

The design process of building projects has deserved relevant research work, which generally has been done within the particular context of given countries. Each particular national context can lead to a singular environment in which the building design practices are embedded.

Thus, we are very proud of presenting this special edition of the journal that starts to be published once-a-year fully in English. Called "*Design Management and Technology around the World*", the current issue introduces six articles written by authors from five different countries.

Koen and Theron from South Africa bring a view of the "*Affordable Housing*" market in their country throughout the description of a environmentally sustainable Housing Project that used a data system for integrated inspection and control by project managers, subcontractors, engineering, architects, government and local authorities as well as financial institutions.

Emmitt, from United Kingdom, discusses *the evolution of the Design management discipline in the architectural engineering and construction (AEC) sector*. In his paper, the author tells about the origins, application and the professional practices in the field.

Volker and Klein from Netherlands wrote a paper about *trends on innovative integrated projects*. Based on a survey among 110 Dutch architectural design firms, the authors reveal critical factors that are drivers for change in current marketing and organisational strategies of architectural design firms that are faced up with the new demands.

Roberti and Heintz, also from Netherlands, have carried out a survey on *the promotion practices of Dutch architects*. These authors show that Dutch architects are more actively promoting their firms, even though the reliance of potential clients on reputation and on the reported experience of other clients is still a key factor to the selection.

Senthilkumar and Varghese from India analyses two *cases of projects that required accelerated design and fast-track construction*. The paper is a contribution to design management methodology and at once deals with management tools (as the Cause and Effect Diagram and the Design Structure Matrix) and discuss interfacial aspects in order to improve design quality.

The last paper comes from Turkey. Durmus, Turkcu, Gunaydin and Acar present a *research on quality management in architectural design companies* and, throughout interviews with the managers of 10 widely-recognized architectural design companies in Istanbul, they conclude that few of them adopt a systematic and documented approach to quality management.

In brief, we must acknowledge the various contributions to this special issue and we hope you will appreciate our efforts to the improvement of the Design Management & Technology Journal. Have a nice read!

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