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# BUILDER

MAGAZINE

ISSUE 02 (26) | FEBRUARY 2018 ISSN 2397-1363

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Ladder



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BUILDER MAGAZINE

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FROM EDITOR

Dear Readers

Welcome to the February edition. In the beginning, I would like to encourage all our readers to register on our website [www.ibb.uk](http://www.ibb.uk) to receive our weekly newsletters with special offers and relevant news. Soon we will issue our products catalogue which our subscribers will receive via email.

Coming back to this edition, the collapse of Carillion, the UK's 2nd biggest construction contractor, hit the news in January and caused a lot of uncertainty. Deadlines of the significant UK's construction projects have been thrown into doubt. Its liquidation was followed with the assurances from the government about the funding to cover for existing projects. However, in the longer term, there are uncertainties about uncompleted works, unpaid suppliers, jobs, pensions etc. In this edition, you can read the advice for subcontractors who found themselves in this or similar situation. Read about Carillion's collapse and what to do if you were one of Carillion's ex-workers or apprentices.

Moving forward new regulations are coming in this year. Some has been already implemented like EcoDesign Directive. Other, for instance, Boiler Plus changes to Part L Building Regulations will be enforced from April 2018. Read what it means for you as a builder or contractor and your customers. Moreover, in our builder education regular, you will find an informative content on Second Generation Smart Meters that from January 2018 is the essential upgrade in the heating system.

Also, read about modular housing which is currently taken as a measure to boost the house building and provide the better-built environment. Have you ever constructed prefabricated buildings? If yes, we would like to hear from you. Contact us [mrosol@ibb.pl](mailto:mrosol@ibb.pl) and tell us your story.



In the materials comparison section, you will find the informative guide to ladders' selection. Every builder needs a ladder but how to select one that will be useful for various tasks? Find answers in "Choose the right ladder" article.

For those of you who plan the soundproofing works, there is the informative content about the acoustic performance of partition walls. What insulation material should be used to decrease noise levels? Read about the requirements of Building Regulations and check the cost calculation prepared with IBB Estimator online tool. We recommend our youtube IBB TV channel for practical video advice on technologies and products.

In my final words here, I would like to encourage all our readers to join us in supporting volleyball. Read about the latest achievements of IBB Polonia London VC. Home matches are now broadcasted live, and thousands of viewers from the UK watch it every month. The club offers excellent advertising opportunities during events. Support sport and become recognised with IBB Polonia London VC.

We hope you will find this issue informative. Enjoy reading.

*Magdalena Rosół*  
Editor

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# New free guide to become a plumber

**Logic4training, the UK's leading building services training provider, has launched new free guide to starting and developing a career as a plumber.**

This guide advise on what training is required, the common routes to success and what qualifications plumber needs. It is step by step guidance on the career progression as a plumber. It has been designed to help school leavers and career changers find out what it takes to become a plumber.

This guide looks at various routes that are available depending on where are you now at the moment- college leaver or career changer, whatever the age. It presents the opportunities

for skills development like apprenticeships or the part time college courses.

The guide starts out with a summary of the varied work a plumber tackles day-to-day. It's not just installing taps and bathrooms; there are heating and drainage systems to plan and install, appliances to repair and water routing and sanitation systems to sort out.

The guide includes:

1. What to Expect from the Job
2. Are There Any Risks?
3. Where to Start
4. Qualifications You'll Need and How to Get Them
5. Apprenticeships
6. Other Courses to Take
7. Progressing in Your Career

Mark Krull, director of Logic4training, said: "We're delighted to launch this new guide, which will hopefully go some way to encouraging youngsters and experienced workers alike to explore career opportunities in this rewarding sector.

"The Ultimate Guide to Plumbing Careers joins our suite of guides, including advice on becoming an electrician and gas installer, plus general business guides for SMEs looking to expand and develop. Logic4training is committed to going beyond the classroom when it comes to helping our customers and the industry at large succeed."

The free guide is available to download from Logic4training website: <https://www.logic4training.co.uk/guides/logic4training-guides-the-ultimate-guide-to-plumbing-careers/>

(Source: Logic4training)



# Don't Cut Corners with Gas

**Gas Safe Register has launched a brand new awareness campaign reminding people not to 'cut corners' when it comes to gas safety and check the Register to ensure they use a legally qualified engineer for all gas work.**

The campaign is attracting through the distinctive Gas Safe yellow and black colours and brand. It has been already active across social media and other channels like digital marketing, advertising billboards and radio adverts on selected stations. The radio and YouTube adverts are aimed at householders to emphasise that it is their responsibility to ensure that their gas appliances are working safely and efficiently by only using a Gas Safe registered engineer.

Jonathan Samuel, chief executive at Gas Safe Register, said: "With so many things to juggle in this day and age it's understandable that some peo-

ple look for quick and easy solutions, but when it comes to gas safety our message is clear – you cannot cut corners. Our new campaign highlights Gas Safe Register as the trusted source to find a qualified and legal gas engineer to work on gas appliances to make sure they're working safely and efficiently."

By employing only Gas Safe Register's engineers homeowners are protecting themselves from badly installed, fixed or incorrectly serviced gas appliances that can cause carbon monoxide poisoning, gas leaks, fires and explosions.

Customers can check if the business is on the register by calling the helpline on 08004085500 or texting 85080 (Text GAS + Business registration number). To check if an engineer is currently Gas Safe registered you will need their unique 7-digit licence number which is on their Gas Safe ID card. Cards are valid for a year and each new card will have a different licence number. Gas engineers will often have a range of qualifications that allow them to carry out specific types of gas work. It's important to check what work they are qualified to do.

**BE PROUD TO SHOW YOUR GAS SAFE REGISTER ID CARD.**

If you are a Gas Safe Registered engineer, remind your customers to:

- Only use a Gas Safe registered engineer to fit, fix or service their appliances
- Get their gas appliances regularly serviced and safety checked every year
- Fit an audible carbon monoxide alarm
- Check for warning signs such as lazy yellow flames or black marks or stains around the appliance.
- Know the six main signs and symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning – headaches, dizziness, nausea, breathlessness, collapse and loss of consciousness.

To register as Gas Safety Engineer or to learn more about Gas Safe Register's plans for the campaign visit the Gas Safe Register.

(Source: Gas Safe Register)





# Carillion's collapse

**The beginning of the year for the construction industry in the UK has started with the collapse of the construction giant Carillion. This affected workers and businesses that were in Carillion's supply chain. Carillion went into liquidation. Compulsory liquidation is when a company is ordered by a court to be wound up, for example, on the petition of a creditor or creditors because the company cannot pay its debts.**

The Official Receiver has been appointed Liquidator of Carillion Plc and certain other companies in the group. The Official Receiver is seeking to maintain operational continuity and is continuing to trade these businesses. Special Managers from PwC have been appointed by the High Court to help manage the affairs, business and property of the companies. The Special Managers from PwC act as agents of the companies, without personal liability.

Carillion held approximately 450 contracts with the government, representing 38% of Carillion's 2016 reported revenue. Key central government contracts are with DfE, DHSC, MoJ, MoD, and DfT. The government declared it would continue to deliver all public sector services following the insolvency of Carillion PLC.

The Government declared it would provide the

necessary funding required by the Official Receiver to maintain public services. Those already receiving their pensions will continue to receive payment. A website was launched for all concerned about their situation after Carillion's collapse.

Kier, one of the construction well-known leaders, had joint ventures with Carillion Plc. Amongst projects, there is HS2 where Kier and Eiffage are now 50/50 joint venture partners delivering two of the seven civil engineering packages, lots C2 and C3. All 51 Carillion employees, including apprentices, working on the CEK HS2 joint venture have been offered the opportunity to join Kier/Eiffage with continuous service being maintained.

At Highways England, Kier has assumed full responsibility for the smart motorway schemes on which they had been working in joint venture with

Carillion. All employees currently working on the schemes have been offered the opportunity to join Kier. Approximately 150 employees will be making this transition to Kier in the next week including seven apprentices. Communication with the existing supply chain on this project has also taken place ensuring continuity of skills, resources and suppliers on these projects.

Commenting Haydn Mursell, Chief Executive, Kier said: "We have been working collaboratively with our clients and are pleased to have reached agreement with Government. We have been able to take action quickly and reassure the project teams that they continue to play an important role in the delivery of these contracts."

Transport Secretary Chris Grayling said: "This announcement demonstrates the strength and purpose of the joint venture contracts agreed on HS2

works and the smart motorways programme. These have enabled Kier and Eiffage to step in as planned and guarantee continued employment, apprenticeships and the seamless delivery of these vital projects." "HS2 and Highways England carried out at the point of award, additional due diligence to ensure, even without Carillion, these projects would continue. Both Highways England and HS2 will, of course, continue to monitor the situation."

Mark Thurston, Chief Executive of HS2 Ltd said: "We welcome this decision by the remaining JV partners. Through this difficult time the team has continued to deliver and we're grateful for their ongoing hard work and dedication. No time delays or costs implication have come about as a result of the events of this week, underlining the strength of the joint venture approach taken by HS2 in procuring its partners."

The Rt Hon David Lidington CBE MP said: It is regrettable that Carillion has not been able to find suitable financing options with its lenders but taxpayers cannot be expected to bail out a private sector company. We understand that some members of the public will be concerned by recent news reports. For clarity – All employees should keep coming to work, you will continue to get paid. Staff that are engaged on public sector contracts still have important work to do."

Anyone worried about their pension situation can ring The Pension Advisory Service (TPAS) on 0300 123 1047 for free and impartial guidance. TPAS has also set up a special helpline number for members of these pension schemes: 020 7630 2715. JobCentre Plus, through its Rapid Response Service, stands ready to support any employee affected by this announcement.

Source: Carillion

# The Ecodesign Directive to extend Energy labelling directive (ELD)

**The Ecodesign Directive defines minimum requirements for energy-related products and is now incorporated into UK law under the Energy Related Products Regulations 2010 SI 2010 No. 2617. The specific regulation came into law on 1 January 2018.**

The Ecodesign of Energy-Related Products Directive (ErP) is a European framework put in place to help the European Union (EU) achieve its 20-20-20 target:

- Deliver 20% energy efficiency improvement by 2020
- Lower carbon (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission by 20% by 2020

- Increase the share of renewables by 20% by 2020

The current Ecodesign Directive is upgraded version of policy dealing with energy using products (EuP) and was extended to include energy-related products (ErP) in 2009.

