



News release

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CEEQUAL launches international project assessment tool

CEEQUAL, the assessment and awards scheme for improving sustainability in civil engineering and public realm projects, has today announced the launch of CEEQUAL International, a scheme specifically created for the assessment of projects outside the UK and Ireland.

CEEQUAL rigorously assesses performance across 12 areas of environmental and social concern, including project management, community relations, ecology and biodiversity, energy and carbon, water, waste and transport issues and related sustainability factors.

With CEEQUAL's UK Scheme already used on more than £16 billion worth of projects in the UK, the CEEQUAL Management Team has recently been helping to develop similar schemes in the USA and Australia.

The launch of the new International Scheme will enable assessment of projects wherever there is demand. Existing users with international operations have expressed particular interest in using it in the Gulf States, Eastern Europe and South East Asia, where clients, contractors and consultants are increasingly seeking proven independent assessment techniques to help demonstrate improved sustainability performance.

Roger Venables, Chief Executive of CEEQUAL, said:

"CEEQUAL International was created in response to a desire by UK users with international interests to use the CEEQUAL assessment methodology and its beneficial influence on performance in their projects outside the UK. Through the commitment of many experts working for the benefit of the industry, the resulting Assessment Manual for International Projects is applicable anywhere in the world. As with the extensive use of the UK scheme, its use will reflect commitment to high environmental and social standards and will yield improvements to projects.

"Using CEEQUAL International can clearly demonstrate a serious commitment to the sustainability agenda in every country in which an organisation operates. It not only improves best practice within each project, it also enhances team spirit as a whole by developing a positive attitude towards the environment."

Tim Broyd, Group Technology and Innovation Director at Halcrow, says:

"Since its launch a few years ago, CEEQUAL has become recognised as the pre-eminent UK technique for assessing the environmental worth of civil infrastructure. The introduction of an International scheme will allow us to deliver the benefits that CEEQUAL brings to add value to our clients around the world."

Emma Clark, Senior Consultant at AECOM, has been piloting CEEQUAL International on a variety of overseas projects. She says:

CEEQUAL – The assessment & awards scheme for improving sustainability in civil engineering & the public realm

Scheme & Company Administration:

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“CEEQUAL is a unique tool which will now provide an opportunity for sustainable credentials to not only be measured but also rewarded, on a global basis. As an active UK CEEQUAL assessor with international colleagues, this is an exciting time for the infrastructure industry.”

Based on the same principles as its UK counterpart, CEEQUAL International is a self-assessment and evidence-based process carried out by a trained CEEQUAL Assessor – usually a member of the project team.

Once the self-assessment has been completed, a CEEQUAL-appointed independent verifier reviews the project and relevant evidence before making recommendations to CEEQUAL. Following ratification, the award is then confirmed.

In the UK Scheme, the sections and question scores are weighted to reflect their overall contribution to project performance. With CEEQUAL International, blanket use of the UK weightings would be inappropriate because of differences in physical environmental conditions and/or culture. So a project team using CEEQUAL International needs to undertake a weighting exercise specific to the local area of the project. The Assessor also needs to take into consideration the local regulations and practice of each country.

For more information about CEEQUAL International, visit www.ceequal.com/international.htm. For a discussion about how CEEQUAL International could be applied to your projects, please email Roger Venables in the first instance at roger.venables@ceequal.com or call +44 (0)20 3137 2379.

Ends

Issued on behalf of CEEQUAL by Liz Male Consulting Ltd.

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Notes

1. CEEQUAL was originally developed by a team led by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and part-funded by the ICE Research and Development Enabling Fund and the UK Government.
2. Since the Scheme's launch in late 2003, more than 70 final and more than 40 interim CEEQUAL Awards have been made to a very wide range of civil engineering and public realm projects. Almost all projects that have received an Award are listed on the CEEQUAL website.
3. CEEQUAL measures how far beyond minimum legal compliance towards pinnacle best practice the project team has performed. There are four grades to the Awards: Pass, Good, Very Good and Excellent.
4. The Scheme is run through CEEQUAL Ltd, owned by a group of organisations that were actively involved in the development of the Scheme, including the ICE, the Association for Consultancy and Engineering, the Civil Engineering Contractors' Association and the Chartered Institution of Water and Environment Management.
www.ceequal.com

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