



## FIDIC

### Activities

#### [FIDIC President called for industry leadership](#)

FIDIC President highlighted that all aspects of the current global situation, whether financial, environmental or social, called for leadership as trusted advisors.

#### [Plenary speakers urged greater involvement with society](#)

The FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference argued for a supportive environment with clients to ensure engagement with society.

## Business

### Development

#### [Japanese development bank endorses FIDIC contracts](#)

The restructured Japanese development bank JBIC has licensed the FIDIC Construction Contract for incorporation in bidding documents.

#### [Broad range of key challenges identified by young professionals](#)

Young professionals at the FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference identified the types of services delivered, globalisation and multicultural firms as key issues.

### Practice

#### [Best practice in several key areas analysed](#)

The FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference made specific recommendations for best practice in the key areas of communications, risk management and advocacy.

### Contracts

#### [Contracts updates and a subcontract announced at users conference](#)

An online Users Forum will consolidate comments for updating of the 1999 suite of FIDIC works contracts and for a new Construction Subcontract.

## Industry

### Representation

#### [Reestablishing international representation in South America](#)

Training seminars and visits are opening the way towards a greater involvement by South America in FIDIC.

### Image

#### [Engineers build Switzerland](#)

A dedicated website explaining how engineers helped build Switzerland's infrastructure has attracted considerable attention.

## Principles

### Quality

#### [Quality Based Selection to be revisited](#)

A task group will consolidate new approaches to promoting quality in procurement so as to update FIDIC's quality based selection publication.

#### [Major industry clients call for quality services](#)

Consulting engineers challenged by the need to understand not only their clients' needs but also society's concerns.

### Ethics

#### [Initiatives address both supply and demand side corruption](#)

Major initiatives by leading governmental and industry organisations highlighted progress in implementing tools to tackle corruption.

### Sustainability

#### [Sustainable Building Alliance to align certification systems](#)

The Sustainable Building Alliance that groups green building certifiers from several countries has agreed to draft core indicators.



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## Announcements

### Events

#### [FIDIC Conferences and International Training Programme](#)

Intensive training courses in Africa and Asia feature.

### Notices

#### [General Assembly decisions](#)

The FIDIC 2008 General Assembly Meeting elected new officers.

#### [Executive Committee decisions](#)

Ukraine and Uzbekistan and five Affiliates proposed as members

#### [Members](#)

Notices include the Young Professionals Management Training Programme.



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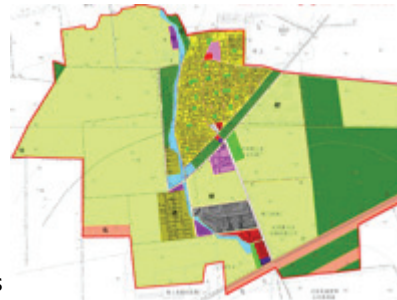


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## FIDIC - Activities

### **FIDIC President called for industry leadership** [\[full item: 106Ac\]](#)

Speaking at the CNAEC-China conference in November 2008, John Boyd, FIDIC President, commented that "the recent disruptions to the world's financial systems have shown how interconnected we have all become, and how important our relationships to one another are in enabling even day-to-day activities to take place around the world." He noted that "Asia, and in particular China, was home to many of the world's most significant engineering projects and a key area for the development of both



FIDIC and the consulting engineering industry. China has become the powerhouse that drives the economies of so many countries." In line with China's all-important sustainable rural development, illustrated by the land-use map of a Holcim 2008 Award [project](#) demonstrating strict regulation, Dr Boyd also reflected on sustainability, the conference theme: "I think it represents the most significant opportunity for our industry to show leadership and to develop a proper role in society - that of trusted advisor to society on technical matters, where our training and experience provide us with a unique perspective." Recalling that engineers helped pioneer infrastructure that perhaps provided the most important contributions to improving the quality of life, such as clean water and safe transport, he said: "So we have had this important role in the past and we need to lead once again in the future." Shortly after, the President attended the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) 2008 World Engineering Congress in Brasilia (2-4 December; [www.wec2008.org.br](http://www.wec2008.org.br)) where a Forum on Sustainable Development also highlighted the role of engineers in another key area, namely climate change.

