, as the official CIAT group, and even the official RIBA group would admit anyone, from any profession. It was potentially a risk but the new group was protected, and admission granted to CIAT members and CIAT staff only. On 21 August 2012 the queue formed and was 'round the block' almost

immediately. Keeping at least one leg in the high street ever since, at the time of writing membership is at 421. Not quite up to CIAT with 604, but in less than six months the Hub has every reason to be pleased with itself.

The CIAT Member Hub has actively sought to encourage members to self promote. Self promotion was identified as the biggest, best and loudest marketing members could and should do. Stopping marginally short of naming and shaming, it was underlined that whilst a significant number of members were saying that their Institute needed to do more to increase awareness of our discipline, those same members were not using their MCIAT, ACIAT and TCIAT suffixes after their names, nor the protected title Chartered Architectural Technologist if applicable.

Some were also promoting their practices as architectural designers or consultants. The Hub has encouraged and continues to encourage members to use their qualification as currency to provide recognition as lead design team players. Discussion topics have been wide and varied. Inevitably some reap more attention than others. A recent notable subject involved one of the industry's hottest topics; that of Building Information Modelling (BIM). The discussion enabled those with some relevant and useful experience to share it with those less enlightened. The Professional and Occupational Performance, or POP Record, has historically proved to be a touchy subject. Some applying members have felt alone. The Hub has helped to bring some clarity to the system, and brings applicants together with those already qualified to offer their experience and advice.

Although much help and assistance was being offered via the main Hub group, it was becoming painfully obvious that a separate Student Hub was needed to cater

for student specific issues. On 24 September 2012 the CIAT Student Hub sub-group was open for business. The Hub has provided a members' voice, particularly in the instance of trials and tribulations experienced by members from the Republic of Ireland. They have an ongoing battle with their own government on the status of the profession. It's by no means over, but the Hub continues to provide help and support from fellow professionals with a vested interest in maintaining our industry standing.

There has been significant discussion over the future of the Institute's membership and the qualification level of that membership. The Hub has attracted the attention and acknowledgement of Institute's President, Colin Orr, and the Chief Executive, Francesca Berriman, whom we understand maintain a watchful eye upon discussions and their content. Hub member Professor. Sam Allwinkle, project leader on the future development of CIAT membership structure, has stimulated great activity and contributions in trying to define Architectural Technology, what it is and where it's headed.

There is an interest and intensity about the CIAT Member Hub, that has brought together Architectural Technology students with Executive and Council members and pretty much everyone in between. Members feel able and do comment freely on any subject raised probably because there is no perception of ceremony. The Hub unusually had five parents, but it has grown up fast and is really now owned by its members, which is just as it should be.

Mark Wilson MCIAT is Director of Design Office Architectural Ltd and publishes the BuildingDesignExpert.com website To join the CIAT Member Hub, CIAT Member Hub Student Group or the Institute's own groups and forums, please visit www.linkedin.com and search under 'groups'.

On the Record

James Banks, Membership Director, spoke to three members about the completion of their Professional and Occupational Performance (POP) Records and how CIAT membership has helped their careers.

Daniel Cooling MCIAT Chartered Architectural Technologist

How did you approach your POP Record?

The advantage of having a CIAT Accredited degree, (BSc (Hons) in Architectural Technology at The University of Central England (now known as Birmingham City University) meant that I was exempt from demonstrating my underpinning knowledge. When completing my POP Record, I had exemption from a large number of units and only needed to consider those outstanding. With experience of working in construction since 2000 and at university, I found it easy to understand the need and importance of the remaining units.

How did you complete the Performance sections?

During my working life I have been involved in a substantial number of projects, starting as an architect's assistant and working through to managing and delivering my own projects. Developing these skills under the supervision of qualified, experienced and talented building designers, I have experienced nearly all the aspects necessary

to achieve the Performance requirements. With areas where I could not sufficiently prove competence, I approached my employer and requested to be involved in a forthcoming project where I could get this. Having supportive employers made this process uncomplicated.

Who acted as your Supervisor?

My Supervisor was my manager, who was a Chartered Architect and with whom I had worked for a number of years. His knowledge of my abilities had been demonstrated and achieved through us working together. My career progression was encouraged by my practice and supported by my supervisor, so he was the obvious choice – and the most effective person.

How long did it take you to complete the POP Record?

