



FIDIC

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[Annual conference to address the consequences of the need for innovation](#)

The consequences of the need for innovation from a business perspective is the theme for the FIDIC 2010 Conference in New Delhi.

Business

Development

[Romania regional conference highlighted contracts challenges](#)

FIDIC will need to engage with the European Commission and multilateral bodies if modern dispute resolution processes are to gain wider acceptance.

[Environmental management capacity to be developed](#)

The FIDIC Member Association for Tunisia will partner with various organisations to help implement Environmental Management Systems.

Practice

[European services standardisation to address terminology](#)

Europe's standards organisation is to develop standard terminology for consulting engineering services for both traditional and new sectors.

Contracts

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FIDIC has published a subcontract to accompany the two editions of the FIDIC Construction Contract.

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An International Chamber of Commerce International Court of Arbitration interim award has upheld an engineer's decision under a FIDIC contract.

Industry

Representation

[ASPAC Asia-Pacific group has elected a new chair](#)

Dennis Sheehan from Australia has taken over as chair of the ASPAC members' group at a time when ASPAC needed to formulate an agenda for the region.

[Standard request for proposals being harmonised](#)

FIDIC has been asked to comment on a new Multilateral Development Bank harmonised *Standard Request for Proposals: Selection of Consultants*.

Image

[Bulgarian industry took stock after 10 years as a FIDIC member](#)

The development of industry best practice was seen as essential for making effective use of European Union investment funding.

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[Member firms to be required to implement integrity management](#)

The CESA-South Africa President has announced that member firms will be required to incorporate business integrity as part of quality management.

[Business integrity guidelines to be updated](#)

FIDIC to update business integrity guidelines in the light of assessment processes agreed by the UN anticorruption convention.

Sustainability

[Climate change task group would aim to map out industry strategies](#)

Given the need for bottom-up industry strategies to combat climate change, FIDIC is to decide upon setting up a Climate Change Task Group.

[Limited agreement reached at climate change summit](#)

FIDIC will argue for coordinated action by the building and construction sector to make monitoring, reporting and verification processes operational.

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FIDIC - Activities

Annual conference to address the consequences of the need for innovation [full item: 110Ac]


Managing innovation - The way forward, the theme for the FIDIC 2010 New Delhi Conference, addresses the consequences of the need for innovation from a business perspective, notably the challenging and difficult task that consulting engineering firms will have if they are to develop innovative solutions in a risk adverse environment where clients will be grappling with the impact of climate change and a new regulatory environment. Plenary sessions, nine seminars and several interactive workshops are being developed for the three-day event, with three key themes focussing on innovation risk in procurement, the impact of new policies and client attitudes, and the complex question of sustainability in projects. Full information is available at www.fidic2010.org including details on hotel options. Registrations are expected to start in March 2010, along with advance bookings for a variety of optional conference events and specially arranged post-conference tours.



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Business - Development

Romania regional conference highlighted contracts challenges [full item: 64De]

The Dispute Review Board Foundation regional conference in Bucharest in October 2009 highlighted the ongoing challenges that users of FIDIC contracts on European Union funded projects faced in Central Europe. The conference drew attention to employers' reluctance to adopt Dispute Adjudication Boards (DABs) that are mandatory for the Multilateral Development Bank Harmonised Edition of the *FIDIC Construction Contract*, and the preferred option for all FIDIC major works contracts. Speaking at the conference, Mircea Tenovici, a contracts expert with the Ministry of Public Finance, Romania, noted that employers perceived DABs as being "illegal" in that Particular Conditions of contract drawn up in the context of EU-funded projects did not adequately reflect an employer's specific constraints in accepting DAB decisions. Moreover, DABs were considered to be expensive, biased towards contractors and difficult to work with since the region was not prepared for DAB processes. Finally, DABs were not covered by EU-funded project budgets. So while FIDIC contracts were the preferred option for infrastructure projects, the lack of adequate legislation, funding and training had made it difficult to apply the contracts. Clearly FIDIC and its European colleagues needed to engage in more robust debate with the European Commission on both the benefits of using international best practice and on the changes in legislation, funding and capacity development that were needed if international best practice was to be effective.