### **Plenary speakers urged greater involvement with society** [\[full item: 105Ac\]](#)

Speakers at the FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference ([www.fidic2008.org](http://www.fidic2008.org)) stressed the need for a more supportive environment for effective collaboration between consulting engineers and the multilateral development banks. By the same token, both FIDIC and its member firms needed to play a more prominent role in society by speaking out on issues affecting on society. The industry has indeed responded in key areas. For instance, it has taken the lead in the prevention of corruption by seeking recognition for tools such as Business Integrity Management and its equivalent for government agencies. So it was understandable there was a vigorous debate on anticorruption initiatives, with bank representatives challenged by the fact that, in many corrupt situations, there are those who were aware of what has happened, but do nothing.



The need for consulting engineers to be citizens first and engineers second, and to engage more with society as they were at the cutting edge of solving many problems, was also stressed by John Ralston Saul (see photo), the keynote plenary speaker. As a leading journalist and philosopher, he reflected on how engineers had improved our way of life, but must now rethink engineering and offer more appropriate solutions to global challenges concerning clean water, secure transportation, reliable communications and efficient energy use.

## Business - Development

### Japanese development bank endorses FIDIC contracts [full item: 60De]

FIDIC signed a licence agreement with JBIC, the Japanese Bank for International Cooperation, in August 2008 to enable JBIC to incorporate both the standard 1st Edition 1999 and the Multilateral Development Bank Edition of the *FIDIC Construction Contract* for its projects in its sample bidding documents. Up to now JBIC has used the Construction Contract's predecessor, the FIDIC Red Book 4th Edition 1987 civil works contract which is incorporated by reference in sample bidding documents. The agreement confirmed the *FIDIC Construction Contract* as the world's standard contract for employer-designed works.

On 1 October 2008, the Japan Finance Corporation, JFC, was formed by merging various sector corporations with JBIC's international financial operations, with the JFC's international division conducting international financial operations under the JBIC name. Meanwhile, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) took over JBIC's overseas economic cooperation operations so that technical cooperation, ODA loans and grant aid can be managed by a single entity. Hence, Japanese development bank guidelines for the selection of consultants and sample bidding documents for civil works, plant, small projects and the selection of consultants are now found on [www.jica.go.jp](http://www.jica.go.jp).

### Broad range of key challenges identified by young professionals

[full item: 61De]

Young professionals (YPs) participating in the FIDIC 2008 Conference were responsible for a session on succession management that attracted considerable interest given the lack of skilled resources throughout the consulting engineering industry. Presentations, available on [www.fidic2008.org](http://www.fidic2008.org), by Gayle Roberts (Stanley Consultants, USA), Liu Luobang (Halcrow Engineering, China) and Lee Wanjae (Dongsung, Korea) gave invaluable insights about how firms around the world were working to ensure that "our company thrives beyond our years". YPs in FIDIC are organised in the Young Professionals Forum (YPF) that held its annual meeting to discuss coordination between the growing number of national YPF's (the YPF website [FIDIC.org/ypf](http://FIDIC.org/ypf)) now lists forums in 12 countries) and to elect a new steering committee (now chaired by Alex Eyquem, Faber Maunsell, UK [alex.eyquem@gmail.com](mailto:alex.eyquem@gmail.com)). Finally, YPs participating in the FIDIC 2008 Young Professionals Management Training Programme (YPMTP) completed their assignments with reports at the Future Leaders Workshop on the four programme themes. They concluded that the evolution of services (greater involvement in the lifecycle of a project), globalisation (the process of turning local influences into global challenges), and "office dynamics" (managing cultural differences) were the key issues for younger staff. Registration for the limited number of places on the seven-month, mainly online, FIDIC 2009 YPMTP that ends with working sessions at the FIDIC 2009 London Conference, closes on 30 December 2008 (see [FIDIC.org/ypmtp](http://FIDIC.org/ypmtp)).

## Business - Practice

### Best practice in several key areas analysed [full item: 79Pr]

The FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference explored several key issues for consulting firms (presentations are available on [www.fidic2008.org](http://www.fidic2008.org)). A session on the role of the media stressed the need for a genuine interest to communicate and a clear message. A session on risk management illustrated that while the inappropriate transfer of risk had a negative effect on project quality, the consulting engineering industry still had difficulty in convincing clients that risk was properly managed in spite of superb risk management models and tools. FIDIC representatives indicated that the federation intended to collaborate more closely with the insurance industry and client sectors in order to improve mutual understanding of the issues. According to Dr Ralston Saul, the conference's main plenary speaker, the industry needed "to step back, to help the client see the bigger picture, and allocate risks together". A session on the advocacy services provided by many FIDIC Member Associations called for involvement not only in engineering but also in more general issues, otherwise consulting engineers were not identified as trusted advisors. The final plenary session to identify goals and actions for the industry emphasised the value of staff and the soft skills they brought to successful businesses. Crucial also was the standardisation of procedures (for instance, the use of FIDIC contracts) to allow for more attention to quality and innovation in the development of sustainable solutions.



