



*Technical Director -
CIOB*



Construction IT Industry Challenges:

- **What is Construction sector NOT good at?**
 - **CHANGE:** If it ain't broke – don't fix it! e.g. why change your IT system when it's working perfectly satisfactorily – well almost!
 - **UPDATING:** Incompatible & outdated IT software – 'legacy' issues
 - **SPECIALISATION:** Great reliance upon bespoke solutions
 - » **INNOVATIVE IDEAS:** E-tendering is a serious issue - confidence in security issues must be resolved
 - **TRUST:** let's wait & make certain there are no problems (the CI is good at this!)

Construction IT Industry Challenges:

Identify difficulties before new technologies or ways of working can be adopted e.g.

- Up-skill existing (and aspiring) supply chain members – i.e. identify the skills gap to target the training needs
 - Understand the need to engage with ‘local’ communities and local skills – i.e. sustainability & environmental issues
 - Accept that length of supply chain may/will increase as a result of satisfying local needs – i.e. great need for suitable *adaptable* project management tools

• Construction IT Industry Challenges:

- What is Construction IT sector **GOOD** at?
- NOT matching supply chain IT needs to available hardware and software technologies – i.e. is there a real technology gap?
 - *(look at the mess companies are in with operating platforms (W98; XP, Vista, ...Linux)*
 - selling what they have rather than what the industry needs?
 - Not meeting expectations... you are all talk ... !
 - Getting carried away by 3D; Virtualisation; Collaborative workspaces; - all good stuff but is the ‘real’ industry convinced – is the cost of implementation underestimated? (i.e. hardware/software/training/support/backup)

Construction IT Industry

Challenges:

- **The business case for Construction IT is weak**
- **Still a lack of skills within the industry**
- **IT driven solutions have failed in the past**
- **Poor leadership from all parties involved**
- **Measuring the benefits of Construction IT is difficult**
- **Knowledge transfer mechanisms are not in place**
- **The gap between industry and academia is widening**

Construction Industry IT

Challenges:

- **SO** - is there a challenge for Construct-IT?
- **Dependability** - systems reliability & security?
- **Ubiquity** – can systems communicate and integrate ‘globally’ and with complete predictability?
- **Inertia** – overcome the inertia of the last 5 (or more?) years