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Environmental management capacity to be developed [full item: 65De]

Protection of the environment is a key issue for Tunisia given the importance of tourism. *International Engineering Days* organised in December 2009 by the FIDIC Member Association ANBEIC indicated that local consulting engineering firms needed to strengthen their capacity in the area. It was agreed that ANBEIC would work with the Centre International des Technologies de l'Environnement de Tunis (CITET) and other partners to develop a programme to help organisations in both the public and private sectors to establish ISO 14001 certified Environmental Management Systems (EMS) given that European Union funding was available to help some 100 firms identify weaknesses in their EMS. FIDIC has offered to support the programme by making available an EMS Training Kit that was developed in association with the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) and ICLEI, the international association of local governments.

Business - Practice

European services standardisation to address terminology [\[full item: 82Pr\]](#)

Measures are being taken to facilitate the provision of services between European Union (EU) Member States and to remove obstacles for professionals to work in other countries. In particular, a 2006 EU Directive has encouraged the development of voluntary European standards that facilitate the compatibility between services supplied by providers. A European Commission Programming Mandate to the European standards organisation CEN in the field of services provided an opportunity for the French standards organisation AFNOR, supported by the European Federation of Engineering Consultancy Associations (EFCA) and France's SYNTEC, to examine the "Feasibility and opportunity to develop a standardisation work programme concerning engineering consultancy services". The aim was to evaluate the feasibility of reaching a consensus on a scope of work for harmonising EU best practices and on the degree of standardisation of scopes of service in order to create conditions for standardisation that would be useful, acceptable and effective in most EU countries.

The study ([PDF](#)) concluded in July 2009 that standardisation was an appropriate response to the needs of the consulting engineering sector. It led to a proposal by AFNOR and the CEN Technical Board to set up CEN Technical Committee 395 (Engineering Consultancy Services). CEN/TC 395 will first develop standard terminology for the sector before assessing the need for further standardisation work. Two working groups have been established (for the standardisation of terminology for buildings, infrastructure and industrial units and for industrial products) to reflect the fact that consulting engineers are active not only in the traditional area of buildings, infrastructure and industrial facilities but also in services related to the definition, design, manufacture, and commercialisation of industrial products (the CEN/TC 395 Executive Summary and Business Plan are available [online](#)). Meanwhile, FIDIC, with input from EFCA, has published *Best Practice Guidelines for the Definition of Services: Building Construction* that take a first step in consolidating global best practice for defining consulting engineering services during the nine phases of building construction. Supplements covering the other traditional areas of industry activity (infrastructure and industrial plant) will follow. Interestingly, the AFNOR feasibility study complemented the FIDIC guidelines by taking a first step in outlining the consulting engineering services that are involved in the various phases of industrial production.

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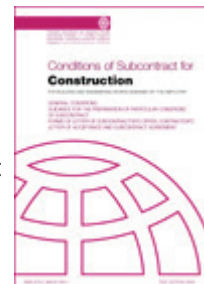

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Business - Contracts

FIDIC Construction Subcontract published [\[full item: 80Co\]](#)

The need for FIDIC to produce a subcontract for the *FIDIC Construction Contract*, for both the standard 1st Edition 1999 (the "1999 Red Book") and the Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) Harmonised Edition, arose for a number of reasons, notably the MDBs' insistence that subcontracts for EPC projects should be recognised internationally. The first FIDIC subcontract was published in 1994 for use with the *FIDIC Conditions of Contract for Construction for Building and Engineering Works Designed by the Employer*, 4th Edition 1992 (the "1987 Red Book"). FIDIC published in December 2009 a new subcontract, the *FIDIC Conditions of Subcontract for Construction* as a Test Edition. It has been written on the same basis as the 1994 form: (a) the subcontractor assumes the duties and obligations of the contractor under the main contract; and (b) paid-when-paid conditions have been maintained. The FIDIC Contracts Committee drafting group, mindful that paid-when-paid conditions were not enforceable in some jurisdictions, have included guidance notes and sample Particular Conditions so that the Subcontract's General Conditions can comply with national law.