The aim of the Ecodesign Directive is to improve the design, eliminate the worst performing products from the market and promote solutions with the least life-cycle costs.

The Energy Labelling Directive requires that appliances be labelled to show their power consumption in such a manner that it is possible to compare the efficiency with that of other makes and models.

All appliances must:

- display a standard energy label
- display a specified performance data

be supported by technical documentation  
The energy label is standard across the EU and must include:

- the model number of the product and name of its manufacturer
- the amount of energy it uses in a year, calculated in kWh / annum
- specific data according to its type, in pictogram format
- its energy efficiency class, from best to worst, depending on the relevant scale for the product, with corresponding colour-coded arrows

More information here: [www.direct.gov.uk/energylabel](http://www.direct.gov.uk/energylabel)

(Source: GOV.UK)



# Industry's help for Carillion's former apprentices

**The Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) is calling on all apprentices from Carillion's projects to get in contact so it can help them continue their training. Moreover, employers are welcome to step in with offers for training.**

CITB has ensured funding with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to continue the support for the training for Carillion apprentices on the week following the company's liquidation. It has attempted contact with the 1400 apprentices, and hundreds have already been booked in for events being held across the country. CITB is offering every former Carillion apprentice a face-to-face session with CITB Apprenticeships to find out their individual learning needs. Many more need to be contacted so they can take up the career lifeline CITB is offering them through its offer of support.

The Carillion apprentices were primarily in bricklaying and carpentry and joinery – skills that the country vitally needs to build homes and solve our housing shortage. For this reason, CITB is also calling on construction employers – particularly homebuilders, as many of the skills are applicable and in demand for that sector – to rally round and take on the former Carillion apprentices.

A hotline has been set up for both former Carillion apprentices to get in touch, and for construction employers who are interested in helping them. The phone number is: 0344 994 4010 and there is also an email [carillion.apprenticeshipsupport@citb.co.uk](mailto:carillion.apprenticeshipsupport@citb.co.uk) for people to contact CITB's dedicated support team.

The apprentices were being trained in Carillion centres through England and Scotland, with some of the bigger centres based in Birmingham, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, Sunderland, Sittingbourne and Southampton.

CITB hopes to start placing the first apprentices with new employers asap as the construc-

tion sector looks to recover from the collapse of its second biggest firm.

Sarah Beale, Chief Executive of the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), said: "We understand it's a very worrying time for the young people who were on the Carillion apprenticeship programme, but we can help them restart their training and get their careers back on track if they get in touch with us. Our industry needs the skills these young people are developing and we want to help them find new employers and get their qualifications. "Our industry, which has consistently reported skill shortages and difficulties in attracting apprentices, now needs to step up and support these young people who have so much to offer. There is certainly no shortage of work in construction, with housebuilding and infrastructure particularly strong, so these young people can have great careers despite this setback. "At CITB, we are committed to doing everything we can to help the former Carillion apprentices, and hope to see many of them restarting their careers very soon."

(Source: CITB)



# New computer programme for increasing building site productivity

**A new system for increasing productivity during construction projects has been created by an academic at Northumbria University, Newcastle. It has a great potential for construction companies to cut costs and reduce build time.**

Using innovative mathematical modelling, Dr Laura Florez, an academic at Northumbria University, Newcastle, has created a computer model for labour allocation. It ensures construction workers are allocated more efficiently on a building site by taking into account indicators like workers' skills, experience and personalities, conditions on site and the current stage of the build.

This user-friendly computer program has been tested using data from a large residential building, comparing the traditional allocation techniques used by the site manager with that proposed by the model. The results showed that by using the model, it is possible to achieve a reduction in the time taken to complete the project.

Dr Florez told about her research: "As anyone in

the construction industry knows, the configuration of gangs constantly changes and the site manager is responsible for scheduling and allocating gangs to balance between the complexity of the job and the need for quality and high production rates. My model takes into consideration characteristics of masons and site conditions in order to determine the right gang to build the right wall in order to increase productivity. With this computer programme, site managers are not only able to identify working patterns for each of the masons but also optimal gang formation, completion times, and labour costs."

The importance of the proper work scheduling and planning workforce is known to every construction business. The diversity of workers and the dynamics of the building site require to base the model

on multi-objective optimisation, genetic algorithms, dynamic programming and ranking methods.

Dr Florez said: "A proper allocation model would have to consider the characteristics of masons and how to relate these characteristics and site conditions to select the right gang for the right wall considering the project constraints, for example the availability of workers and precedence relations between tasks and budget, to ensure minimum time and increased productivity."

Dr Florez is now looking for construction companies and contractors to work with to test and develop her model further for masonry construction and other construction trades. To find out more, please contact Dr Florez by emailing [laura.florez@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:laura.florez@northumbria.ac.uk) or call 0191 227 3306.



# 20% Increase in planning fees in England

**The new regulations came into effect last month allowing local planning authorities in England to increase planning fees by 20%. It is the first planning fee increase for five years. The increase in planning fees should allow local authorities to spend more funds on improving planning services.**

There is the increase from the previous application rate for the new dwelling of £385.00 to £462.00, a householder planning application increased from £172.00 to £206.00, prior approval applications went up from £80.00 to £96.00.

The online Planning Portal has published the updated planning fee schedule for England. According to the update those who have already uploaded draft applications on the system will have to amend documents to recalculate new applications fees. Moreover, in such scenario re-submission fees might apply.

The Government is preparing the detailed plan-

ning guidance on Permission in Principle (PiP) for minor housing-led developments. The regulations on PiP will apply from 1st June 2018, and there is new outline planning route with the confirmed a fee of £402 per 0.1 hectares. Until the end of 2017, local authorities were required to publish brownfield land registers of sites suitable for housing.

Also, the government has introduced planning fees for new policies. Since now, local authorities will be allowed to charge for applications for planning permission where the removal of permitted development rights has been withdrawn, for instance through Article 4 directions. Also, there is now a

£96 fee for prior approval applications for certain permitted development rights like the installation of solar PV equipment on non-domestic buildings, the erection of click-and-collect facilities within the land area of a shop and the provision of temporary school buildings on vacant commercial land for state-funded schools.

Will the fee increase put people off from the investment? We are waiting for your opinion. Get in touch with us on Facebook or via email.

The comprehensive guidance on fees is available here: [https://ecab.planningportal.co.uk/uploads/english\\_application\\_fees.pdf](https://ecab.planningportal.co.uk/uploads/english_application_fees.pdf)

# Boiler Plus

Changes to Part L of the Building Regulations from April 2018



**The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), announced Boiler Plus, new legislation within the Building Regulations framework which sets out mandatory requirements to improve the energy efficiency of domestic heating systems. Boiler Plus will give consumers more choice over the way they heat their homes and more control over their energy bills. New standards will be written into the government's Domestic Compliance Guide.**

Boiler Plus is designed to help the Government meet the EU's 2020 lower emission targets. It will help to phase out inefficient boilers and reduce the carbon emissions. Boiler Plus legislation forms part of a broader plan known as the Government's Clean Growth Strategy.

The new regulation requires manufacturers and installers to meet higher standards as it sets out a new minimum performance standard for domestic gas boilers fitted in England and from April 2018, all such appliances will need to run at a minimum ErP of 92%. Less efficient boilers will be phased out.

All new combi boilers will be designed to run more efficiently with temperature and timing controls and systems that will have to include one of the following:

- Flue gas heating recovery systems
- Weather Compensation
- Load Compensation
- Smart Controls featuring automation and optimisation

Time and temperature control will be required for all gas and oil boiler installations.

Energy Saving Trust advises that turning down your thermostat by just 1°C can save households £80 to £90 a year.

Flue gas heat recovery systems (FGHRS) recovers heat from waste flue gases to preheat the cold water entering the boiler, and thus lowering the amount of energy needed to warm the water up to the required level.

*Weather Compensation* is a device that communicates between the boiler and an outside temperature sensor to alter the flow temperature in relation to the weather outside, leading to fuel saving and a consistent environment

*Load Compensation* allows boiler to varies temperature accordingly by measuring the response of the heating system and controlling the flow temperature depending on the required load what can reduce fuel consumption.

Smart Controls featuring automation and optimisation are becoming more and more popular. Installations of smart thermostats will also comply with Boiler Plus, provided they offer both automation and optimisation. Smart thermostats will not be obligatory as this kind of products do not appeal to everyone. This innovative technology allows consumers greater control over their heating system by remote control of their home temperature via a tablet, smartphone or other device.

Installers will be required to fit new boilers in line with the Boiler Plus legislation from 6th April 2018. In case of the non-compliance Building Control can prosecute and fines of up to £5,000 could be applied. The Gas Safe Register can also refer safety concerns to the HSE (Health and Safety Executive). Moreover, if the consumer will receive an invoice for non-compliant work, it may be taken as fraudulent to Trading Standards.

The Heating and Hot Water Industry Council (HHIC) is publishing a series of guidance to help installers and consumers in their choice of a measure which will ensure higher levels of both domestic energy efficiency and thermal comfort. The first guide to weather compensation is already available here [www.hhic.org.uk/uploads/5A5F2F2C7D545.pdf](http://www.hhic.org.uk/uploads/5A5F2F2C7D545.pdf).

Speaking about the guide, Martyn Bridges - Director of Marketing and Technical Support at Worcester Bosch Group and chair of HHIC Boiler Technical Panel, said:

"With the advent of the Boiler + standards, entering into force in April 2018, we know that many installers will be keen to learn more about the four technologies eligible for installation with a replacement gas combination boiler, at least one of which must be specified and fitted alongside the boiler. Through discussion at HHIC meetings, and whilst the policy was at a formative stage, we identified that there was a need to provide a simple and effective way to assist in educating and supporting installers less familiar with the concepts, principles and installation considerations for weather compensation. We decided that an industry factsheet would be the best approach, helping installers grasp the key points, and instilling them with the confidence to undertake more focused training if necessary. DBEIS have placed great emphasis on the importance of installer skills and competence to the success of Boiler +, not least through the correct specification and installation of control options based on property, consumer and system considerations. This document can only help aid the UK installer in their transition to working more frequently with weather compensating controls, particularly as it has been developed in consultation with appliance manufacturers, installation businesses, training providers and other leading industry representatives."