From commencing the first unit of my POP Record, to achieving Chartered Membership took approximately 18 months; however in that time I was in my final year at university and also had a break of about six months for wedding preparations. Without those interruptions, to complete the units and go through the application process I believe would have only taken about six

"I found the interview progressed very quickly and was very positive"

Daniel Cooling MCIAT



months, due to my nine years of work experience.

How did you find the POP Panel Process?

I feel that the process of the POP Panel is an effective method of substantiating an applicant's abilities and eligibility to qualify as a Chartered Member of the Institute. The commitment required to complete the POP Record itself proves an individual's aspiration to be a professional, that he/she can satisfy this requirement in depth, and that the application is honest and just.

How was the Professional Practice Interview?

I was nervous as anyone would be, however I found the Interview progressed quickly and was very positive but still very probing and professional. I ended up enjoying this process and it was good to talk of my experiences and knowledge of construction.

Do you have any advice to candidates currently completing their POP Records?

Firstly look through the full list of competencies in the POP Record and identify which projects and knowledge they currently have to

POP note

The current process for progressing to Chartered Architectural Technologist or professionally qualified Architectural Technician is via the completion of a Professional and Occupational Performance Record (POP Record). An alternative rigorous, robust and quality assured qualifying system, called the MCIAT Professional Assessment is due to be launched from 1 May 2013. The new qualifying process is criteria-referenced but a performance based process designed to recognise the diversity of Architectural Technology. Members will be advised of the alternative qualifying system and processes in due course.

"I fully understand the pressures that family life can have on one's studies"

**Paul Chapple
MCIAT**



satisfy each requirement and then identify early any areas in which they may fall short. Seek to be involved in projects that will give you the required knowledge and experience to be able to complete the POP Record. I found the Accredited degree on day release scheme a very effective way of gaining this qualification and a valuable tool in my day-to-day career.

How has the qualification benefited you?

Both my Chartered Membership and Accredited degree have been exceptionally beneficial to my career as a built environment professional. The complex issues that will be introduced in the future and the considerable need for energy efficiency and sustainability means Architectural Technology is of enormous importance to the construction industry.

I believe the skills that CIAT members specialise in are extremely beneficial to the industry and their requirement will significantly increase. This qualification has benefited me in that I can offer these much needed skills, and will hopefully improve my position in an evolving and rapidly expanding industry.

Paul Chapple MCIAT, Chartered Architectural Technologist, Western Region Chairman

What did you think when you first saw the POP Record?

I was full of anticipation on joining CIAT. I saw it as a statement of intent on my part, and am, extremely grateful for the support I receive from my employer, Bailey Partnership, and clients. However once I took a first look at the POP Record, I thought 'What have I let myself in for?' I did put it off for some considerable time, and in hindsight I would not recommend delaying its completion to anyone; it still has to be completed! So why wait? And just so you know I can also fully understand the pressures that family life can have on one's studies, as I am married with five children!

How did you get started?

I completed all of the Knowledge units, where I knew I had an exemption or partial exemption based on my academic qualification. This meant that I immediately set to work on at least 12 units, and gave some impetus to proceed with the rest. On the face of it, it was an easy way to see progress straight away.

What were the challenges you faced, and how did you overcome them?

To complete the rest of the POP Record, I made sure that I had completely read and fully understood the requirements of each unit. As I set about my daily working life, I tried to see if what I was doing would prove useful for my POP Record.

Where I saw that there were shortcomings in either my Knowledge base or Performance, I challenged my employer to ensure that I attended the appropriate training course or CPD seminar and was given greater responsibility or experience in my day-to-day work.

For example, due to the type of practice I am employed with it is not always possible for me to see a project from inception to completion and may only be utilised in the technical detailing or specification writing. Therefore, I realised that I needed to gain more

experience in contract management and asked if I could run a project. My employer agreed and I now lead on a number of small to medium sized projects for a local funeral director.

How did you fit in the completion of the POP Record in with your other commitments?

One thing that I believe is paramount to completing the POP Record is ensuring you have a flexible timetable. It is suggested by CIAT that the POP Record is completed within two years, and I think that this is a fair assessment if you set about it in earnest. I decided that I would dedicate three out of five lunchtimes per week to completing each unit.

How did you tackle those areas where you have partial exemptions?

