

CONFERENCE

RICS Australasia Commercial Management Conference

Adding value for commercial management professionals around best practice and emerging trends

Course level

Advanced

Type of event

Hybrid

CPD Hours

6

Formal

The RICS Australasia Commercial Management Conference 2024 returns this year as a hybrid event – face to face in Sydney, with an opportunity to join remotely for those unable to attend in person.

Professional management of contracts and risk in construction are critical to project success. The commercial management skillset and function is not common or consistent across Australasia and there remain many un-qualified or personnel lacking the key skills to operate successfully in this space. The industry call to achieve net zero targets by 2050 is an essential component for commercial management professionals to reflect in client requirements. We continue to see major building contractors struggle and macro-economic and geo-political issues ensure that the delivery of major construction projects remains a real challenge in the region. With these factors in mind RICS is well placed to deliver our third conference aimed at the commercial management of construction space.

With a diverse range of expert panellists and attendees joining from across Australia and New Zealand to share their expertise and experiences; they will be participating in discussions that dive into the issues impacting and being managed across the region by commercial teams as they strive to deliver successful construction project outcomes.

Book your place today

Click here



Programme



Australia
23 May 24



New Zealand
23 May 24

Time zone:

AEST	NZST	
9:00	11:00	**Registration, morning tea & networking**
10:00	12:00	**Chair's welcome** Speaker(s): Steve Evans FRICS, Director - Concordia Resolution
10:05	12:05	**Icebreaker**
10:15	12:15	**Keynote address** Speaker(s): Hayley Gilmour FRICS, Commercial Leader - Laing O'Rourke
10:20	12:20	**We are heading for a crisis. The skillset of construction teams cannot effectively support the project pipeline** Moderated by: Craig Rimmer MRICS, Director - Connell Griffin With no end to the infrastructure project pipeline, are commercial management teams adequately skilled and resourced? What does the landscape look like? What skills do contract administrators typically lack, and how does this cause problems? Is it getting better or worse? Why aren't there more qualified quantity surveyors in commercial teams here, and how do we fix this? What role can government, universities, employers and professional bodies play in upskilling teams and attracting talent? Speaker(s): Jonathan Pimlott MRICS - Manager, Southern Project Strategy & Delivery - Beca Limited Chris Loving FRICS, Commercial Leader - Laing O'Rourke Naveen Paladugu MRICS, Senior Commercial Manager - Sydney Water

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11:10	13:10	**Inadequate and inconsistent design documentation and management are significant causes of poor project outcomes and disputes. How can commercial managers help the designers fix this?** Moderated by: Daniel Butterick MRICS, National Lead, Cost Advisory - RPS Projects in Australia need more consistent approaches to levels of design and deliverables at the various design stages. In New Zealand, the challenges are more a result of poor design management. How do these issues affect the commercial management of projects? How should Quantity Surveyors and Commercial Managers minimise their impact, and what are the long-term solutions to these issues? Do we need to go back to 'testing' the design by producing bills of quantities to avoid these issues? Speaker(s): Andy Tiplin FRICS, Senior Commercial Advisor - Rawlinsons Ciaran O'Sullivan MRICS, Director - CCi Helen Keown, Senior Estimator - Laing O'Rourke David Ashe MRICS, Head of Airport Dev - Melbourne Airport
12:00	14:00	**Lunch**
13:00	15:00	**Re-energiser**

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13:15	15:15

Collaborative contracting is destined to fail.... unless culture and behaviours change

Moderated by: Peter Colacino, Project Strategy & Delivery Lead - Mott MacDonald

Even with the best intentions at the start of a project, when faced with challenges, it is natural for people to fall back on familiar behaviours and adopt a traditional, confrontational approach. 'Culture eats strategy for breakfast', even collaborative contracts will fail unless we correct the culture and behaviour. What does this mean in practice, and how can we change? How can RICS quantity surveyors and commercial managers, upstream and downstream, lead this change?

Speaker(s):
David Watt FRICS, EGM Commercial - Queensland Hydro
Marc Allen MRICS, National Lead, Commercial Advisory - RPS Group
Sanjaya Indrarathna FRICS, Contract Manager, Major Projects - Sydney Water
Jo Hatchman MRICS, Director - Hatch Consulting Ltd

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14:05	16:05	**Contracting for carbon reduction – What trends are emerging, and where are we heading?** Moderated by: Aleks Krison, Senior Procurement Manager - Laing O'Rourke Governments, investors, businesses, and the public are pushing for net zero targets; how are these targets reflected in client requirements and construction contracts, and where are we heading? What are the challenges for contractors and the supply chain in meeting these targets in constructing assets and operating their businesses? What are the opportunities for Quantity Surveying and Commercial Management Professionals to lead this change? Speaker(s): Phoebe Moses, Carbon Navigator - Beca Limited Clifton Wilson, Carbon Economist - MBM Phoebe Roberts, Executive Director - Pollination Law Mark Smith, Exec Director Advanced Technical Services - Transport for NSW
14:55	16:55	**RICS Dispute Resolution Service Update** Speaker(s): Patsi Michalson, Dispute Resolution Manager - RICS
15:05	17:05	**Afternoon Tea**

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15:35	17:35	**Unleashing the power of AI to deliver practical support for commercial managers** Moderated by: Rowan Braham, Principal Engineer, Artificial Intelligence - Laing O'Rourke AI promised to transform commercial management, with many experts predicting wide-ranging applications. But how far has the new technology been implemented? What applications are currently being used in practice? Where is the added value? Are we capturing sufficient data? What are the risks of relying on AI output? What can we expect in the next 12 months? Is AI just another fad? Speaker(s): James Wilcox MRICS, Director & Head of Commercial Advisory - Investructure David Timm, Chief Executive Officer - Red Marble AI Cuong Quang, Executive Director & Co Founder - Octant AI Tony Hilton MRICS, Director - Contract & Commercial Resources Pty Ltd
16:25	18:25	**Conference closing remarks** Speaker(s): Steve Evans FRICS, Director - Concordia Resolution
16:35	18:35	**Post conference networking**

Delivering confidence

We are RICS. Everything we do is designed to effect positive change in the built and natural environments. Through our respected global standards, leading professional progression and our trusted data and insight, we promote and enforce the highest professional standards in the development and management of land, real estate, construction and infrastructure. Our work with others provides a foundation for confident markets, pioneers better places to live and work and is a force for positive social impact.

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