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## Business - Contracts

### Contracts updates and a subcontract announced at users conference.

[full item: 76Co]

The 1999 FIDIC Construction, Plant and Design-Build and EPC/Turnkey contracts are widely recognised as international standards. Updating to reflect the latest developments in several key areas, notably financial arrangements, legislation, business practice, project management, risk management, liability and insurance, is an integral part of FIDIC's responsibility. Axel Jeager who chairs the FIDIC Contracts Committee announced at the FIDIC 2008 International Contracts Users Conference (London; 2-4 December) that an Updates Task Group had been formed and was inviting comments on the 1999 editions. He noted that some new concepts had already been incorporated in the 1st Edition of the *FIDIC Design-Build-Operate Contract* that was released at the FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference (it replaced the provisional 2007 Seminar Edition, see [News item](#)). Comments sent to [updates@fidic.org](mailto:updates@fidic.org) or submitted directly are added to a moderated discussion forum at [www.fidic.org/updates](http://www.fidic.org/updates). The pre-review draft of another key document, namely the *FIDIC Construction Subcontract* for use with the *FIDIC Construction Contract*, 1st Edition 1999, was released at the conference. The review process will start in February 2009 once all those who have worked closely with the FIDIC Subcontract Task Group have commented. A new Standard Prequalification [Form](#) for Contractors was also published: it will form part of *FIDIC Procurement Procedure* to replace *FIDIC Tendering Procedure*.



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## Industry - Representation

### Reestablishing international representation in South America

[full item: 62Re]

Many of South America's FIDIC national associations had difficulty remaining as FIDIC members following the restructuring of the continent's infrastructure and building construction industries in the 1990's. Enrico Vink, FIDIC Managing Director, and Jorge Diaz Padilla, FIDIC Past-President, visited Ecuador and Chile in December 2008 to review how FIDIC could best be promoted. Dr Diaz Padilla (left of photo) used the occasion to explain FIDIC's integrity management documents to Dr Jorge Luis Gonzalez Tamayo, Ecuador's Public Works Minister. Arrangements for a FIDIC-Cornerstone Contracts Workshop in Santiago in mid-June were then discussed with ACI-Chile to follow up on a very successful workshop in Sao Paulo, the first ever in South America, that was attended by participants from many of Brazil's larger consulting and contracting firms. Meanwhile, the FIDIC Executive Committee has decided to hold its mid-2009 meeting in conjunction with the South American association [FEPAC](#) annual conference (Brazil; May 2009), and John Boyd, FIDIC President, spoke at the World Engineering Congress in Brazilia in early-December (see [News item](#)).



## Industry - Image

### Engineers build Switzerland [full item: 44Im]

A dedicated website [www.les-ingenieurs-construisent-la-suisse.ch](http://www.les-ingenieurs-construisent-la-suisse.ch) has been set up by USIC-Switzerland to explain how Swiss engineers helped plan, design and construct projects such as Lausanne's new (see photo), completely automatic metro with gradients of up to 12%, a world record. The site has received much media attention as well as some 1500 "hits" a day, each lasting on average several minutes. The Swiss public is clearly interested in finding out how engineers go about providing essential infrastructure. Interviews with design teams noted that each of the projects offered unique challenges and inspiring opportunities from all perspectives, whether social, economic or technical. The Swiss Member Association's website falls within a broader programme aimed at attracting students into technical disciplines given the recent, and by all accounts ongoing, shortage of engineers in Europe and elsewhere.



## Principles - Quality

### Quality Based Selection to be revisited [full item: 1Qu]

The selection of consultants on the basis of quality is a consulting engineering industry cornerstone and essential for delivering sustainable projects. In Quality - or Qualifications - Based Selection (QBS), a fee based on the scope of services is negotiated after the most qualified firm has been identified and a detailed scope of work jointly developed by the client and the consultant. QBS is widely adopted as a formal procurement method in the USA. In the case of Japan, Aki Hirotsu, AJCE-Japan President, reported at the FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference (see [www.fidic2008.org/talks](http://www.fidic2008.org/talks)) that since a 1999 recommendation by a government committee to promote QBS and the 2005 Quality Assurance Act, the fees for nationally procured consultant services selected by QBS had increased threefold, and today outweighed those for cost-based methods by 20% (Japan's Public Accounts Act of 1889 had required selection on the basis of cost). The challenge now was to have local authorities adopt QBS. Peter Steblin, who also spoke at the FIDIC 2008 conference, reminded participants that the InfraGuide [guidelines](#) developed in cooperation with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to promote QBS was endorsed by over 70 local communities in Canada. For him, the challenges for procurement by QBS were to better demonstrate savings and how to negotiate ethically.

