

Multidisciplinary Engineering, Project, and Production Management

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Editorial

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Journal of Engineering, Project, and Production Management (EPPM-Journal) reflect the journal's multidisciplinary approach to management research and can be categorized as belonging to three general topics: Project Management, Engineering and Project Management, and Project and Production Management.

Two articles fall under the topic of Project Management. In the first, Oyewobi et al. evaluate the impact of risk estimates on contractor tenders, and identify major risk factors that may impact the contractor bids. Their results can help construction professionals identify and quantify project estimate risk factors. In the second paper, Bhazad Sidawi assesses the role Information Technology (IT) in managing remote construction projects, and finds that certain changes to management settings are required for optimal effectiveness.

In Engineering and Project Management, Ilozor and Kelly carry out a conceptual study of integrating Building Information Modeling (BIM) and Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) in construction projects. The BIM approach is widely used in current construction projects (Cerovsek, 2011; Peterson et al., 2011), while IPD integrates people, systems, business structures, and practices into a process (AIA, 2007). Integrating these methods could provide tangible benefits by allowing BIM to serve as a platform for integrating participants into a process.

Project and Production Management feature two papers. In the first, Anosike and Oyebade examine the quality of sandcrete blocks using a reference developed by the Standard Organization of Nigeria. Sandcrete blocks are a popular construction material used in Africa (Ogu and Ogbuozobe, 2001; Olotuah, 2002), and their research traces the origins of problems using Sandcrete blocks in practice. The second paper, by Bjornfot and Torjussenis, was selected from the 19th Annual Conference of the International Group for Lean Construction, and its inclusion was made possible through the assistance of John Rooke, the conference's Technical Chair. The authors hypothesize that regional business environments can be improved through structural flexibility in Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) supply chains by encouraging horizontal collaboration. Based on studies of Swedish and Norwegian supplier networks, they find that horizontal supply chain collaboration among SMEs can improve competitiveness and help firms survive market volatility.

In conclusion, this issue take a multidisciplinary managerial approach covering topics including tender sum risk estimation, remote project management, integration of BIM and IPD, sandcrete block experiments, and supply chain management. We hope researchers and practitioners find this issue to be of interest and practical use.

References

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