Considerable attention has also been given to dispute resolution provisions. Clause 20 allows for an ad-hoc subcontract Dispute Adjudication Board (DAB) for the resolution of subcontract "Unrelated Claims", and there is a suspension period within which the contractor must pursue "Related Claims" made by the subcontractor that arise out of the main contract. The suspension period "quantifies" the simple "best endeavours" obligation whereby the contractor is to pursue subcontractor entitlements under the main contract. Additional effort has also been made to provide alternatives for Clause 20 for subcontracts where (a) the parties prefer a simpler dispute resolution process, or (b) it can be anticipated that complex subcontractor claims are likely to arise that will be "related" to contractor's entitlements under the main contract (for details, see a FIDIC-ICC 2009 Conference presentation [PDF](#)). The new subcontract is available from the FIDIC Bookshop in both printed and electronic [formats](#).


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New rules for demand guarantees released [\[full item: 81Co\]](#)

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) released in December 2009 a revised version, the first in 18 years, of the *ICC Uniform Rules for Demand Guarantees* (URDG) destined to apply to hundreds of billions of dollars of demand guarantees securing monetary and performance obligations in a wide array of contracts. The URDG were adopted by FIDIC and later incorporated by the World Bank in all of its unconditional guarantee forms. The rules have also been endorsed by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and national lawmakers have used them as a model for independent guarantee statutes. Comprising 35 articles, the URDG rules set out the liabilities and responsibilities of the parties at each key stage of the lifecycle of the guarantee. The ICC Secretary-General noted that: "It is the result of an ambitious project to create a new set of rules for the 21st century that is clearer, more precise, and more comprehensive, offering the fairest balance yet between the parties' competing interests and doing so in innovative ways."



The Annexes to the 1999 FIDIC contracts for major works contain model forms of security and guarantee which are based upon the previous URDG edition (URDG 458). Now that the ICC has adopted an updated edition of the Rules (URDG 758) to take effect on 1 July 2010, new model forms of guarantee would be expected to accompany the new Rules. FIDIC will probably need to incorporate these forms in the updated editions of the 1999 contracts now being prepared. FIDIC is currently determining when and if the ICC will be issuing new model forms of guarantee to go with the updated version of the ICC Rules. The rules can be purchased from the ICC, and the new version will be available at www.iccbooks.com.

Landmark arbitration award reinforces Dispute Adjudication Board decisions [\[full item: 82Co\]](#)

An important legal issue for international construction contracts has been how to enforce decisions of the engineer made under Clause 67 of the *FIDIC Conditions of Contract for Works of Civil Engineering Construction*, 4th Edition, 1987, and, since the engineer's decision was replaced by the Dispute Adjudication Board (DAB) in its successor the *FIDIC Construction Contract*, 1st Edition, 1999, how to enforce decisions of a DAB made under the Construction Contract's Clause 20. The recently published interim award in Case No. 10619 of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) International Court of Arbitration (see *ICC International Court of Arbitration Bulletin*, Vol. 19, No. 2, 2008, p. 85) showed that, contrary to widespread belief, a "binding" but not "final" decision of an engineer under the FIDIC conditions was enforceable by an arbitral award, in appropriate circumstances. By analogy, a "binding" but not "final" decision of a DAB should also be enforceable by an arbitral award in such circumstances. The effect of this landmark interim award, when it becomes more widely known, will be to enhance the respect for decisions of the engineer under Clause 67 as well as decisions of a DAB under Clause 20 of the 1999 editions of the FIDIC major works contracts. A modified version of the article by Chris Seppala (see photo), Special Adviser, FIDIC Contracts Committee, summarising the case that appeared in the *International Construction Law Review* is available, with the author's permission, on the FIDIC.org Contracts User Forum ([PDF](#))