Given the need to continue to demonstrate the value of QBS, FIDIC has decided to develop a fresh approach for promoting QBS as the international standard for consultant selection by updating the 1994 FIDIC publication *Quality Based Selection for Procurement and Consulting Services*.

### Major industry clients call for quality services [full item: 2Qu]

Prominent industry clients calling for quality services at the FIDIC Quebec 2008 Conference (7-10 September) included Thierry Vandal (President, Hydro Quebec, Canada), Jean Simmon (President, Rio Tinto Alcan, Canada), Young Joo Chye (Director, Singapore Public Utilities Board) and His Excellency Omar Maani, Mayor of Amman. All endorsed the importance of good communications with their consultants, and the need for consulting engineers to fully understand the needs of their clients, many of whom represented society. As summarised by John Boyd, FIDIC President, the industry as a whole "needed to build greater credibility through not only its actions but also its messages". The conference website [www.fidic2008.org](http://www.fidic2008.org) gives presentations and reports, and a [News item](#) summarises developments in management and business tools.

## Principles - Ethics

### Initiatives address both supply and demand side corruption [full item: 41Et]

The widespread recognition that corruption is threatening development has prompted many important anticorruption initiatives by organizations with which FIDIC partners. FIDIC led the way with Business Integrity Management. The new *OECD Principles for Enhancing Integrity in Public Procurement*, part of a broad OECD programme, has recommended that countries and industry must do more to crack down on fraud and waste in government contracts. OECD countries will report in 2011 on progress made in implementing the principles, and a checklist for putting the principles into practice is now available in [PDF](#). Demand-side corruption was also the focus of the *ADB-OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific* 2008 conference (Singapore; 26-28 November) where a [oecd.org](http://oecd.org) database of government reform efforts was announced. Meanwhile, on the supply side the World Economic Forum (WEF) *Partnering Against Corruption Initiative* (PACI) has started to use a [YouTube video](#) to invite the general public to submit breakthrough ideas on how to fight corruption, with the best ideas to be presented at the 2009 World Economic Forum. PACI has also undertaken a self-assessment ([www.weforum.org/paci/ha](http://www.weforum.org/paci/ha)) showing that all signatories to its anticorruption principles now had anti-corruption programmes in place. Featured at the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) 2008 World Engineering Congress in (Brasilia, 2-4 December; [www.wec2008.org.br](http://www.wec2008.org.br)) was a 40 minute film *Ethicana* that related difficult ethical decisions encountered in construction projects (see [Ethicana](#) for a preview). Finally, the UN Global Compact has released *Resisting Extortions and Solicitations in International Transactions* Part 1 that presents 21 scenarios involving solicitation during the procurement process. The tool perhaps lacks adequate input from the building construction and infrastructure sector given that FIDIC, among others, keeps details of many bribery and corruption scenarios (see [www.fidic.org/integrity](http://www.fidic.org/integrity)) as a training tool.



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## Principles - Sustainability

### Sustainable Building Alliance to align certification systems [\[full item: 1Su\]](#)

Green building certification authorities from France and the UK created in April 2008 the Sustainable Building Alliance (SBA; [www.sballiance.org](http://www.sballiance.org), see [FIDIC News item](#)) to collaborate in the development of a core building assessment system. It was agreed in September 2008 that a core set of indicators would be proposed on behalf of all SBA members in early-2009 by a working group made up of representatives from certification authorities in the UK, France, Germany and Brazil. The Alliance aims to develop common minimum standards and common indicators for all certification schemes to ensure consistency and to promote "dual certification" so that the sustainability performance of buildings in different countries can be compared. Whether the Alliance will allow a building certified under one of the partners' schemes to meet the requirements of another scheme remains to be seen. A key element of the core indicators will be adaptability to local conditions, which is a feature of FIDIC's Project Sustainability Management System ([PSM](#)) that provides guiding principles for rating projects.

Introducing PSM in building certification has also been one of the challenges taken up by Netherland's Ike van der Putte . He was caught totally off guard with the announcement at the FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference of a FIDIC Prangey Award for contributions to FIDIC's PSM and Environmental Management Systems (EMS), notably training. Indeed, building upon its extensive experience with EMS and PSM training, FIDIC and the International Initiative for Sustainable Built Environment ([iiSBE](#)) plan to announce a FIDIC-iiSBE Sustainable Construction Training Programme covering PSM and rating schemes (endorsement by the SBA and the UNEP Sustainable Buildings and Construction Initiative, [www.unepsbci.org](http://www.unepsbci.org), is being sought).



