



CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

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Around the Task Groups and Working Commissions

W113 - Law and Dispute Resolution

W113 Study Group Report

In addition to the separately constituted CIB Task Groups (TG67 - Statutory Adjudication in Construction, TG68 - Construction Mediation, TG69 - Green Buildings and the Law) CIB Working Commission W113 supports the work of two law-related study groups hosted by the University of Hong Kong's Centre for Infrastructure and Construction Industry Development (CICID) led by Professor Mohan Kumaraswamy. Each of these has generated an impressive level of industry-relevant scholarship over the last two years and continues to publish and to hold high level meetings in their respective areas of specialism.



Professor Mohan Kumaraswamy and W113 Coordinator Paul Chynoweth at a recent meeting of the 'LARC' and 'COPA' study groups, University of Hong Kong, December 2009.

The 'LARC' (Legal Aspects of Relational Contracting) study group is jointly coordinated by Professor Kumaraswamy and Jim Mason of the University of the West of England, UK. Its work on the legal aspects of partnering and related issues is ongoing. This has included a public seminar, delivered by Jim Mason on the promotion of ethical improvements in the construction industry by the use of a single professional code and the publication of conference and journal articles by the joint coordinators and

colleagues at the University of Hong Kong. Professor Kumaraswamy also recently served as a member of the Task Force of the Hong Kong Construction Industry Council responsible for developing guidelines on contractual partnering.



Jim Mason's public lecture on the prospects for a single construction industry professional code, promoted by the LARC study group, University of Hong Kong, May 2008.

The 'COPA' study group is concerned with the enforcement of payment provisions in construction contracts and the related question of adjudication. It has been undertaking a comparative study of relevant provisions and practice in Singapore, Hong Kong and Mainland China.



Dr Philip Chan of the National University of Singapore delivers the CICID-sponsored public lecture on the management of payment disputes, University of Hong Kong, June 2009.

The group is jointly coordinated by Dr Philip Chan of National University of Singapore and Gary Soo, Secretary General of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre. Recent outputs have included a research report to the Chinese Ministry of Construction and conference and journal articles on payment problems, security of payment issues and statutory adjudication by Wu Jin, Teresa Cheng, Professor Kumaraswamy and the joint coordinators. Dr Philip Chan has also delivered a public seminar to CICID on the management of payment disputes and an invited talk to the Hong Kong Construction Association Conference on security of payment issues. Dr Chan's book, *Statutory Adjudication in Singapore – the Act, the standard forms and the determinations* was also published by Sweet and Maxwell in December 2008.