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Industry - Representation

ASPAC Asia-Pacific group has elected a new chair [\[full item: 65Re\]](#)

Dennis Sheehan (see photo) from Australia has taken over the chair of the ASPAC Asia-Pacific group of FIDIC Member Associations from Aki Hirotoni who was elected to the FIDIC Executive Committee at the FIDIC 2009 General Assembly Meeting (see [News item](#)). ASPAC currently aims to coordinate information on capacity development events in the region, to establish a young professionals forum, to create an effective environment for communication among members, and to present the region's concerns to multilateral organisations, notably the Asian Development Bank, and to regional political groupings. An ASPAC Task Group similar to that which developed an action plan for the GAMA Africa group of Member Associations (see [News item](#)) is being considered in order to respond to ASPAC's main challenge, namely the wide diversity of countries which make up the Asia-Pacific region. This diversity has meant that it was difficult to establish a common agenda and a range of activities that meet the needs of all of the region's Member Associations.



Standard request for proposals being harmonised [\[full item: 66Re\]](#)

The Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) Heads of Procurement informed FIDIC during a meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece, on 2-3 November 2009 that the MDBs were about to finalise a harmonised a Standard Request for Proposals (SRFP) "master document" based on the World Bank's *Standard Request for Proposals: Selection of Consultants* (May 2004). For the World Bank, the SRFP is mandatory for contracts estimated to cost more than USD 200,000, and borrowers and implementing agencies of Bank-financed projects are encouraged to use the document for contracts costing less than this limit. It must be used "whenever possible" in the selection of consultants, and can be used with the different selection methods described in the *Guidelines - Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers*.

The changes aimed to facilitate the ability of the MDBs' clients to evaluate proposals and to maximise insurance coverage. They involve provisions in the Instructions to Consultants and in the General and Special Conditions of Contract regarding taxes, limitation of liability, conflict of interest, the composition of joint ventures, the requirements for permanent staff and key personnel, deadlines for confirming participation, and computational errors in lump-sum contracts. It was agreed that the final version of the harmonised SRFP will be sent to FIDIC for comment and that the MDBs will continue to discuss the document with FIDIC in bilateral meetings and multilateral fora.

Incorporated are two formats for Technical Proposals - Full Technical Proposal (FTP) and Simplified Technical Proposal (STP) - used to date by some MDBs, notably the Asian Development Bank (ADB), but not the World Bank. Use of a STP was encouraged when (a) the assignment was unlikely to have downstream impacts or (b) the assignment was of a routine, straightforward or simple nature or (c) the Terms of Reference defined in detail the tasks the consultant had to complete and the estimated for the assignment was USD 1,000,000 or less. FIDIC has expressed concern in the past to the ADB about the use of STPs as they placed too much emphasis on the curriculum vitae of proposed project staff.




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Industry - Image


Bulgarian industry took stock after 10 years as a FIDIC member

[\[full item: 48Im\]](#)

The FIDIC Managing Director, Enrico Vink, attended the BACEA-Bulgarian FIDIC Member Association's 10th anniversary function and press conference on 20th November 2009 in Sofia. The Deputy Minister for Public Works commented on the important role played by consulting engineers in developing the country's infrastructure and Marin Bakalov, BACEA President, acknowledged the important part played by FIDIC in helping to set up the association in 1999 (the role of Eigil Steen Pedersen, FIDIC President, was recognised), and in assisting the industry to develop to its current strength of 120 member firms. The ongoing support of both FIDIC and the European federation EFCA was seen as important to develop and maintain best practice in the market, and in dealing effectively with European Union (EU) requirements. FIDIC contracts are now in common use in Bulgaria and acknowledged as representing the international best practice. Nevertheless, support was still needed for appropriate legislation to facilitate the creation of more effective market conditions that would better accommodate EU structural investment funds. Between 2007 and 2013, Bulgaria will benefit from a Euro 9.5 billion investment for economic, social and rural development at a time when a recent *UNDP National Human Development Report* has identified gaps in preparations to use the funds (see [report](#)).