More information can be found here: [www.planningportal.co.uk/info/200135/approved\\_documents/74/part\\_l\\_-\\_conservation\\_of\\_fuel\\_and\\_power/5](http://www.planningportal.co.uk/info/200135/approved_documents/74/part_l_-_conservation_of_fuel_and_power/5)

(Source: HHIC)





# Carillion

# Liquidation

## Advice for Subcontractors

**Last month, the UK construction sector was impacted by the insolvency of the construction giant Carillion. On the 15th January 2018, Carillion went into liquidation what had affected the subcontractors and SMEs working for the company. Over 1.5bn debt left by Carillion put 30,000 suppliers into the risk of the domino effect. These businesses that were insured against bad debts might recover some or full amounts due. Insurers have already said they will pay more than 30 mln to companies owed money by collapsed construction giant. However, most of Carillion's suppliers risk getting little or nothing back, as only a minority of firms had such insurance covers.**

Experts from Streetwisesubbie have published 6-page advice paper setting out some useful information for Subcontractors who have been involved either directly or indirectly with Carillion.

Here is the brief analysis of the situation many of construction businesses are facing right now. The Streetwisesubbie's guide can be downloaded [streetwisesubbie.com](http://streetwisesubbie.com).

### How Carillion's liquidation can affect your business?

Carillion Plc and five of its subsidiaries were placed into liquidation by order of the Court on 15 January 2018. At the same time, the Court appointed the Official Receiver to be the liquidator and who is in charge of the company's affairs. PwC is appointed as special managers and assists in the process.

The Carillion companies in liquidation are: Carillion plc, Carillion Construction Limited, Carillion Services Limited, Planned Maintenance Engineering

Limited, Carillion Integrated Services Limited, Carillion Services 2006 Limited.

Carillion's compulsory liquidation suggests that there's are no assets of any value, so in the current scenario, it is unlikely that the unsecured creditors, will receive any payment due. PwC confirms on their webpage that there is low likelihood that any money owed for goods and services provided before Carillion went into liquidation will be paid in full. Moreover, it is essential to submit a claim in the liquidation to be taken into consideration. PwC advised that all subcontractors and suppliers should continue to work and provide goods and services under existing contracts. The Liquidator and the Special Managers will inform if the contract will have to be terminated. The Special Managers are seeking to work with the employer for each site, with subcontractors and the Company's staff on a site to determine the way forward for each site.

If you are in the direct contract with any of Carillion companies that are in Liquidation your business might be severely impacted. Streetwisesubbies recommend to take the following situations into consideration:

- If the project is being run as a joint venture between Carillion and another non-Carillion company it is important that you check your position in the contract and what the terms of the contract provide for in this situation. The project may or may not continue and you may or may not be paid for work done prior to the date of liquidation.
- For work done before 15 January 2018 (the date of liquidation), any amounts owing to you for that period will probably be an unsecured claim and it is very unlikely you will be paid, unless you have something with which to negotiate (contact Streetwisesubbies for advice).
- If you are in a contract with a non-Carillion company on a Carillion project, your entitlement to be paid will depend on the terms of the contract. If the contract contains a provision allowing them not to pay you in the event of Carillion's liquidation, then you will not be paid. If it does not contain such a term, you should still be paid, but in practical terms if companies above you in the

chain are not being paid this may affect their ability to pay you, even though they remain liable to do so.

- If you are providing an essential service/works which the liquidator needs immediately to keep a project going (and which he cannot easily obtain elsewhere), you may be in a position to negotiate payment of part or all of your arrears by the liquidator (call Streetwisesubbies helpline for details).
- If you have entered into a collateral warranty, a beneficiary may exercise its contractual right to step into your contract in place of Carillion, and that may be on terms that arrears prior to 15 January 2018 (or part of them) are paid.
- Before carrying out any future works you must be absolutely certain as to the terms on which you are doing so. In particular you must have the express instructions of the liquidator (who will likely be acting through PwC), in order to be paid for any works for a Carillion company after 15 January 2018 (the date of liquidation). You will not be paid for works carried out without proper authority.
- Depending on the terms of the contract it may have already been terminated, and/or you may wish to terminate it (call Streetwisesubbies helpline for details).

### How to claim back materials and tools left on sites?

In the first instance, contact should be made with PwC through their website ([pwc.co.uk/carillion](http://pwc.co.uk/carillion)) where you can find the dedicated emails to get further information.

Streetwisesubbies advise that materials delivered to site and not yet incorporated in the works may be recoverable if subject to valid retention of title provision in a contract, or if the title has not passed to Carillion or the Employer.

A questionnaire with relevant supporting documents to evidence the entitlement to any goods will have to be submitted. You will also be required to attend site to identify your goods when requested. Details about how this process works, the forms



required and the supporting documentation needed will be available on the Insolvency Services website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/insolvency-service>.

It may be that title in materials passed when they were delivered to the site or included in valuation even if you have not been paid.

Equipment/tools if owned, hired or leased by you may be claimed back, and PwC should be notified as soon as possible, with evidence of your ownership, copies of hire or lease agreements, and you should identify the location of the asset with a full description and photographs if you have them.

To claim materials, equipment or tools on a site to which you do not have access, you should email PwC at the following email address: [sharedservices.carillion@uk.pwc.com](mailto:sharedservices.carillion@uk.pwc.com) The legal status of materials on site is quite complex and we suggest that you take professional advice as soon as possible

(please call Streetwisesubbies helpline for details).

As an unsecured creditor of one or more of the Carillion companies in liquidation, you should register your claim with PwC. Check their website for information: [www.pwc.co.uk/carillion](http://www.pwc.co.uk/carillion).

You can also find information at the Insolvency Service guidance on making a claim on [gov.uk/government/publications/claim-money-back-from-a-bankrupt-person-or-company-in-compulsory-liquidation-guidance-for-creditors](http://gov.uk/government/publications/claim-money-back-from-a-bankrupt-person-or-company-in-compulsory-liquidation-guidance-for-creditors).

It is advised to promptly assess the impact of the Carillion liquidation on your business. Taking professional advice as soon as possible could be a cost-effective way to collect your funds quickly (please call Streetwisesubbies helpline for details).

If you are concerned about your ability to pay tax, HMRC will provide practical advice and guidance through its Business Payment Support Service: [gov.uk/government/news/practical-support-for-businesses-affected-by-carillion-liquidation](http://gov.uk/government/news/practical-support-for-businesses-affected-by-carillion-liquidation).

In the event you are considering reducing your workforce, you should take professional advice (please call Streetwisesubbies helpline for details) and/or call the free ACAS helpline <http://www.acas.org.uk>

If the impact of non-payment is such that your business cannot survive, then you should take professional advice (please call Streetwisesubbies helpline for details), before seeking advice from a licensed insolvency practitioner; [gov.uk/find-an-insolvency-practitioner](http://gov.uk/find-an-insolvency-practitioner).

Look for expert advice and support at [Streetwisesubbie.com](http://Streetwisesubbie.com). Streetwisesubbie.com offers the information on how to protect Specialist SubContractors' interests. You can support their call for a Public Inquiry into construction at Carillion Petition. Join Streetwisesubbies as a member at <http://membership.streetwisesubbie.com>

(SOURCE: [streetwisesubbie.com](http://streetwisesubbie.com))



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# Time for Second Generation Smart Meters

**Second Generation Smart Meters (SMETS2) will be installed in the UK households from this year. Smart meters are the new generation of gas and electricity meters which will replace the traditional meters. Installed by the energy supplier, they are the simple way to keep control of the energy use. These are improved edition of the first generation meters. There are three types of smart meters: two in use currently (ADM & SMETS1), and one (SMETS2) available from last April. Only the newest edition- SMETS2 meter, in conjunction with the new systems provided by Data Communication Company (DCC), will allow more options for communications, is more reliable and offer modern features.**

The smart meter rollout is an essential technology upgrade, unprecedented in its scale, to improve Great Britain's energy infrastructure. Between now and 2020, every household in England, Scotland and Wales will be offered a smart meter at no extra cost. SMETS2 aims to put an end to billing errors, eliminate the need for manual meter readings and help households reduce energy consumption.

What's the difference between SMETS1 and SMETS2 meters?

- More accurate readings - SMETS1 often shows errors
- Allow for switching suppliers - SMETS1 often were incompatible when energy supplier was changed and data couldn't be shared.
- SMETS2 meters have better connectivity - households in areas where there is poor mobile phone reception will no longer suffer the connectivity issues they had with the first generation meters.
- Lower energy bills - according to British Gas customers save an average of £30 a year by using a smart meter.



Smart meters are designed with a simple to use in-home display which shows how much gas and electricity are used and what it is costing in pounds and pence. At a glance, homeowner can see on the handheld screen whether the electricity use is high, medium or low. Seeing the energy usage allows to more accurately manage energy costs, usage and budgets. Smart meters take regular readings and share these automatically with the energy supplier. Homeowner can choose to send this information daily, weekly or even half

hourly. This means bills will be accurate, not estimated, and there will be no need to have manual meter readings.

Smart Meters can send information about the meter's environment and status as well as meter readings. This information can be used to diagnose meter faults, detect theft and security issues.

Smart meters use their own secure, wireless network using radio waves, like mobile phones or TVs. Smart meters don't use the internet to

send or receive data and an internet connection is not required. All smart meters will link to a similar wireless network outside the household. This network is run by the Data Communications Company, which is overseen by the energy regulator Ofgem. There are strict new regulations and codes of practice to keep smart meter data private, secure and safe.

To get the most out of smart meters, there are mobile apps available for even more user friendly approach towards smart meters. For

instance, mobile phones app launched by OVO displays readings, a current balance and offers comparisons with usage and costs over recent months. Moreover, smart meters will offer time-of-use tariffs and peer-to-peer energy trading, so that customers will be able to track and record their energy usage. Smart data will be used to harness household solar power, battery packs and electric vehicle charging, creating more efficient holistic energy systems.