Completing those parts where I had exemptions was merely a matter of checking against my college certificates. Where I had partial exemptions I could check against the company's Quality Assurance system, as obviously this is where the company prepares a statement to aid in me carrying out my job function. Another way to complete the partial exemptions was to state how I had learnt a particular task. As a very basic example, even a lay person can complete a householder planning application form if they correctly follow the guidance notes given on a local authority's website or via the Planning Portal. Where we come into it, is being able to provide the necessary information and documentation to submit with the form.

Did any activities help you?

I took up the mantle of organising CPD seminars and events during lunchtimes for both myself and my colleagues which helped me to complete the knowledge base units, and if you utilise the National Building Specification (NBS) software it is an invaluable source of technical information. *Architectural Technology* magazine has informative articles and the weekly Ebulletin also signposts relevant websites and events to enable further knowledge to be gained.

How did you organise your paperwork?

To complete the Performance units, you just really go for hands on approach.

Again using the completion of a planning application form as an example, if within your Knowledge unit you have stated that you know how to complete one then provide an example of it. It really is that simple. You will have to either keep a hard copy filed for retrieval later or, in this day and age and to save a few trees, set up an appropriate electronic system, and ensure that evidence is saved accordingly. Such as:

C:/Unit 1/Knowledge
C:/Unit 1/Performance
C:/Unit 1/Performance/Evidence.

How was your Professional Practice Interview?

After successfully submitting my Result Schedule, and the evidence asked for, it was time to wait for an interview slot to become available and I didn't have to wait long. I prepared a portfolio of my work and set off. I was set at ease straight away by both my Assessors. They asked about my job, my employer, the type of work I am involved in and my hopes and aspirations for the future, and about how I can manage meetings, enhance working relationships and operate in a professional manner, and how I undertake structured CPD.

Philip Ashenden TCIAT, Professionally Qualified Architectural Technician

Tell us about your professional background.

I began in architecture when I was 16, working for my father's architectural practice in Essex, and studied a part time course at Colchester Institute in Construction and the Built Environment from which I gained an AVCE qualification. A few years later I got a job working for Charter Architects (now Archial Architects) in Ipswich and was able to further develop my design and technical knowledge working on a variety of projects ranging from large new build office developments to leisure and retail schemes and residential developments.

In my early twenties I moved to Purcell Miller Tritton Architects in Colchester, with the aim of expanding my experience to a diverse range of sectors. In my time

there I gained invaluable knowledge of preservation work with historic projects on buildings such as Westminster Abbey and Canterbury Cathedral.

I now work for Beanland Associates Architects in Ipswich working on residential schemes and Commercial projects within Suffolk and London. Since working here, I have worked a lot closer with clients. It was predominantly for these reasons that I chose to complete my POP Record and apply for TCIAT status, which I achieved earlier this year.

How did you commence your POP Record?

Initially, I felt quite daunted by the prospect of acquiring the information required to achieve TCIAT. I tried to approach each section one at a time and collated together all the information I was able to use from previous project experience and fortunately in my case I was able to cover three quarters of the POP Record from my nine years' experience in professional practice. It was then a case of addressing the criteria that I lacked experience in and working out with my employer a suitable route to learn this via current or prospective projects in the practice.

Who acted as your Supervisor?

I worked very closely with my employer on several projects so it seemed appropriate to choose them to be my Supervisor. They were more than happy

to help. They could see the benefits of a member of staff achieving TCIAT recognition especially when trying to acquiring new jobs or dealing with clients.

How long did it take you to complete?

As I had experience in a majority of the criteria required, it was just a case of collating it into a format suitable for the Record. The remainder of the POP Record took me about three months to complete. My next aim is to upgrade to MCIAT. I'm hoping to be in a position to tackle that POP Record within the next couple of years.

How was the POP Record Process?

Initially I found the questions to be quite difficult to digest. It wasn't until I went through it with my Supervisor that it all started to become clear. It helped getting another person's perspective on the questions. As I got more involved in it, I found it got easier and I actually began to enjoy piecing it together.

Do you have any advice to candidates currently completing their POP Records?

There were a few times whilst I was completing my POP Record that I felt like giving up with it. I was finding it difficult to find the time to spend creating my Record as well as the demands at work. Looking back, I'm incredibly pleased I stuck with it and would recommend to anyone who feels the same as I did to stick with it and remember their reasons for starting it in the first place.

How has the qualification benefited you?

Since achieving TCIAT status, I now feel I have something I can display to clients to indicate my technical ability and construction based knowledge. I believe it gives fellow industry professionals a certain level of confidence when working together on projects, knowing I have achieved a certain standard. CIAT is more recognised within the industry now than ever before and it's an exciting time to be a member.