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Principles - Ethics

Member firms to be required to implement integrity management

[\[full item: 46Et\]](#)

The CESA-South Africa *Business Integrity - The CESA Way* conference in October 2009 focussed on adaption of the *FIDIC Business Integrity Management System* (BIMS) and the *FIDIC Government Procurement Integrity Management System* (GPIMS) to the local context and forging partnerships with government to fight corruption. Keynote speakers were Trevor Manuel, Minister in the Presidency in charge of the National Planning Commission, who supported earlier commitments to help stamp out corruption (see [News item](#)), and Renko Campen, Past-Chairman, DHV, The Netherlands, and a member of the FIDIC Integrity Management Committee. Zulch Lotter, CESA President, presented the work that will lead to publication by CESA of Business Integrity guidelines that are being developed along with the requirement for member firms to have BIMS as part of a Quality Management System (see reports [PDF](#) and [presentations](#))

Business integrity guidelines to be updated [\[full item: 45Et\]](#)

The *United Nations Convention against Corruption* is the only global roadmap in the fight against systemic corruption (see [UNODC](#)), extending well beyond the *OECD Anti-Bribery Convention* upon which several industry protocols, notably the *FIDIC Business Integrity Management System Guidelines (BIMS)*, are based. The legally binding Convention, adopted by 142 States, aims to prevent and criminalise corruption, promote international cooperation, recover stolen assets, and improve technical assistance and information exchange. The Conference of States Parties held in Doha in November 2009 to adopt an effective implementation review mechanism agreed to compile five-year country review reports to identify gaps in national anti-corruption laws and practices. The reports would be based on self-assessments and peer reviews by experts and on new self-assessment software developed by UNODC. Observers noted that while existing multilateral assessment models were also based on self- and peer-assessments (e.g., Council of Europe's [GRECO process](#), Africa's [APRM mechanism](#), and the Organisation of American States' [peer review process](#)), in general only third-party, external assessments offered accurate and unbiased ways to measure progress. In addition, the five-year reporting interval was perhaps too long given that many administrations will have changed before an assessment was completed. Finally, full assessments, and not simply executive summaries, should be made public given that transparency played a foundational role in curbing corruption. On the positive side, the Parties agreed that the assessments should be linked to a more effective delivery of technical assistance and businesses were urged to align their anti-corruption practices with the Convention.

Conference sessions acknowledged FIDIC's anticorruption initiatives as excellent examples of private sector involvement in enhancing the awareness of corruption and in mitigating its impacts. With the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative ([EITI](#)), FIDIC remains one of the few private sector industry groups actively involved in combating corruption in everyday business operations. Moreover, the Convention's policies and principles were expected to flow into the operations of procurement agencies, borrowing countries and multilateral and bilateral funding agencies that fund development aid so FIDIC will continue to play an active role in international anticorruption initiatives, stressing the need for integrity in procurement and seeking greater recognition for the consulting engineering industry's initiatives. In updating of the FIDIC BIMS guidelines to improve user-friendliness and scalability the FIDIC Integrity Management Committee has noted that Transparency International and the UN Global Compact published in December 2009 [Reporting Guidance](#) for the *10th Global Compact Principle* as a tool to help firms report on efforts to counter corruption while Transparency International published in May 2009 a *Business Principles for Countering Bribery* [self-evaluation tool](#) checklist.