Energy suppliers plan the installation of smart meters for their customers at various times. The eligibility depends on many different factors, such as the age of the existing meter and the type of the property. Contact the energy supplier about installing the smart meter at your property.

To become the installer of smart meters you need to undertake the training for smart metering (dual fuel). Training is led by the energy companies like SSE or EDF etc. and job opportunities are advertised on their websites or through spe-

cialists recruitment agencies. Successful candidates will be certified by their employer as competent through the Smart Meter Installation Code of Practice (SMICoP) and for power, Meter Operation Code of Practice Agreement (MOCOPA). Gas meter installers must be Gas Safe Registered, this will be organised by their employer following appropriate training.

Claire Maugham, Director of Policy and Communications at Smart Energy GB, said: "More than 8.6 million smart meters have now been installed across Great Britain, transforming the experience of buying and using gas and electricity for millions of people. Our research shows that eight in ten people who have upgraded to a smart meter would recommend them to their family and friends. Smart meters bring an end to estimated bills and show you, in pounds and pence, exactly how much gas and electricity you are using."

Source: (Smart Energy GB)





# Diversity in Construction

**The skills shortages affect the UK construction industry. Gaps need to be filled to build new homes, tackle the housing crisis and develop the homebuilding sector. The UK construction is the significant part of the whole UK economy. Simply, there are not enough homegrown workers to fulfil the Government plans and build better living environment in the UK.**

According to the Federation of Master Builders' (FMB) latest State of Trade Survey, the confidence and workloads for small builders in London took a downward turn towards the end of 2017. Con-

tractors from London often mention that they have problems to find skilled workers. Not long ago London was the first city where migrant builders used to arrive for. at the first place.

**Key results from the survey include:**

With regards to workloads, expected workloads and enquiries, the overall indicator for the performance of London's smaller building firms dropped by four percentage points in Q4 2017 compared with the previous quarter;

- Fewer construction SMEs predict rising workloads in the coming three months, down from 41% in the previous quarter to 38% in Q4 2017;
- 87% of builders believe that material prices will rise in the next six months, up from 82% in the previous quarter;
- More than two-thirds (68%) of construction SMEs are struggling to hire bricklay-

ers, and 63% are struggling to hire carpenters and joiners – the highest since records began;

- Nearly two thirds (61%) of construction SMEs expect salaries and wages to increase in the next six months.

Barry Mortimer, Director of FMB London, said: "London's SME builders start 2018 in choppy waters with uncertainty in the air. Growth is slowing, material prices are rising and it's becoming increasingly difficult for builders to find the skilled workers vital to their everyday existence. More than two thirds of construction SMEs are struggling to hire bricklayers and this has increased by nearly 10% compared with the previous quarter of the year. What's more, nearly as many are facing difficulties hiring carpenters and joiners. Indeed, these shortages are reflected in soaring wages for core trades. Anecdotally, some employers have re-

ported paying carpenters in the capital more than £70,000 a year, up from £45,000 just 18 months ago."

Mortimer concluded: "In order to meet the Mayor of London's ambitious housing targets we need a vibrant and growing SME house-building sector. Houses do not build themselves and London's building firms are particularly concerned about the growing difficulties in finding skilled workers. London is especially reliant on EU migrant workers with 70% of firms in London and the South East employing them and so as we approach Brexit, the capital's builders are right to be concerned about skill shortages. Construction is without any shadow of a doubt an industry of clear strategic importance to the economy. Without a fully charged-up construction sector, it will be impossible to meet our housing targets in London. Addressing the sector's acute skills crisis, as raised by the latest FMB State of Trade Survey, must be a priority. The Government

must take note of the worsening construction skills shortage with Brexit looming large on the horizon. London's construction sector could well grind to a halt post-Brexit unless Ministers implement a sensible, flexible immigration system."

The uncertainty connected with Brexit is not encouraging migrant construction workers to come to the UK or new entrants to start the career in this industry. The recent collapse of the construction giant Carillion left over 100 apprentices and even more workers unsure of their future. Polish builders, from whom private building sector benefited between 2005 and 2010, are no longer interested in job offers in the UK as other EU states, like Germany, provides similar job opportunities and salaries, while the cost of living there is cheaper.

If UK's ambition is to be a leader in the construction, the skilled workforce is the priority. The implementation of highly advanced technologies like drones, bricklaying robots, augmented reality tools

etc. is not enough. The investment in training and apprenticeship is vital. Nevertheless, the industry experts know well, that without migrant workforce the industry faces stagnation.

The diversity in the construction workforce is the powerful engine of the UK construction industry. There are common fears that there is not enough space for immigrants, who drains NHS and UK's resources, but on the contrary, there is never too many people to work. EU migrant workers are skilled, resilient and hard-working.

There is the variety of construction careers and jobs to choose. Not only EU migrants are highly valuable for UK construction industry but also refugees from Syria who often are skilled. Some agencies are specialised in helping refugees find placements. For instance, the council in Ashford, Kent, took on 250 Syrian refugees and local business Concept Training is helping some to improve their skills in bricklaying and carpentry.

# Modular Houses

*as a solution for housing crisis*

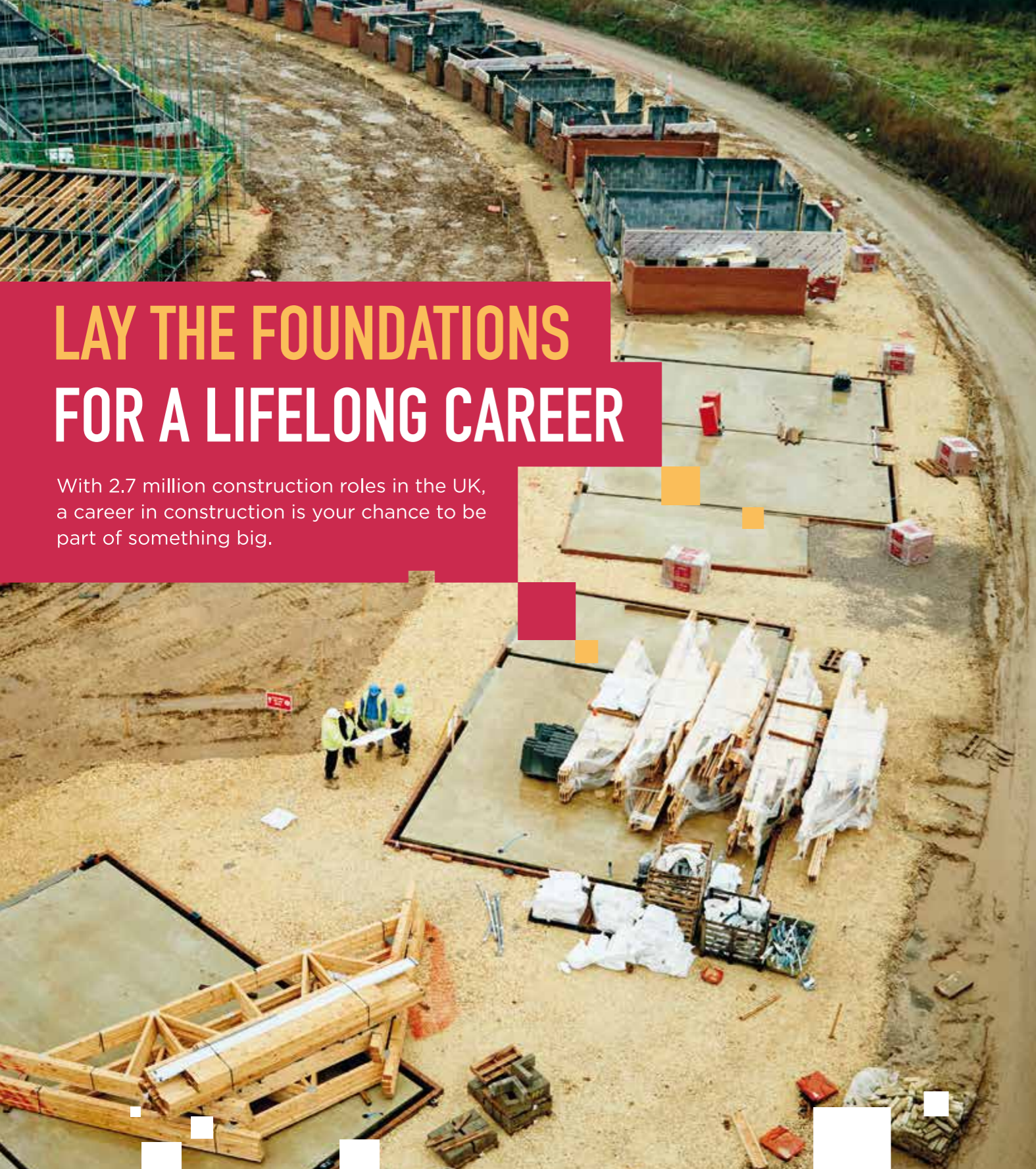
The Government aim to tackle the housing crisis requires multiple solutions. Many developers, including Premier Modular, nHouse, Berkeley Homes, Urban Splash or Legal & General Homes are offering prefab houses as the option to provide high standard new builds across the UK quickly. The modular house estate by Legal & General Homes will be raised soon in Richmond, south-west London, where the housing association has ordered prefab homes with 15% saving in comparison to on-site construction.

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Modular houses are by some thought to be of carton box quality, but as the technology improved the prefab house is the luxury building with fitted kitchen, bathroom, flooring and even furniture if required. All this is built in the automated factory where the eight production lines will be able to create around 3,500 houses and flats a year. The time required for the completion of a one-bed house is a week. The prefab homes are made

of modules, bolted together on site, with an external finish like for instance cladding installed on site too.

UK housing sector requires from the house builders to provide houses quickly and to the high quality. It is the perfect solution for young, single, urban workers earning between £20,000 and £40,000 who do not qualify for social housing or could not buy.

Modular homes are built in a much shorter timescale and that's why modular housing factories could transform the UK real estates market. The more significant volumes of offsite construction are becoming a real solution to the housing shortage.

The specialised factories can produce more housing units than in traditional construction, what drives down construction costs. Modular houses are designed to be highly energy efficient and can be fitted with solar panels and other renewable energy technologies. There is the option to upgrade to the Passive house standard if required.

