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Construction Planning, Programming and Control

Brian Cooke and Peter Williams

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Preface

The aim of the book is to examine and describe the various stages of the construction planning process. This includes procedures in both the small, medium and large construction firm. The text follows the planning process from the pre-tender, through the pre-contract stage, to the contract planning during the project. Management checklists are included at each stage of the process.

The introduction reviews the changing face of the construction industry since the mid 1990s. The various Acts and Regulations introduced, including the implications of the Latham Report, are examined. The effects of the CDM Regulations and how they influence the various planning stages are considered.

The important link between safety hazard assessment and method statements is highlighted and working examples are presented.

Recent developments in the use of linked bar charts and precedence diagram relationships are illustrated with a series of worked examples. The book is not intended to cover the principles of the various programming techniques, but sets out to establish a series of worked examples which cover the various applications in practical situations.

The preparation of contract budgets based on cumulative value forecasts is illustrated, and the principles of cost-value reconciliation are linked in a series of case studies. Budgetary control principles are applied to labour, plant and preliminaries budgets and the importance of budgetary control is outlined.

An overview of the problems associated with business growth is considered in relation to a small, medium and large sized construction company. A number of practical case studies are presented based on companies in the North West of England.

The authors wish to acknowledge the guidance and assistance provided by the late Ivor Seeley. Once again he encouraged us to maintain his impeccable standards and the discipline required to produce a readable book.

Our special thanks go to Paul Hodgkinson for producing such clear diagrams and tables. We are also grateful to Malcolm Stewart for supporting the publication of this text which we hope will help many budding construction managers and surveyors.

B. Cooke and P. Williams (June 1997)