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Principles - Sustainability

Climate change task group would aim to map out industry strategies

[\[full item: 7Su\]](#)

Following the limited success of the *UN Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) COP15 summit in December 2009 (see [News item](#)), the consensus was that the best choice for industry sectors would be to continue with the bottom-up approach. They should act independently to cut emissions and to adapt to the impact of climate change while the UN negotiations process was reformed in order to avoid deadlocks yet allowing democratic decisions to be reached in a transparent and inclusive way. So looking ahead, the FIDIC Executive Committee will consider at its next meeting in mid-February 2010 a proposal by the Sustainable Development Committee to establish a Climate Change Task Force to work with and help provide FIDIC Member Associations the guidance and information that was needed to assist governments in developing appropriate standards and solutions aimed at reducing carbon emissions. When considering the deadlines of the Kyoto Protocol for meeting target reductions, even basic facts on major projects seemed unknown to political decision makers (for instance, the fact that a ten-year span from project concept to completion was quite common). Strong arguments needed to be developed for governments to take quick action in areas where delays to implementation were least likely. More robust data was also required in discussions on initial project costs versus longer-term benefits, particularly given the negative scenarios which were presented to COP15. For instance, the European Union has estimated that the cost of climate change adaptation and mitigation in developing countries was Euro 100 billion whereas UNFCCC and World Bank studies estimated that Euro 45 billion will be needed each year by 2103 (see [PDF](#)).

Limited agreement reached at climate change summit [full item: 6Su]

In response to a FIDIC 2009 London Conference resolution (see [News item](#)), FIDIC quickly leapt into action, addressing the UN Secretary-General, other leading international organisations and, through its Member Associations, many of the world's political leaders requesting an invitation to give evidence at the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) COP15 Copenhagen climate change summit in December 2009, and stating that it was "vital that agreement is reached not simply on carbon emission targets". A number of presidents and prime ministers responded positively, encouraging FIDIC to engage in the numerous COP15 side events that took place in the lead up to the ministerial-level meetings.

FIDIC has acknowledged that the non-binding Copenhagen Accord reached during the summit, while not a political agreement to start immediate action, was a step towards a global low-carbon economy. However, pending clear commitments and mitigation actions, much remained to be done to deliver a robust, legally-binding post-Kyoto 2012 framework agreement that provided the predictability needed to plan infrastructure investments. So while the process to reach a global agreement had started, work was needed to detail specific aspects, in particular those aimed at making monitoring, reporting and verification processes operational. Business now needed to collaborate with governments to help advance the decisions to establish the terms and procedures that will give the required predictability, with the UNFCCC hopefully aiming to benefit from business expertise and actions.

Initiatives leading to COP15 indicated that the industry groups responsible for the sector that contributed most to global warming, namely building and construction, lacked a coordinated approach, a situation that needed to be corrected. For instance, none of the submissions by non-governmental organisations (see [website](#)) dealt directly with the sector, while the main business activity, the *Business Day*, mainly addressed strategic issues (see [report](#)). Fortunately, a few special initiatives were developed for the summit notably the *Common Carbon Metric* (PDF) by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Sustainable Buildings and Construction Initiative (SBCI) of which FIDIC is a founder member and a leading contributor. It provided a standardised method of measuring a building's carbon footprint as the basis for establishing baselines, performance benchmarking, and monitoring building performance improvements.




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Announcements - Events

FIDIC Conferences and International Training Programme [full item: 63Ev]

FIDIC-ECV Contracts [Course](#) (Contracts), Paris, 12-13 Jan 10
FIDIC Contracts [Intensive Course](#) (Contracts), Doha, 19-21 Jan 10
FIDIC Contracts Training Seminar, Jakarta, 13-14 Jan 10
FIDIC Contracts [Intensive Course](#) (Claims), Doha, 24-26 Jan 10
FIDIC-Cornerstone Contracts [Workshop](#) (Contracts), Johannesburg, Feb 10
FIDIC-iISBE SBCET Sustainable Construction [Course](#), Doha, 16-17 Feb 10
FIDIC Mid-East Contracts Users [Conference](#), Abu Dhabi, 24-25 Feb 10
FIDIC GAMA Africa 2010 Regional Conference, Mombasa, 14-17 Mar 10 [GAMA](#)
FIDIC Contracts [Course](#) (Practical Use), Gaborone, 17-18 Mar 10
FIDIC-DBRF Training [Workshop](#), Istanbul, 12-13 May 10
DBRF Dispute Resolution [Conference](#), Istanbul, 14-16 May 10
FEPAC South America Conference, Mexico City, 22-24 May 10 [FEPAC](#)
EFCA-Europe Conference, Rome, Italy, 27-29 May 10
FIDIC ASPAC Asia-Pacific 2010 Regional Conference, with [FIDIC 2010 New Delhi](#)
FIDIC [2010 New Delhi](#), 19-22 Sep 10