Legal & General Homes have opted for Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) structures and will be able to supply any building type up to 20-storey high rise apartments. Modular houses arrive on site assembly ready, almost complete with carpets or furniture fitted and certified as a defect-free. There are various options for external facade from the brickwork or render to the cladding.

Steve Radley, director of policy at CITB, said: "Successful offsite management hinges on the effective integration of both onsite and offsite functions - and this requires a comprehensive understanding of both aspects.

The Government has also backed up the offsite construction housing strategy as the method for faster and efficient delivery of affordable homes. The successful delivery by Premier Modular of the 36,000m<sup>2</sup> buildings for Hinkley Point C has proved what advantages offer offsite construction. Moreover, last year CITB revealed plans to develop new offsite manufacturing courses.



The modular housing can revolutionise the UK house building. Mass production and the economy of scale plus the advanced manufacturing technology is the future of this industry. The key for volume modular housing to become a real solution in tackling the house building crisis in the UK is the high quality of design and finish.

#### Features of modular homes:

- Each unit of the modular house is built in the purpose-built factory and assembled on site when the foundation is ready.
- Modular homes can be easily customised. Their designs, styles, sizes varies.
- Pre-assembled components are delivered on site like precast beams, light gauge steel, floor cassettes, M&E modules, kitchen units etc. - installed on site by contractors.
- Houses are installed on site by skilled tradesmen and engineering operatives
- Construction process is run to the highest standards and exact quality standards
- The time of realisation is shorter than in the conventional building methods
- Modular house often comes with defect free certificate
- Modular homes often achieve BRE Green Guide Rating of B or above, a Code for Sustainable Housing Level 3 or above, the requirements of Life Time Homes, if required the Passivehouse standards

- Often exceeds current Building Regulation requirements
- Offers energy efficient design
- Lighter foundation requirements
- Cost certainty

According to the Lloyds Bank recent third annual housebuilding report, house-builders are keen on shifting to so-called 'modern methods of construction' to cut costs and increase profits. The survey found that 68% of firms are already investing in modular housing techniques and 56% reported investing in panel systems. The reasons why developers are looking into modular homes include improved efficiency, ease of construction process, higher standards or increased profits, better energy performance, elimination of waste and customer affordability.

#### Key report findings include:

- Housebuilders' five-year growth forecasts hold firm at an average 29% of current annual turnover
- 61% are investing in site-based modern methods of construction
- 44% say Brexit uncertainty is the most significant challenge for the industry
- 69% of housebuilding firms are investing in staff development
- Currently, it is the most difficult to recruit architects (50%), plumbers and planners (41%), bricklayers and joiners (35%) and site managers (32%).

David Cleary, regional director and national head of housebuilding, Lloyds Bank Commercial Banking, said: "The housebuilding industry remains upbeat despite issues that have weighed down the sector for some time including Brexit uncertainty which is contributing to a skills shortage and inflating the cost of raw materials.

"It is reassuring to see the sector confronting these challenges head-on by investing and planning for business growth, prioritising staff training and looking at more innovative new building techniques. This has the potential to boost productivity and, more importantly, increase the pipeline of new homes that the nation badly needs."

The modular house can be manufactured in the factory even within 20 days and erected on site within hours. British developers have already invested in the purpose-built factories to start prefabrication, and the expansion of off-site construction has already begun. It is emerging in the UK construction market as a solution to Britain's housing shortage.

# How to choose The Right Ladder

**Winter is a specific season for builders. During winter months, if weather conditions are severe outdoor construction works are often postponed till later, while decorators and other specialist have plenty to do indoors. All tradesman always requires a functional ladder. In this brief article we will describe what type of ladders are worth choosing.**

To select the appropriate equipment it is necessary to answer questions like: What height do you want to reach with it? How often will you change its location? How long it will be used? The answers you get will al-

low you to choose the optimum equipment matching your requirements, thus increasing the safety of the workers.

There is a vast selection of ladders on the market. You may choose from simple leaning models and traditional freestanding units, or select telescopic and articulated ladders. The articulated ladder offers the full range of applications, so it is the perfect choice for works indoor, often within a limited space. It has many features and can be used as a traditional leaning ladder, freestanding ladder or platform. Thanks to its unique design the articulated ladder can be adjusted in height and can be folded what allows easy storage and logistic. Such ladder is an excellent choice for renovation teams that often change sites.

Renovating works in interiors requires workers to relocate often. Moreover, such jobs involve not only climbing up and going down the ladder but also transporting the ladder from floor to floor. For these tasks, the most



recommended are lightweight aluminium models. Additional advantage brings articulated ladders, which apart from being lightweight are also small when folded, comfortable to carry and equipped with the silent locking system which enables quick and convenient use.

Multi-purpose telescopic ladders are very practical due to the number of useful options. Like for instance, as an extended ladder or in the scissor position or adjusted for use on stairs. However, they hide several hazards during use regarding operator stability, as the rung is only 3 cm deep and there is no protection in the upper part. To offer the maximum safety possible, Faraone has patented a removable handrail and a step measuring 15 cm, which the operator can position in the point he is working, offering a safe grip and exceptional comfort underfoot.

The selection of an appropriate ladder for working at height is also determined by the intensity of its usage. While a standard ladder will be suitable for performing tasks which take a few minutes, works



Various models of Faraone ladders you will find in IBB Builders Merchants depots or online [www.ibb.uk](http://www.ibb.uk)

## Aluminium telescopic ladders

Occupies little space when closed and it is easy to move. Versatile in any situation, it guarantees stability and safety. The ladder can be used also extended. Offers configurable hinge and safety ergonomic handle for hooking and unhooking the extended device of aluminium ladder. There is scissor position with limit stop and protection against accidental closing.



£161.55<sup>net</sup>

## Multi-purpose triple sided extractable ladder

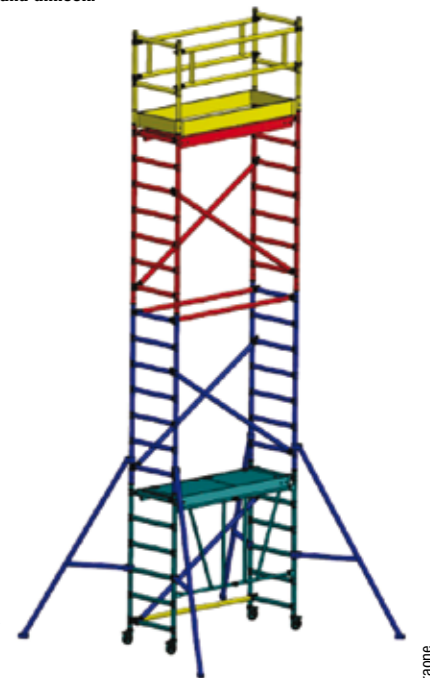
It has wide front step, special anti-opening device, new stabilizer base, belt for anchoring, special unhook safety device, sides with reinforced section 2,5 mm, pole support cod.



£257.17<sup>net</sup>

## Scaffolds

Ideal for installation and assembly works in complete safety. Crosspieces and railings are easy to mount and unhook.



£1375.80<sup>net</sup>

For more models visit [www.ibb.uk](http://www.ibb.uk)

\* T&C Apply. Price for registered customers.

Source: Faraone



which involve staying up on the ladder for a long time require the use of a more ergonomic solution. Here the best option is the freestanding ladder with a convenient large step or a ladder that may be used as a working platform. However, the safest solution in such cases is to use scaffolding which is the most secure. Scaffolding is also highly recommended to less experienced users. There are on the market handy and not very expensive lightweight scaffolding models which are foldable and easy to set up.

Winter has not yet finished, and in some parts of the UK, snow is still possible. Snow causes risk of structure overloading and often requires removal. Also, clearing ice from gutters is necessary precautions. These works require the right ladder which will allow to get to the roof and near it. For flat roofs, it is usually enough to use a leaning ladder, but such has to be placed on the solid ground. Additional security will be ensured when used with appropriate spikes attached to the stringers. These will allow increasing the stability of the ladder on soft ground like grass. It is advised to consider using an access beam that helps to get to the roof with tools. Removing snow from sloping roofs should be done by roof contractors only, with additional security and scaffolding.

The Ladder Association is the trade body responsible for advancing safety and best practice in the

ladder industry, and oversees the delivery of national training. The Ladder Association's technical manager and chair of its Technical Committee, Don Aers said: "The changes reflect the collective experience and expertise of many contributors over an extensive period. They improve ladder design and safety and are therefore to be welcomed." The Ladder Association offers training that equips ladder users with knowledge and skills required when working at height from a ladder. It can help to evidence the competence required by the Work at Height Regulations.

