

CIDA - Future Initiatives

In addition to the catalogue of items launched on 3 March 1993, the Construction Industry Development Agency' (CIDA) has a full schedule of seminars and products due for release in the first half of 1993.

National Conference, Sydney 3-4 May 1993

CIDA is implementing far reaching changes in the way projects are initiated, tendered, designed and built.

How will these changes affect you?

The National Conference is your opportunity to hear from the industry leaders involved in the CIDA process and to influence the development of these significant changes.

'Code of Practice' to Measure Performance

CIDA is developing a Performance Measurement 'Code of Practice' which includes:

- a new objective system for clients to measure the current performance and track-record of contractors and subcontractors. This will replace existing, imprecise pre-tender registration systems; and,
- benchmarking guidelines to allow firms to compare their performance with that of others in the industry.

Determinants of Export Success

CIDA's Action Team and consultants are working to provide answers to questions such as what makes some firms successful exporters and others not, and to offer 'How To' help on successful exporting.

The Team's Export Strategy will be submitted to Cabinet for approval after March 1993. The 'Determinants of Export Success' findings will be published in May 1993, and explained in seminars in capital cities in May and June 1993.

Research and Development

CIDA will conduct a series of seminars in May, in conjunction with the Department of Industry Technology and Commerce, to show industry how they can benefit from R&D. The seminars will address:

- what incentives are available to the industry to invest in R&D;
- how industry can take advantage of these incentives; and
- the importance of R&D as an indicator of performance.

Security of Payment

CIDA is measuring the scope of current insolvencies

and bad debt in the construction industry and investigating new processes, eg. surety bonds which will ensure that people are paid for their work.

Partnering

Partnering is an American concept which is relatively new in Australia. CIDA is aiding its implementation by some major clients and generally monitoring its success in Australia.

The Contractual Relationship

CIDA recognises that the construction industry is over-served with 'standard' contracts which do not utilise modern information technology to reduce their complexity and enhance 'user-friendliness'. By the end of 1993, CIDA expects to have recommended a new approach.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Serious attention is being paid to equal employment opportunity by CIDA, particularly the issue of male domination of the construction industry and the problem of literacy amongst the high proportion of workers from non-English speaking backgrounds.

Restrictive Practices

An 'audit' into the major restrictive practices, which retarded productivity and caused serious cost overruns in the 1980s, has been commissioned by CIDA. This audit will identify on a State by State basis:

- the incidence of restrictive practices;
- their frequency; and,
- any proposals to reduce or eliminate these practices.

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