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## Announcements - Events

### FIDIC Conferences and International Training Programme [\[full item: 62Ev\]](#)

FIDIC-UACE [Intensive Course](#) (Contracts), Kampala, 19-20 Jan 09  
FIDIC-UACE [Intensive Course](#) (Claims), Kampala, 21-22 Jan 09  
FIDIC [Intensive Course](#) (Management), Qatar, 27-29 Jan 09  
FIDIC [Intensive Course](#) (Services Agreements), Qatar, 10-12 Feb 09  
FIDIC-CEAI [Seminar](#) (Claims), New Delhi, 16-17 Feb 09  
FIDIC-ECV Training [Course](#) (Contracts), Dubai, 23-24 Feb 09  
FIDIC-ASPAC Asia-Pacific Regional [Conference](#), Katmandu, 10-13 Mar 09  
FIDIC-GAMA Africa Regional [Conference](#), Durban, 15-18 Mar 09  
FIDIC [Intensive Course](#) (DABs), Ho Chi Minh City, 25-26 Mar 09  
FIDIC-Cornerstone [Workshop](#) (Contracts), Paris, Mar 09  
FIDIC-ECV Training [Course](#) (Contracts), Vienna, 26-27 Mar 09  
FIDIC-Cornerstone [Workshop](#) (Claims), Dubai, Apr 09  
FIDIC-Cornerstone [Workshop](#) (Contracts), Johannesburg, Jun 09  
FIDIC-ECV Training [Course](#) (Claims), Abu Dhabi, 20-21 Apr 09

## Announcements - Notices

### General Assembly decisions [\[full item: 2No\]](#)

Gregs Thomopoulos, Chairman and CEO, Stanley Consultants, USA, was elected as FIDIC President-Elect at the FIDIC 2008 General Assembly Meeting held during the FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference. Andreas Gobiet (see photo), Gobiet and Partner, Austria, was elected to the FIDIC Executive Committee and John Boyd, FIDIC President, who chaired the meeting announced that Adam Thornton, Dunning Thornton Consultants, New Zealand, had been appointed as the FIDIC Treasurer to replace Flemming Bligaard Pedersen, Denmark, whose term of office on the Executive Committee had ended. The FIDIC President reported a surplus of 298 kSFR for 2007 and an increase in the budget from a forecast 2460 kSFR in 2008 to 2580 kSFR for 2009. The surplus came from record sales for the FIDIC Bookshop and a significant increase in income from licences and training events that could not be offset by a planned investment in republished documents owing to a shortage of staff. Seoul, Korea, was approved as the venue for the FIDIC 2012 conference, with KENCA-Korea as the host association.



**Executive Committee decisions** [full item: 3No]

The FIDIC 2008 General Assembly approved recommendations by the Executive Committee to accept applications from Ukraine and Uzbekistan as Associate Members, the new membership category agreed in 2007 that allowed recognition of, and support for, fledgling organisations seeking to develop a consulting engineering industry in their countries. It was also agreed that Albania would remain in membership as an Associate. Five new Affiliate Members were acknowledged: Les Contracteurs (France); Implenla (Switzerland) ; Robert McLean (Canada); Dr Siddiqui (UAE); Saba Engineering (Ethiopia).

Meeting immediately before the FIDIC 2008 Quebec Conference, the Executive Committee agreed to keep unchanged the Unit Fee used to calculate Member Association membership fees, but to apply a 10% increase in staff numbers for non-reporting. It was also agreed to launch a programme to support the development of training materials and the training of national trainers so that selected Member Associations would be able to supply trainers for FIDIC's International Training Programme. The trainers would also act as the bridge to national training programmes so that standards can be maintained.

Other Executive decisions concerned setting up a communications oversight group charged with developing communications messages and a Subscriptions Task Force chaired by the new FIDIC Treasurer, Adam Thornton, to review the basis for Member Association subscriptions and voting rights.

**Members** [full item: 1No]

Executive Committee, Kampala, 21-22 Jan 09  
Adjudicators Assessment [Workshop](#) applications, UK, Apr 2008 (venue changed)  
2009 YP Management Training Programme [PDF](#)  
MA Letters 11/08: Annual Survey [PDF](#)  
MA Letters 12/08: 2009 GAM Minutes [PDF](#)



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