"CIAT is more recognised than ever and it's an exciting time to be a member"

**Philip Ashenden
TCIAT**

Completing the POP Record process

There are a number of points to follow to ensure the submission of your POP Record runs smoothly. James Banks, Membership Director, summarises how the assessment process works.

Once the POP Record is completed and all units have been signed off by your Supervisor in the POP Record Knowledge and Performance Portfolio, it must be returned to CIAT with a current CV and the £125 assessment fee. Do not send in any evidence as this stage. CIAT will request evidence for some units (selected randomly) to be submitted for the POP Panel assessment.

We will never ask to see the evidence for the whole POP Record. The standard number of units requested for submission is five and all evidence is treated in confidence. You should not supply original documentation as the evidence may not be returned and we cannot accept any liability for any loss.

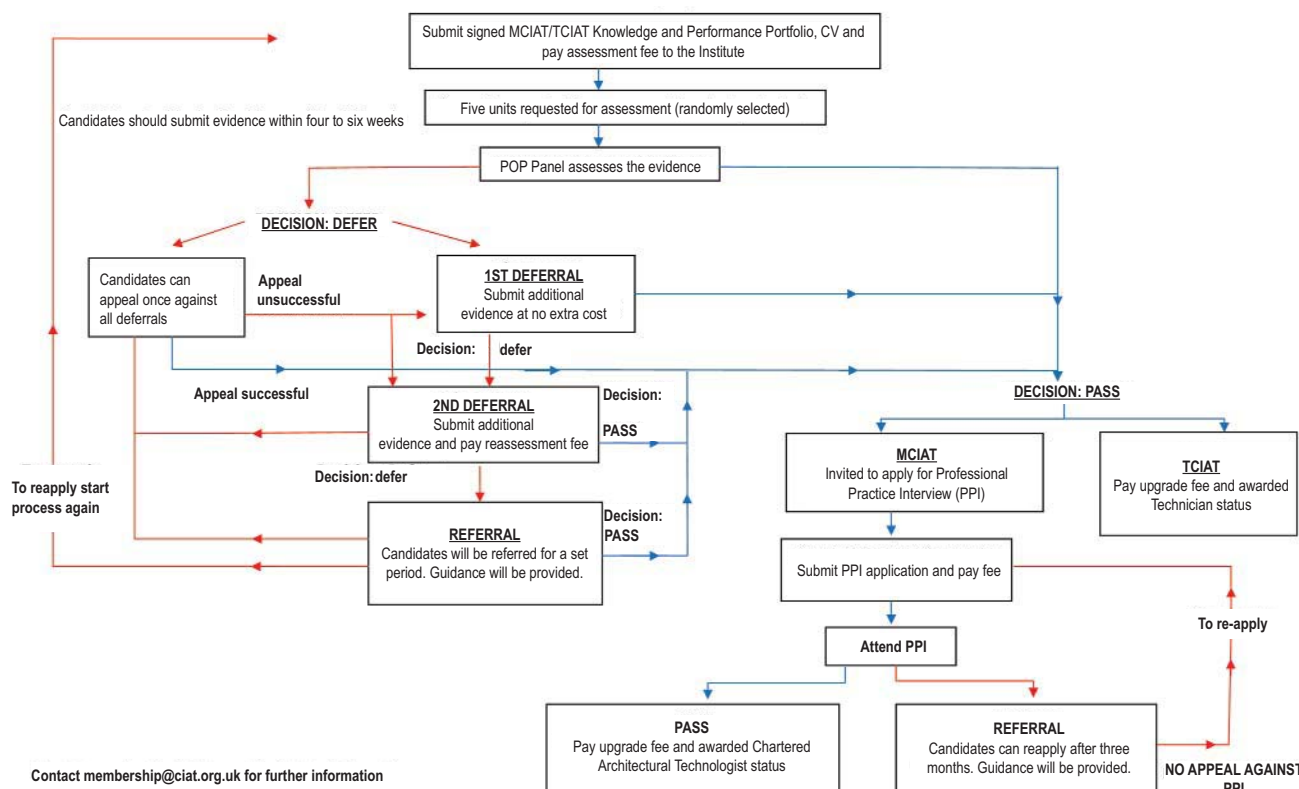
It is your responsibility to ensure that the evidence you refer to in the POP Record is not destroyed

The standard number of units requested for submission is five

or removed from circulation, as you may need to provide it to CIAT for assessment.

