

WHO IS ICIS?

The International Construction Information Society (ICIS) is an association of organizations that provides national master specification systems and/or cost information systems for the construction industry. Members of the Society benefit from the direct exchange of information and ideas at the Society's annual assembly and through frequent correspondence.

ICIS members are neutral in status (i.e. not political), technically authoritative, and solidly rooted in the construction industry. Currently, ICIS consists of 18 organizations in 14 countries from five continents.

WHO DOES ICIS REPRESENT?

ICIS represents the organizations that are its members. These member organizations provide technical services to hundreds of thousands of construction professionals, world wide, who use their products and services to prepare construction documents. For the changing needs of our members' clients, ICIS aims to anticipate and confront trends occurring in the construction industry internationally, including the following:

- The strong trend towards international harmonization of standards and procedures.
- The increasing expectation of functionality and user-friendliness of information used in construction processes.
- The need to integrate a wide variety of related project data, particularly drawings, specifications, costs, and product information.

WHAT IS THE MISSION OF ICIS?

- To improve, on an international level, communication among participants in the construction process.
- To represent the common interests of ICIS members in dealings with international and national organizations, authorities, and associations.
- To investigate international developments in the field of construction information.
- To support, investigate, and promote efforts and developments in the field of construction information that lead to worthwhile international harmonization and standardization.
- To set principles for organizing and preparing construction information.

WHAT HAS ICIS DONE?

ICIS has published and is maintaining a report titled *A Description and Comparison of National Specification Systems*. This report provides comparative information about the products and services of each of the ICIS member organizations.

ICIS has cooperated with the International Standards Organization (ISO) on classifications for the construction industry. Based on a developing international standard, ICIS members are continuing to cooperate by investigating and developing classification tables. The objective is to develop tables to the level of detail appropriate for international harmony to facilitate national implementation.

ICIS has cooperated with other national and international authorities such as the International Framework for Dictionaries (IFD) Committee for European Normalization (CEN) the European Product Information Cooperative (EPIC) and ISO STEP in the development of harmonized international information models.

ICIS, by its foundation, has established a network of construction information organizations for exchange of information and collective pursuit of common goals.

HOW CAN MY ORGANIZATION BECOME A MEMBER?

Membership may be granted to organizations that are public or private, are national in breadth of function, and are involved in the following activities:

- Producers of master, standard, or guide construction specifications; or of their principles for preparation.
- Producers of construction cost information systems; or of their principles for preparation.
- The Society has the following membership classifications:
- Members: Organizations which contribute to the activities of the Society, provide the Society with information regarding their qualifications, and pay their membership dues.
- Probationary Members: Members that are in their probationary period (a one-year period beginning with their election by the Board).

Further information is available on the ICIS website at: www.icis.org

The goal of ICIS is to providing a comprehensive, worldwide network for the exchange of information and advice among companies and organisations involved with specification systems, cost management systems and building product databases.

THE ICIS PRINCIPLES

What is ICIS?

- Our common interests are construction specifications and costing systems.
- Our central focus is on improving the design and construction process.
- Our wider interests encompass the complete lifecycle of a building.

Our assemblies

- Our activities centre on annual delegates assemblies where we can share knowledge and experience.
- We wish to sharpen our focus at such gatherings by setting topical themes or targets.
- We want to broaden our interests by encouraging those who influence the future shape of the construction industry to share in our activities.

Our wider interests

- We want our voice to be heard within national and international activities affecting the future of our industry.
- We encourage individual members to cooperate on projects of mutual interest.

Membership

- We invite organizations and companies sharing our common interests to join us.
- We invite organizations and companies involved in the design and construction process to join our annual gatherings and share in our dialogue.

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