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Limited number of management training places available [full item: 65Ev]

Last minute registrations for the FIDIC 2010 Young Professionals Management Training Programme can be accepted in early-January 2010 subject to places being available. The programme is largely Internet-based with interactive training sessions over several months complemented by sessions immediately before the FIDIC 2010 New Delhi Conference and participation in the Future Leaders Workshop at the conference. It is planned to have two teams which will work through the *FIDIC Business Practice Training Manual* modules that give a systematic coverage of a consulting engineering firm's main business management issues. The presentation and review of groups of modules are followed by discussion and the exchange of input for three cases that are connected to the modules. The overall aim is to develop new approaches, leadership skills and intercultural understanding, complemented by feedback on how the industry at large sees the programme's outcomes through participation in, and presentations at, the FIDIC conference. See FIDIC.org/ypmtp for further information and registration.

International contracts event programme continues to grow [\[full item: 66Ev\]](#)


FIDIC contracts events for 2010 include the first FIDIC Middle-East Contracts Users Conference (Abu Dhabi; 24-25 February 2010) as part of a programme to expand FIDIC's premier contracts series (other User Conferences will be held in London in December and in Hong Kong in June). International contracts conferences organised in association with international organisations are the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)-FIDIC conference, the Dispute Review Board Foundation Annual Conference (Istanbul, 12-16 May) and the Dispute Board Federation Winter Symposium in November. The FIDIC International Training Programme (ITP) contracts training seminar series continues with seminars in Jakarta (January) and India (February/March) and events are being planned for Syria and Libya. There is also a full programme of ITP contracts training courses workshops (see FIDIC.org for details), with new events starting in South America, Botswana, Copenhagen, and Turkey to complement the regular events that now take place in some 20 countries. The programme to accredit trainers continues, with the trainers becoming available to train for ITP events worldwide while acting as the link to national and regional training programmes. FIDIC accredited trainers are expected to be associated with accredited training suppliers capable of organising training events. There are currently five accredited suppliers for courses and workshops in English covering the various *FIDIC Contracts Training Manual* modules and new suppliers are being identified for other major languages.

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Announcements - Notices

Task force to discuss European Union activities [\[full item: 10No\]](#)

Following the FIDIC Executive Committee meeting in London in September 2009, Geoff French, FIDIC Vice-President, circulated a proposal to FIDIC members who are also members of the European Federation of Engineering Consultancy Associations (EFCA) outlining a way forward for increased collaboration between FIDIC and EFCA on issues that are related specifically to the European Union, as well as possible FIDIC representation in Brussels. Positive responses from a number of Members Associations and from the EFCA executive board have led to the formation of a small task force comprising EFCA and FIDIC executive board members. The task force will meet for the first time in January 2010 to discuss in more detail the scope of joint activities and a possible organisational structure to enable such activities to be developed more effectively.


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Members announcements [\[full item: 5No\]](#)

Contracts Committee Meeting, London, UK; 20 Jan 2010
QBS Task Force Online Meeting; 30 Jan 2010
Executive Committee Meeting, Wellington, New Zealand; 15-16 Feb 2010
Updates Task Group Meeting, Abu Dhabi, UAE; 23-24 Feb 2010
MA Letter 16/09: Executive Committee liaison [PDF](#)
MA Letter 15/09: 2010 subscription invoices [PDF](#)
MA Letters 14/09: Young Professionals training [PDF](#)
MA Letter 13/09: Climate change letter [PDF](#)
MA Letter 12/09: Young Professionals Forum election [PDF](#)


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