All evidence is destroyed by CIAT after assessment, unless you request its return in writing and pay the postage for the evidence to be returned to you or the Institute wishes to use some evidence as exemplar evidence. If this is the case, then your written permission will be sought first and all traceable and

TCIAT and MCIAT Qualifying Process Flow Chart



This diagram shows the membership progression process.

The article explains in further detail how the flowchart of the progression process works.

confidential elements will be removed, where possible.

It is your responsibility to ensure you have permission from your employer to submit your evidence.

POP Panels are made up of built environment professionals, trained by CIAT to assess your POP Record evidence against the unit criteria, to ensure it meets the required competencies. Candidates can appeal once against a POP Panel's decision.

Further information relating the POP Panel Appeal Review policy can be found at www.ciat.org.uk in the members section.

You will be given four to six weeks to collate the evidence for the assessment. Evidence should be submitted as individual portfolios for each unit. Paper based or electronic submissions are acceptable.

If you are unable to meet the deadline provided, please contact the Membership Department. A POP Panel will assess your evidence and you will be advised of the result in writing within two weeks.

The POP Record assessment fee policy is:

1. You will pay the initial POP Record assessment fee when submitting the signed off POP Record Knowledge and Performance Portfolio.
2. If your evidence is deferred by the POP Panel, you will receive one re-submission at no extra cost.
3. If your evidence is deferred for a second time, you will be asked to pay 50% of the initial POP Record assessment fee to get it re-assessed for a third and final time.
4. If your evidence has still not reached the required level of

competence, you will be referred for a set period of time until you have attained the required level of competence.

5. Once the time frame has elapsed, a new submission will be required with a new fee and the process will recommence.

If you pass the MCIAT POP Panel assessment, you will be eligible to apply for your Professional Practice Interview; the appropriate guidance will be given at the time. If you pass the TCIAT POP Panel assessment, you can upgrade to a professionally qualified Architectural Technician upon paying the appropriate upgrade fee.

You will be given four to six weeks to collate the evidence



The result will be confirmed in writing within five working days and the relevant upgrade fee requested. Once the upgrade fee has been received and your membership upgrade confirmed, you will then be able to use the descriptor 'Chartered Architectural Technologist' (MCIAT) or professionally qualified Architectural Technician (TCIAT) designation.

For more information contact:

James Banks, Membership Director (james@ciat.org.uk)
Amina Khanum, Membership Administrator (amina@ciat.org.uk)
Dorota Fitzpatrick, Membership Assistant (dorota@ciat.org.uk)
Tel. +44 (0) 20 7278 2206

To view a short film on the POP Record or Professional Practice Interview please visit www.youtube.com/ciatechnologist

Image © Maxim_Kazmin - Fotolia.com

POP in...the Professional Practice Interview

The final stage of achieving Chartered Membership status is to successfully undergo the Professional Practice Interview. This enables the Institute's Membership Assessors to determine your level of professional competence in Architectural Technology. Your technical competence has already been successfully assessed at the POP Panel Assessment.

The Professional Practice Interview covers the last three units within the Chartered Architectural Technologist POP Record. You will be expected to bring a portfolio of your work and evidence which must demonstrate your involvement in the areas described in units 15, 16 and 17 of the POP Record.

Unit 15 Management of meetings

- 15.1 Manage meetings
- 15.2 Make analytical contributions to meetings

Unit 16 Professional relationships

- 16.1 Develop and maintain relationships with people who are affected by your work *
- 16.2 Present technical information and provide advice on technical problems *
- 16.3 Identify, summarise and analyse complex, indeterminate problems *
- 16.4 Contribute to the protection of individual and community interests *

Unit 17 Continuing professional development

- 17.1 Identify, record and analyse personal development aims and progress*

- 17.2 Allocate and monitor the progress and quality of work in your area of responsibility*
- 17.3 Contribute to advances in occupational knowledge and practice*

Interview result

You will be given the opportunity to obtain the result of your assessment on the day of the interview; if you choose not to get your result then, you will be notified in writing within two weeks of the interview date.

If you wish to learn the result of the interview, you will be asked to leave the room for a short period of time whilst the Board deliberate. Once the Board has reached a unanimous decision, you will then be invited back in where the Board will communicate one of the following decisions:

Pass: on passing the interview you will be welcomed to Chartered Membership of the Institute and requested to pay the upgrade fee (which is the difference between the Chartered Membership subscription and your current subscription).

