

USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE SRILANKAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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ABSTRACT

Information Technology (IT) has become a vital component in the context of policy for science and technology development in many countries. Construction Industry as a whole is now geared to explore the full benefits of **IT**. It is evident that the construction industry differs from other industries due to its fragmented nature and involvement of expert knowledge, judgment and experience. Because of this complexity in the construction industry there is a greater potential for **IT** and many countries are now implementing to extend beyond productivity gains to strategic applications. This research establishes the current use of IT in the SriLankan construction industry. The research also draws out recommendations for strategic use of IT and suggests an IT framework for Sri Lankan Construction Industry.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

3D	- Three Dimensional
4GL	- Fourth Generation Languages
BIOS	- Basic Inputs Outputs system
CAD	- Computer Aided Design
CAE	- Computer Aided Estimating
CAM	- Computer Aided Manufacturing
CASE	- Computer Aided Software Engineering
CICA	- Construction Industry Computing Association
CNC	- Computer Numerically Controlled
CPU	- Central Processing Unit
DP	- Data Processing
DOD	- US Department of Defence
EDI	- Electronic Data Interchange
EIS	- Enterprise Information System
FTP	- File Transfer protocol
FCEC	- Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors
HTPM	- Harward Total Project Manager
HTML	- Hyper Text Matching Language
ICON	- Intelligent Integration of Information for Construction
ICTAD	- Institute for Construction Training & Development
IIS	- Industry Information System
ISDN	- Integrated Services Digital Network
IT	- Information Technology
KBS	- Knowledge Based Systems
LAN	- Local Area Networks
LDC	- Less Developed Countries
Mbps	- Mega bites per second
NI	- Natural Interaction
NN	- Natural Network
NCCASL	- National Construction Contractors Association of Sri Lanka
NIC	- Newly Industrialised Country Status
OCR	- Optical Character Recognition
PC	- Personnel Computer
PERT	- Programme Evaluation Review Technique
PIS	- Project Information System
PSDN	- Public Switched Data Networks
PSTN	- Public Switched Telephone Network
RAM	- Random Access Memory
RIBA	- Royal Institute of British Architects
RICS	- Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
ROM	- Read Only Memory
SL	- Sri Lanka
UK	- United Kingdom
UNESCO	- United Nations Education and Scientific Organisation
VAN	- Value Added Network
VR	- Virtual Reality
WAN	- Wide Area Network
WWW	- World Wide Web
WAP	- Wireless Application Protocol