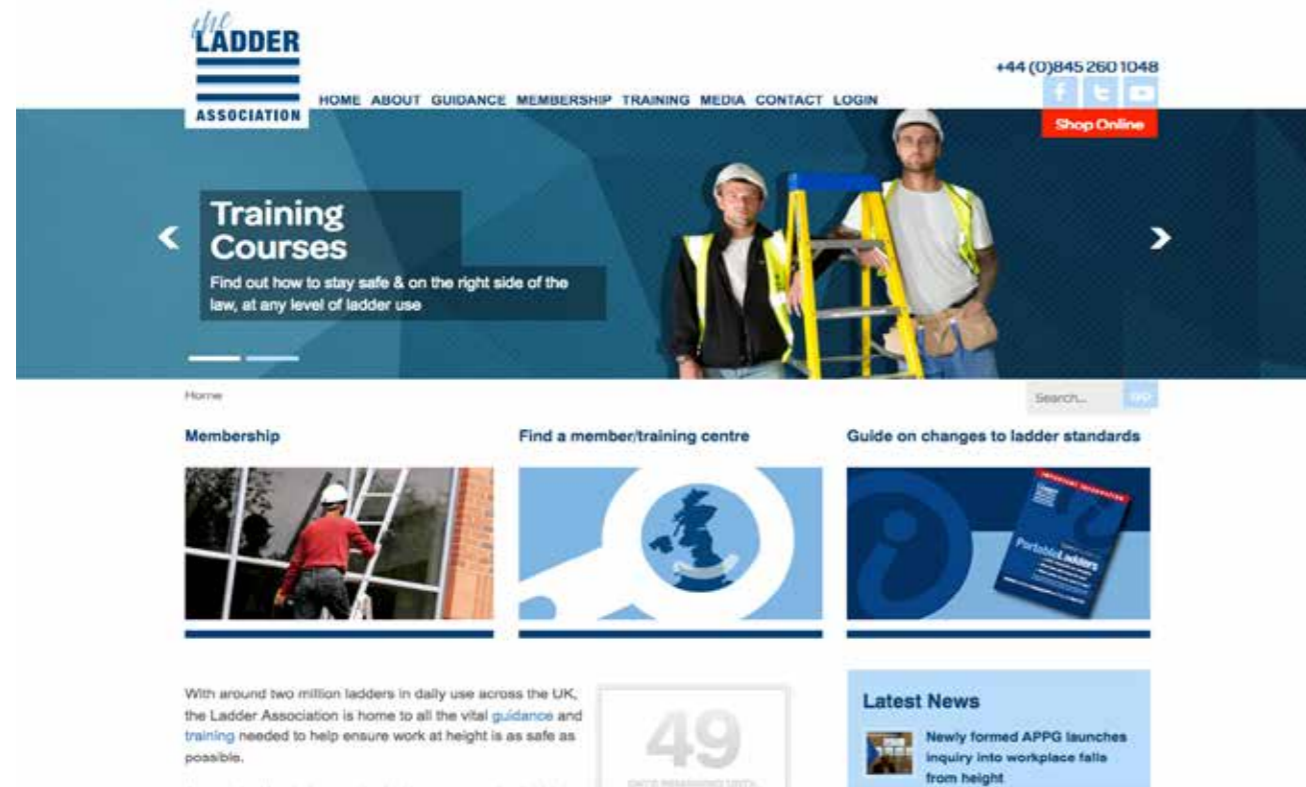
Even the most functional ladder will not always meet all needs of its users. Therefore, some manufacturers offer a variety of accessories, thus increasing the efficiency of selected models. The favourite choice, especially for refurbishment projects in multi-storey buildings, are stringer extensions with adjustable height, which allow to put up the ladder on the stairs. Construction workers also appreciate distance grips which will enable them to work safely in hard-to-reach places, as well as a series of ergonomic tool bags and large shelves with a bucket hook which will allow them to organise their tools. These accessories will also eliminate the need for going up on and down off the ladder, which is a nightmare for the workers.

It is the responsibility of the contractor, site foreman, owner or manager of the building to ensure the

### BEFORE PURCHASING A STEP LADDER:

- Ensure it meets the revised EN 131 standard- ladder is designed and tested to take 150 kg load including the user, their tools, equipment and any materials.
- Professional ladders are subject to tougher durability requirements due to usage.
- New standards apply to new ladders and stepladders only. Any ladder or stepladder bought before standards came to force can be used if in good conditions.
- All future new and replacement ladders comply with the revised EN 131 standard.

ladders, stepladders or scaffolds available for workers are safe, comply with the revised BS EN 131 standard, are adequately serviced, and workers are adequately trained.



Source: Faraone, The Ladder Association

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# Acoustic performance of partition walls

**One of the requirements for the proper design of residential and public buildings is to reduce the noise level to ensure comfort.**

There is no single best choice for the house soundproofing. On the UK construction market, there are various effective acoustic solutions both for residential and commercial projects. The regulation covering the soundproofing sector is included in:

- Approved Document E (Part E)
- Section 5
- BB93
- BS 8233:1999
- Planning Policy Guidance 24

We can distinguish between sound absorption solutions and sound transmission solutions. Absorption solutions for walls and ceilings are acoustic wall panels, partitions, insulation, ceiling baffles and suspended sound absorption materials, spray on acoustic plaster, isolating devices, etc. Transmission solutions consist of resilient battens, acoustic cradles, acoustic overlay boards, and a comprehensive range of resilient layers like pre-cast concrete floors, cast in-situ concrete floors and beam and block floors.

The sound get to the room from various directions and sources. First of all, it is essential to understand sound transmission class (STC) ratings when choosing construction materials. STC rates the materials according to their soundproof-

ing properties. It is recommended to aim for STC rates 30-40. The range of soundproofing solutions consists of acoustic panels, partitions, insulation, cavity closers, spray-applied plastering systems or isolating devices. The structure-borne noise can be reduced with isolating strips, DPC cavity closers and clips. Insulation, plasterboard, soundproof paints or soundproofing doors and windows will block the sound transmission between internal stud walls (table 0.1b).

The acoustic insulation of the partitions at a level adapted to the purpose of the surface is therefore important. In this article we are looking at partition walls - important, but sometimes marginalised structure in the context of the acoustic performance of the building.

There are two basic types of acoustic insulation in buildings: from airborne sounds and from impact sounds. In the case of partition walls, we will primarily be interested in limiting airborne sounds generated by people or devices located in adjoining rooms.

The degree of sound insulation is determined using the  $R_w$  or  $R'w$  acoustic insulation index. During calculations, remember to take corrections for additional factors resulting from the surrounding environment. Therefore, we should correct the target values accordingly:  $R_w + C$  for high frequency noise, such as home users' living activities, as well as  $R_w + C_{tr}$  for low frequency noise, generated for example by a noisy street or disco music.

The sound class depends on the expected acoustic insulation ( $R'w$ ) of the walls between rooms.

**Table 0.1b Rooms for residential purposes – performance standards for separating walls, separating floors, and stairs that have a separating function**

	Airborne sound insulation sound insulation $D_{nT,w} + C_{tr}$ dB (Minimum values)	Impact sound insulation $L'_{nT,w}$ dB (Maximum values)
<b>Purpose built rooms for residential purposes</b>		
Walls	43	-
Floors and stairs	45	62
<b>Rooms for residential purposes formed by material change of use</b>		
Walls	43	-
Floors and stairs	43	64

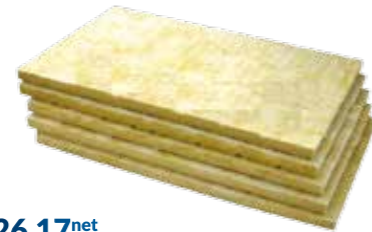
Table source: Approved Document E 2010

**A material for good acoustics**

In order to prevent the transmission of airborne noise from adjacent partitions, the design should take into account relevant construction and insulation materials. In order to obtain high acoustic properties, double or single frames with a width of 70-100 mm can be used, which allow the interior of the structure to be filled with insulating material of greater thickness. Partition walls are an important element of buildings for two reasons. They separate rooms as an internal walls and reduce any unwanted sounds from neighbouring rooms. At the same time, acoustic partition walls could act as a fire barrier.

For the selection of insulation material, please refer to the guidelines of Part E Building Regulations. A material that is particularly well suited for this type of application is stone wool. - Because of its fibrous structure and excellent sound absorbing properties, acoustic mineral wool provides excellent insulation from external noise sources carried by walls and roof, as well as internal noises carried by partition walls, storey ceilings and ceilings. This sound absorbing in-fill for the reduction of airborne sound between joists, stud partitions, suspended ceiling or with resilient bas for soundproofing ceilings & walls. The acoustic mineral wool ensures the proper sound insulation if used a part of the soundproofing system. The alternative option to mineral wool is the sound blocker quilt, which both blocks and absorbs sound or more eco-friendly acoustic thermal fleece. The insulation has to be installed into joists of floors and stud partitions.

**Mineral wool - Rockwool RWA45 acoustic mineral wool** designed to gives the excellent sound absorption when installed into floors, walls and ceilings. It absorbs airborne sound and when used as a part of the system meets the Part E regulation requirements. In addition, it will give thermal and fire insulation.



£26.17net

Products are available in all IBB Builders Merchants depots.

**Acoustic roll - Knauf insulation acoustic rolls** have been specially developed to utilise the sound absorption properties of glass mineral wool. Acoustic performance of the Knauf rolls is the added benefit of the primary purpose of the thermal insulation. Acoustic roll reduces airborne sound transmission, reduce impact sound transmissions and sound reverberation in the specialist environment.



£35.93net

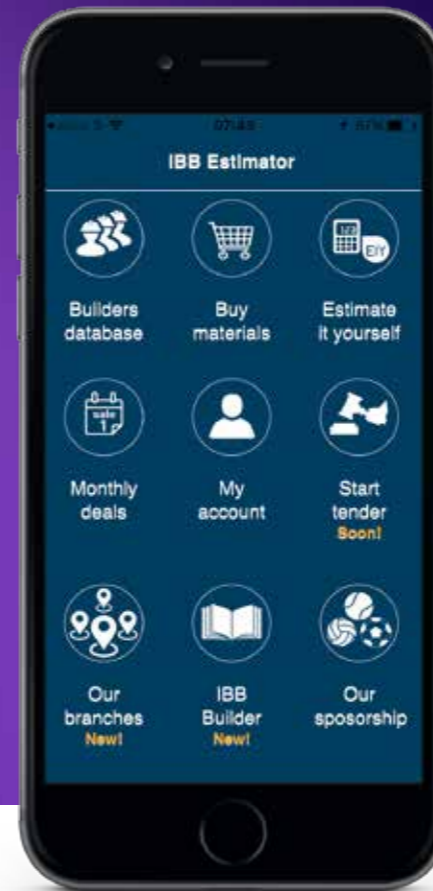
\* T&C Apply. Price for registered customers.



For detailed information on acoustic metal stud system, please refer to our Guide to the Acoustic Metal Frame System in June 2017 edition of IBB Builder [www.ibb.uk/issue-archive](http://www.ibb.uk/issue-archive)

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# Improve estimating and win more profitable contracts!

**At this time of the year, many residential construction projects are ready for a tender process so works can start in the early spring. The accurate cost estimation enhances chances of winning the tender, and that's why it is the crucial and most important part of the construction process. Getting the estimation right ensures we can win the job, but also earn a profit. At the same time, it is one of the most difficult and time demanding works contractors face before getting on site. Larger contractors employ professional estimators, while smaller firms and builders often do estimations by themselves. That's the reason why small builders are not able to compete with professionally prepared tenders in the procurement process.**

Unfortunately, estimation is not the skill one could learn quickly. It takes years of experience to get to know the building process- knowledge of plans, prices of materials and tools, higher costs, labour costs, overheads etc., costs of building stages and all involved works.