Referral: in cases where you fail to meet the required standard, you will be referred and given reasons for the referral. This will then be sent in writing to you for confirmation.

You can reapply to sit your interview once you have addressed the referral reasons.

*This evidence will need to be assessed according to CIAT's Code of Conduct.

Awards now open



Hall Black Douglas' private residence won the 2012 Alan King Award.

CIAT is calling for entries in its two prestigious annual competitions, the Open Award and Alan King Award.

The Open Award for Technical Excellence in Architectural Technology is the Institute's premier Award. It is designed to recognise technical excellence in construction by illustrating the composition of ideas put into practice and presented in a working format. The Winner will receive a cast plaque for permanent attachment to the project, certificate and £1500. The 2012 Winner was Avery Associates for Repton School Theatre. For the Alan King Award, entrants must demonstrate their achievement of technical

excellence in construction by illustrating the composition of ideas put into practice and presented in a working format for projects valued £750k or less. First prize is £1500, a cast plaque for permanent attachment to the project and certificate. The entry deadline for both competitions is 29 June and the winners will be announced at CIAT's AGM. Both Awards are open to all professionals.

For further information please see the insert with this issue or visit: www.ciat.org.uk/en/awards/
To see a series of short films on the 2012 Awards visit www.youtube.com/technologist

**The 2012
Open
Award
Winner
was Avery
Associates
for Repton
School
Theatre**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lapsed members

The level of paying members lapsing is at its lowest since 2008/2009. 352 paying members were lapsed in 2012/13 for non payment of their annual subscription. This compares to 392 in 2011/12, 345 in 2010/11 and 390 in 2009/10.

Building Regulations

Members are reminded that changes to the Building Regulations in England come into force on 6 April. These include changes to Parts B, K, M and P. For a full summary, please see pages 4-5 of this issue or the Regulations and Standards page at www.thenbs.com

POP Panels

Professional and Occupational Performance Panels were held in November, January and February with 32 members passing and 26 deferments.

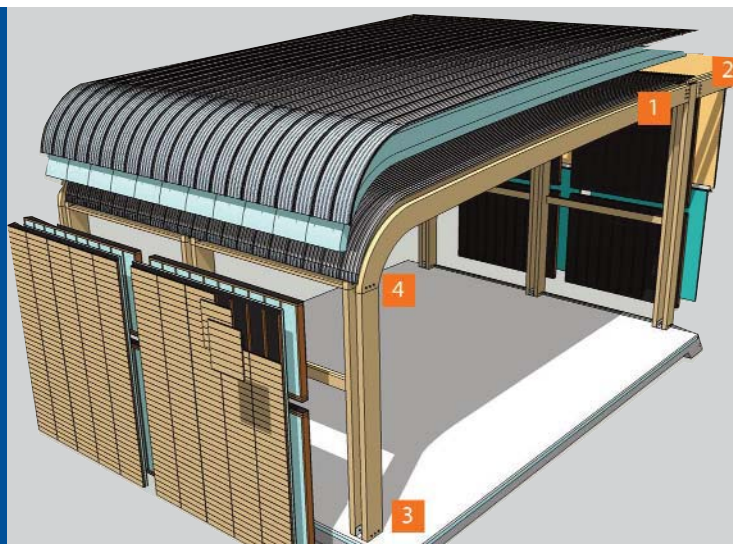
Correction

In AT 104 (November/December 2012) we incorrectly referred to Eddie Weir MCIAT as an Associate member. We apologise for this error and confirm he is a Chartered Member.

AspirATion

The student e-magazine, *Architype* is to be re-launched as *AspirATion*. The majority of the articles will be written by student members on Accredited Degree programmes. A link to the e-magazine will be publicised to members in spring 2013.

Right: eco centre design by magazine contributor Josh Crystal.



Institute films

Do you want to know more about the Institute, gain an insight to members work or the qualifying process to become a Technician or Chartered Member? Or to give fellow professionals an introduction to what CIAT does?

Then visit our YouTube Channel:
www.youtube.com/ciatechnologist

Conduct

In accordance with the Institute's Code of Conduct, decisions by the Conduct Committee are reported in *Architectural Technology*.

A020660/F3694

Mr N Azhar ACIAT

Mr Azhar was found in breach of Clause 9c) from the Code of Conduct effective 1 May 2011:

Clause 9: Breaches of this Code

The members shall:

c) when subject to an investigation by the Institute of an alleged breach of this Code use their best endeavours to assist in that investigation at their own cost.