To give the accurate quote, any estimator must know how to read plans. Moreover, drawings and specification have to be adequately prepared. The experienced estimator will be able to find mistakes or omissions. There should be no attempt to the estimation without the right plans or tender pack. In

the scenario when plans are conceptual only, the rough price might be given, but a client has to acknowledge that at the end the final price might differ when the proper planning is submitted. It is not possible to provide the accurate quote without drawings and specification. Sometimes, the estimator has to visit the building site to visualise plans or to discuss some inconsistency with project's architect.

On the market, there are some estimating books available with unit prices. However, the care must be taken, because often these books are regional and out of date. Prices tend to change; margins fluctuate depending on the condition of the whole economy and construction sector itself. The building industry is based on the long-term contracts, and that is why it is very vulnerable towards economic and political changes. The estimator has to know the complete spectrum of the building process to estimate well.

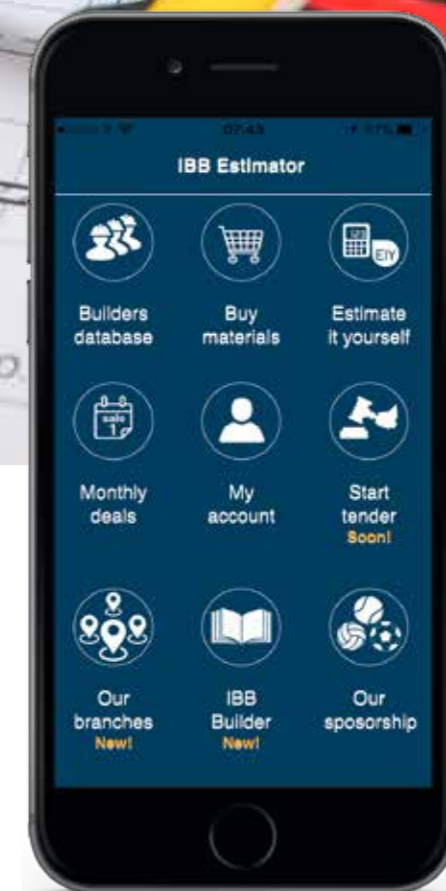
Recently, one of the best improvements in the construction industry is estimating software pro-

gram. Nowadays, doing estimations by hand is slow, out of date, inefficient and time-consuming. Moreover, it is more open to errors. Customers often want to receive the quote promptly, while contractors want to ensure they will win the project and get their margin. In the competitive industry only working with the estimation program, leads to winning projects in the tender process. That's the perfect solution for smaller businesses and builders who are not willing to employ the full time estimator. That's also the necessary tool for every professional estimator to keep up with the developing industry and provide winning quotes.

***If you are not yet using a computerised estimating system, it is time to change!***

Check out IBB Estimator's features that allow for fast and accurate:

- Estimating of Labour, Materials, Plant&Tools and Overheads Equipment



**IBB  
ESTIMATOR**

- Edition and change of all above factors or inputting own prices
- Filtering estimates using the convenient On-Hide-Off options
- Generating workload and work schedule automatically, and possibility to edit it

- Changing the purchase price level of Materials depending on the level of discounts granted
- Ordering directly from the estimates or subdivision application IBB Shopping online with the highest possible level of discounts - PRO version
- Preview descriptions of products and drawings
- Automatic import of users logo and corporate data applications
- Description of the building object, description of the construction work covered by the calculation, including customer name, No ref, date, etc.
- Recording data to a PDF and Excel files (PRO version) made estimates and their print options in the wide choices
- Archiving estimates - having access to the saved, written estimates and editing

# Quotation for 1sqm metal-grid acoustic stud wall

- priming before plastering for better adhesion
- applying coat of MultiFinish
- reinforcing with fibreglass mesh
- fibreglass mesh should be totally embedded in plaster coat
- skimming

## MATERIALS

Materials usage for 1sqm metal-grid acoustic suspended ceiling

No	Material	Dimensions	Price* excl. VAT pcs/ pack	Usage for 1 sqm	Cost* excl. VAT 1 sqm	Cost* incl. VAT 1 sqm
1	Acoustic tape under U channel	Roll 70mm/30m	£12.33	0.84m	£0.49	£0.59
2	Metal U channel	U-75mm/4m	£4.13	1 m	£1.03	£1.23
3	Hammer screws SM 6x40mm	Box=200pcs	£5.33	1.50 pcs	£0.12	£0.14
4	Metal C stud	C-75mm/2.6m	£3.29	2.08 m	£2.60	£3.12
5	Resilient bar	3m	£4.16	2.08 m	£2.88	£3.46
6	Self-drilling screws TEX 3.9*9.5mm	Box - 1000pcs	£8.25	13.00 pcs	£0.10	£0.11
7	Insulation Rockwool RWA45	75mm pack=2.88sqm	£25.40	1.05 sqm	£9.26	£11.11
8	Standard plasterboard - fixed both sides	12.5*1200*2400mm	£6.99	2.08 sqm	£5.06	£6.08
9	Drywall metal screws KSGM 3.5x35mm	Box - 1000pcs	£8.25	38 pcs	£0.38	£0.46
10	Selfadhesive joint tape-scrim tape	Roll 90mb	£2.67	1.75 m	£0.10	£0.12
11	Finishing filler - Super Finisz	Bag 20 kg	£12.08	0.5 kg	£0.30	£0.36
12	Primer AVAL KT17	5l can	£11.25	0.14 l	£0.32	£0.38
13	Acrylic paint SuperMatt	10l can	£19.58	0.24 l	£0.48	£0.58
					<b>£23.48</b>	<b>£27.74</b>

\* all products available at IBB; prices before discounts

## LABOUR

Labour – 1sqm metal-grid acoustic suspended ceiling

No	Description	Labour per sqm	Company rate* excl. VAT	Cost excl. VAT	Cost incl. VAT
1	Labour	3.43 lh/sqm	£27	£92.61	£111.13
					<b>£111.13</b>





# Quotation for painting of 100sqm with acrylic paint

- Latex prime emulsion is used for enhancing adhesive properties of surface
- Works includes protection with masking tapes and covering sheets etc.
- Mixing paint before use
- Cleaning tools after painting

## MATERIALS

Materials usage for finishing 100sqm wall surface

No	Material	Code/dim	Picture	Usage	Price* excl. VAT unit	Usage for 100 sqm	Cost* excl. VAT	Cost* incl. VAT
1	Undercoat paint	Grunt Sniezka 10ltr		0.01 bucket/sqm	£21.25	1.00 bucket	£21.25	£25.50
2	Acrylic paint	EKO white 10ltr		0.01 bucket/sqm	£17.92	1.00 bucket	£17.92	£21.50
<b>Total</b>							<b>£39.17</b>	<b>£47.00</b>

\* all products available at IBB; prices before discounts

## LABOUR

Labour – finishing 100 sqm wall surface

No	Description	Labour per unit	Q-ty	Labour [lh]
1	Painting with priming emulsion, one coat	0.10 lh/sqm	100.00 sqm	10.00
2	Painting, one coat	0.10 lh/sqm	100.00 sqm	10.00
				<b>20</b>

Labour TOTAL

No	Description	Labour [labour hours]	Company rate* excl. VAT	Cost excl. VAT	Cost incl. VAT
1	Labour	20.00	£27.00	£540.00	£648.20

\* gross company rate vary depending on net company rate, overheads, profit margin

**Cost of paining 100sqm wall surface (M + L = 39.17 + 548.00 = 587.17 net) - 5.87 net /sqm**





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WITH US!**

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- IBB Builder is packed with construction news, updates on building regulations, building technologies, descriptions of building materials, examples of projects cost estimations, health and safety tips and all important facts for contractors operating in uk construction sector.
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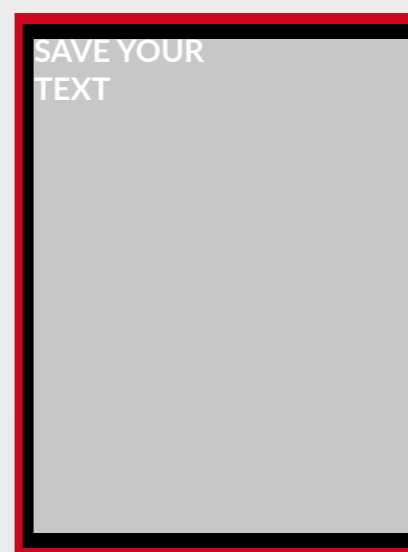
# MEDIA PACK 2018

## CLOSING DATES

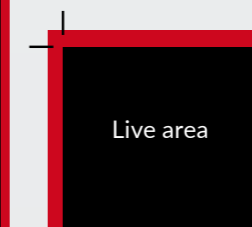
No	Issue	Closing	Availability
1	January 2018	30.12.2017	01.01.2018
2	February 2018	30.01.2018	01.02.2018
3	March 2018	28.02.2018	01.03.2018
4	April 2018	30.03.2018	01.04.2018
5	May 2018	30.04.2018	01.04.2018
6	June 2018	30.05.2018	01.06.2018
7	July 2018	30.06.2018	01.07.2018
8	August 2018	30.07.2018	01.08.2018
9	September 2018	30.08.2018	01.09.2018
10	October 2018	30.09.2018	01.10.2018
11	November 2018	30.10.2018	01.11.2018
12	December 2018	30.11.2018	01.12.2018

Terms & Conditions may apply.