Disciplinary action:

In accordance with the Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures Schedule 1, Item 17 (b), Mr Azhar was reprimanded in respect of this breach and was required to give an undertaking in

writing to refrain from further contraventions of the Institute's Code of Conduct; this he has duly done.

M011220/F1544

Mr D Jones MCIAT

Mr Jones was found in breach of Clause 9a) from the Code of Conduct effective 1 May 2011:

Clause 9: Breaches of this Code

The members shall:

a) report to the Institute any alleged breaches of this Code by themselves of which they become aware.

Disciplinary action:

In accordance with the Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures Schedule 1, Item 17 (b), Mr Jones was reprimanded in respect of this breach and was required to give an undertaking in writing to refrain from further contraventions of the Institute's Code of Conduct; this he has duly done.



Student member Nicholas Harper was awarded the 2012 CIAT Professional Body Prize for outstanding work by Birmingham

City University. He is shown receiving the award from Steve Scaysbrook MCIAT, West Midlands Region Chairman.

Membership Progression

Membership Progression Sessions are held in all CIAT Regions and Centres at least once a year. The free events are open to all members and are advertised by direct email, in *AT* magazine and via the *Weekly Bulletin*. The events are held by representatives from the Membership Department, who give a Powerpoint presentation explaining the qualifying process from

Associate member or profile candidate to Technician or Chartered Membership. The presentation is followed by a question and answer sessions and one on one discussions. They usually last for approximately one to one and a half hours and counts towards members' 35 hours CPD requirement. For more information please email membership@ciat.org.uk

NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to congratulate the following individuals on obtaining Chartered Membership, MCIAT

018602 Jonathan Ashley, Hong Kong
022464 Christopher Bird, Tyne & Wear
027071 Paula Bleanch, Tyne & Wear
025668 Neil Blunden, Jersey
022343 Suzanne Bratley, Cheshire
010824 Alan Brown, Cornwall
019346 Michelle Cochran, Bristol
025529 Kevin Coyne, Cheshire
019896 Donald Davidson, Falkirk
026317 Glyn Ellis, W. Midlands
022433 Barry Fairbairn, Highlands
026291 Marc Fleming, Fife
034063 Allister Ganley, Derbyshire
017414 Stephen Geary, Merseyside
020632 Alex Gerrish-Ives, Somerset
034379 John Heade, S. Glamorgan
019255 Steven Headley, Tyne & Wear
026838 David Heesom, W. Midlands
027338 Charles Hippisley-Cox, W. Yorks
024227 Martin Huggins, W. Midlands
018181 Gary Kelly, Co. Derry
017684 Tom Kinver, Pembrokeshire
018544 Pamela Macallister, Lincs.
009457 Ian Maslin, Wiltshire
018123 Tom McEvoy, Merseyside
026477 Matt McGowan, Edinburgh
024517 Mark Mulville, London
027520 Andrew O'Rourke, Dublin
027053 Poorang Piroozfar, E. Sussex
011140 Michael Pittman, Merseyside
016734 Gavin Porritt, Shropshire
018952 Tom Pyemont, Scots Borders
023857 Virginia Rammou, London
012522 David Rust, Essex
012595 Gary Sparrow, Hong Kong
020474 Matthew Staff, Cheshire
022746 Andrew Stanford, W. Midlands
015140 Grant Steer, Guernsey
017270 Paul Vaughan, W. Yorkshire
024353 Anthony Whyman, S. Glam

Congratulations to the following individuals on obtaining Architectural Technician membership, TCIAT.

017837 Robert Beaman, Shropshire
022050 Gareth Cavill, Norfolk
021047 Daniel Dean, Shropshire
020132 James Moore, Devon
019090 Stacey Taylor, Kent (Region 10)

In memoriam

We regret to announce the death of Nigel Kemp MCIAT, Inverness, Region 13.

Call for Honorary Officers

On 7 September 2013 CIAT's Council will be electing the following honorary positions:

- Vice-President Practice
- Vice-President Education
- Honorary Secretary

What does it involve?

With each of these positions you will automatically become a trustee of CIAT (ie a member of the Executive Board and also for Council) and are therefore contributing to the policies and future strategic development of the Institute. You will be expected to attend two Council meetings (normally on a Saturday in March and September) and up to four Executive board meetings as well as the Institute's Annual General Meeting. There may also be attendance at events and meetings on behalf of the Institute, for example, at Construction Industry Council meetings, Award presentations or at universities.

Vice-President Practice

The role is principally about supporting and developing services for all members practising Architectural Technology. You will work in close liaison with the Practice Department and will promote CIAT and its members with the objective of gaining greater profile and recognition. Other projects will be in developing services and guidance for Members in practice on their own account. Other external meetings may be in relation to gaining greater recognition, developing links with other bodies, such as government etc and lobbying them on issues of policy. You will also work with the Chairman of the Task Forces on practice issues such as arbitration, adjudication, practice documents etc.

Vice-President Education

Your principal role as Vice-President Education is to ensure that CIAT's high standards for membership are maintained. You will chair the Institute's Membership and Education Committee, which consists of academic representatives from within and without the Institute and CIAT Assessors and Moderators. Other external meetings may be in relation to NVQ/SVQs, careers in Architectural Technology or membership routes and progression.

You will also work with the Education and Membership Departments on issues such as qualification development, standards maintenance and membership recruitment, retention and progression. Ideally with an academic background you should have experience of issues facing higher and further education providers and an awareness of their relationship with professional institutes.

Honorary Secretary

As Honorary Secretary, you will ensure that the Institute's Code of Conduct is adhered to. Together with the President and Chief Executive, the Honorary Secretary is also responsible for ensuring the smooth running of the Executive Board, Council, AGM and Conduct Committee in line with the Institute's Constitution. As a member of the Conduct Committee you will be required to attend these meetings, normally held on the Friday prior to the Executive Board meetings. It is the Conduct Committee which investigates and considers complaints made against members for alleged breaches of the Institute's Code of Conduct.

Potential rewards

You will have the chance to shape the future of your Institute and strategic and operational levels. If you have ever wondered why something has or has not been done then now is your chance to do something positive about it. All reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed.

I am interested: what do I do?

If you are a Chartered Member and are interested you need to be nominated by a fellow Chartered Member, in writing to the returning officer by 18 May 2013. Any Chartered Member is eligible to propose a candidate although no nomination is permitted without obtaining the prior consent of the nominee, and any Chartered Member is eligible to stand.

Guidelines

Nominations must be received by the returning officer no later than 18 May 2013. The returning officer is the Chief Executive, Francesca Berriman, who will:

- Invite the nominees formally to accept or reject the nomination
- Prepare a final list of accepted nominations and despatch it to all members of council prior to the meeting
- Invite all those who have accepted nominations to attend the Council meeting for election
- Obtain copies of nominee manifestos

For further information on what the posts involve, please contact CIAT 397 City Road, London EC1V 1 NH. Tel. 020 7278 2206. Email info@ciat.org.uk
Elected officers will be profiled in the Winter edition of *Architectural Technology*.

Regional News and Events

Yorkshire Region 02

23 April. Planning update

Yorkshire Region members are invited to attend a Planning Update – to be given by Andy Rushby of Assent Planning Consultancy. It will cover what's new in planning legislation and what to expect in the future. It will be held at the Holiday Inn, Wakefield at 7:00pm for 7:30pm. Tea/coffee and muffins provided.

14 May. CPD event

A CPD event will be held entitled 'Engineered Wood Products for Modern

Methods of Construction' – presentation by Lynford Chambers of James Jones & Sons Ltd, manufacturers of I-joists and Glulam beams. It will be held at the Holiday Inn, Garforth at 7:00pm for 7:30pm. Tea/coffee and muffins provided.

11 June. CPD event

Yorkshire Region members are invited on a visit to Marshalls, a one hour tour of the natural stoneworks followed by short seminar. Prompt start at 7:00pm, finishing at 9:00pm. Further information will be issued nearer the date to all members registering to attend.

To book your place on any Yorkshire Region event please contact Regional

CPD Officer Richard Turner, Tel 01484 424008, email richard@farrarbamforth.co.uk.

West Midlands Region 05

26 March. CPD event

The West Midlands Region invites you to: 'Passivhaus Design seminar – key features of Passivhaus design and specialist Passivhaus products'. To be held on Tuesday 26 March 2013 in room C388 – Millennium Point, Curzon Street, Birmingham City University.

RSVP to Steve Scaysbrook MCIAT
Tel: 0121 2884541 Email: steve.scaysbrook@scaysbrook.co.uk

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