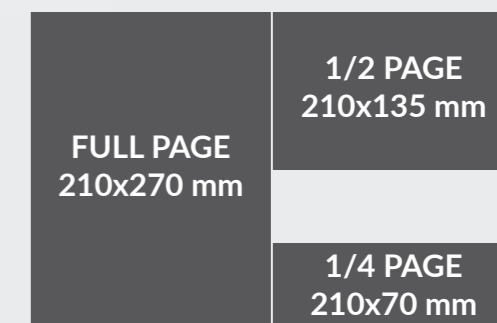
## ADVERT SPECS



- Bleed 3mm around
- Save area 5 mm around
- Live area



- Requirements:**
- 300 dpi
  - CMYK





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IBB POLONIA LONDON VC



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# IBB Polonia London are through to the semi-finals of the English Cup

**The quarter final of the National Cup was held on Saturday, 27th January, in East London at the home of Wapping Wildcats. The hosts were swiftly eliminated from the competition 0:3 (11:25; 23:25; 16:25) and IBB Polonia London VC once again will be competing for a place in the finals and the defence of the first of their two titles. Wapping, surprisingly, defeated Essex 3-2 in the previous round and were hoping to repeat their victory, but fell short.**

The three set match between East and West London showed a stable level of play for the visitors. The first set was over quickly with the home

team scoring 11 points. However during the second set, they gained some momentum pushing very close and only succumbing by two points. The main weapon was their serve, which caused some discomfort amongst the IBB Polonia receivers. At the start of the third set, the rhythm returned to Piotr Graban's charges and control was once again regained. IBB Polonia held a convincing lead from start to finish of the third set, winning in the end by 9 points.

"In the first and last sets, we showed some powerful volleyball. It was evident that Bartek Kisielewicz, Mateusz Dziwierek and Dorian Poinc have quickly established a strong understanding on court. They played a very tight game together and between them overpowered the opposition and gave us the semi-final place" - said Patrik Selep; assistant Coach IBB Polonia London.

"On Saturday, we showed real team spirit. We were better in all aspects and we were motivated in producing a quick result. It's great to play with Bartek. His experience and abilities allow us the

freedom with which we played. His style suits me down to the ground and I know he will give me a perfect ball each time. Thanks to this, my effectiveness has improved and I can be used regularly in attack." - said IBB Polonia receiver, Dorian Poinc.

Once again the semi-final will be against Team Wessex, who beat Malory Eagles 3-0. The match will take place at the Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre on 24th February 2018, the usual home venue. Tickets are available here.

"I'm very optimistic in relation to the upcoming matches in the league and cup. We still haven't showed everything we can do. I think that solid work at training sessions will bring us more victories and help us start to smell silverware once again." - added Patrik Selep.

The London team now has a two week break from matches and will return to the court on the 10th February when they visit Essex in the Super 8 League. More information can be found on the Club website and Facebook page.



# A great start to the New Year

**The first match of 2018 was a great success for IBB Polonia London. On Saturday, 13th January the players from London took on the visitors from Bournemouth on their home court. The result of this "revenge match" was 3-0 to IBB Polonia London VC (25:23; 25:22; 25:20).**

The team, once again, showed the world that it is seriously approaching its task of professionalising The Club in all departments. The arena was prepared to professionally reflect the match; this included the laying out of the Taraflex floor; LED scrolling advertising banners, live announcements, musical entertainment and of course, the support of the loyal fans. The London volleyball players certainly played their part by winning the match emphatically, much to the delight of the spectators. All of the events were broadcast live on the internet and via Polsat Sport – top polish TV.

Despite the strong performance against Team Wessex, Head Coach of IBB Polonia London – Piotr Graban said that he will be demanding even more from his players:

"We still have not showed our true level. We still have much more to give, but I'm sure soon we will be able to play to our real potential. Our game was rather party on Saturday, no doubt caused by the Christmas break. Of course we are pleased with our win, and the whole team played their part. Our hard work on the practice court is starting to show and we are delighted that experienced players are rejoining us once again, as well as new players. This gives us greater stability and many more options on court."

"I'm really pleased with the result. We played well, taking into account the recent break in our trainings. The return to regular training will of course start to bear fruit. I'm really pleased that even more people came to watch our victory and appreciate the hard work that we are carrying out. It definitely motivates us to play even harder." – said opposite hitter IBB Polonia London Michal Bartoszak.

IBB Polonia London was supported by a great gathering of supporters in the sports hall, while others watched on their laptops and televisions around the world. The eyes of the World were on West London.

"After over a month's break, we were very keen to get involved once again with supporting our club. The atmosphere was electric and the quality of play was of a high standard. All of the fans joined in with supporting the guys on court and carried them to victory. I think people will be very envious of those that were there." commented Jan Ploszaj, President of the Official IBB Polonia London Supporters Club.

Fans of volleyball, who could not be there in person, can see the game online. The footage is available here and also on the Club's Facebook page. More importantly, this wanting to become involved can actually help develop The Club by investing in shares launched by The Club last year. More information is available on <http://polonia.vc/>.

The next match played in London will be on the 20th January. It will be away match against Sheffield Hallam, who were defeated on the home court 3:1 at the start of the season. The next home game will be on the 17th February against Essex Blaze.

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# IBB Polonia London

**invites you to support volleyball and come to their matches in 2018**

**After a short festive break, the first matches has already started in January. With that in mind, the players have been training after Christmas break in order to fully prepare for the home match against Wessex VC. Under the watchful eyes of Piotr Graban and Patrik Selep, the team have been working hard to continue the run of results leading up to Christmas. On Saturday, 13th January 2018 the match will take place at Brentford Leisure Centre which, once again, will be transformed into a professional looking venue with the laying out of Taraflex, music and television cameras. As usual, there will be lots for fans to see and everybody is invited to come and cheer.**

"We had to be tough in 2017, constantly looking for solutions and trained very hard which resulted in some good results very recently. I am confident that the trend will continue and the results will continue to be positive. We have a surprise for our fans this Saturday, but I'm not revealing it yet....but come along and see for yourselves! Bring your friends and become our seventh player. It's going to be a great opportunity to continue our English-Polish partnership. See you soon!" -said Piotr Graban, Head Coach IBB Polonia London VC.

"I am delighted that I can play once again. I'm

hopeful that my ability and experience will help us to reach our aims. I am also counting on our supporters to help us, who follow us faithfully regardless of where we play. I'd like to invite everyone to come and support us. It's going to be emotional; especially as we want to get revenge on the team who beat us at their venue." - commented Bartosz Kisielewicz, setter for IBB Polonia London who following a short break has returned to the team.

"We want to be able to show the world that London can organise a top class professional volleyball event. We are planning attractions and an exciting.

Please reserve your tickets early and come and enjoy your time with us. Families with children, friends and all are invited and will definitely enjoy their time with us. If you are unable to make it to the game in person, we will be broadcasting via Polsat Sport as well as via the internet." - said IBB Polonia London President Bartek Luszcz.

Tickets to IBB Polonia London VC matches are always available here [www.polonia.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.polonia.eventbrite.co.uk).

If you want to watch matches online, then the link is <http://ibb.uk/tv/> as well as via polish top sports TV – Polsat Sport.



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# Three points for IBB Polonia London in Sheffield.

**Three points and a solid win rounded up the trip for IBB Polonia London to Sheffield. The hosts are the current runners up in the 2017 Super 8 competition and the only team this season to beat Team Northumbria.**

The first set was taken by the hosts, who started the match strongly with very good serving. It is worth noting, that the home team were well supported by drum playing fans.

The long journey and the new sports hall caused us some challenges at the start of the game. The hosts wanted to show, from the very start, that they planned to beat us. The first set seemed more like a continuation of the warm up than the start of the match for us. I'm delighted with the way that we turned our fortunes around and closed the game out - said Coach Piotr Graban

The second and third sets were a great end for IBB Polonia London in the match. Kisielewicz

distributed the ball with even greater confidence, and every point gave the team greater momentum.

Everybody contributed to the victory. I'm finding my rhythm with Mateusz Dziwierek; our serve and block was also looking strong. It's great that when someone is struggling, we have a strong bench to help. I think we still have the ability to play much better, and we all want to be better - said captain and setter Bartosz Kisielewicz.



In the fourth set, the team from London was down by six points, until Mateusz Dziwierek stepped up to the service line: this was his second game for IBB Polonia London.

Im starting to find my feet with the team, and we are playing better. I feel great in London; its a great atmosphere and a superb place to develop volleyball. I think each day, I will improve and as a result, the team will improve - said IBB Polonia numer 20 - Mateusz Dziwierek.

The Londoners were supported by over forty traveling fans from the Official Supporters Club. Their President Jan Ploszajski was overjoyed to see the home team supporters. It was splendid to have some rival fans watching the game. It encourages us ever more to play our drums and trumpets. A few years ago, there was no support in England, and I hope we lead the way in volleyball support.

This Saturday IBB Polonia London play the English Cup quarter final with another London team: Wapping Wildcats who themselves beat a higher placed team to earn the right to play the defending Cup holders.

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2017/2018

*The marketing and ticketing goals of the IBB Polonia VC club primarily consist of rising funds for: improving the professionalism of the team, improvement of match fixtures & coverage of television broadcast costs.*

**TICKET-DONATION FOR THE MATCH**

Normal	£10.00
Discounted	£5.00
Children under 16 / seniors over 60	FREE
VIP (Sponsors and invited guests)	FREE

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Electronic banner during live matches - 1 spot * 2 minutes	£500.00
Sticker next to the pitch	£1 000.00
Roll-up 2*1m	£800.00
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Individual photo with the team after the match	£500.00
Ball with player signatures	£200.00
T-shirt with player signatures	£300.00
Club mascot during the match with the advertiser's logo	£1 500.00

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Sponsor Silver - Medium logo on the shirt, front and back (price per year)	£20 000.00
Sponsor Bronze - Small logo on the shirt or shorts	£10 000.00
Sponsor of an event/match - live and broadcast on Facebook, Polsat, Unilad and later available on YouTube and IBBTV	£6 000.00
Electronic banner for live matches - respectively: 4 spots x 2 minutes (Sponsor Gold and Match Sponsor), 3 spots x 2 minutes (Silver), 2 spots x 2 minutes (Bronze)	included in package*
In addition to the Sponsors' offer: article, photos, company profile in IBB Builder and at www.IBBPolonia.vc	included in package*
The right to distribute Sponsor's merchandise during the match	included in package*
Club shirt with player signatures	included in package*
Volleyball balls with player signatures	included in package*
Crystal trophy with thanks for support after the season	included in package*
Gold, Silver and Bronze Sponsor Logo on season tickets and on printed, distributed team materials	included in package*

**NOTE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS. "PLANNED SALE PRICE"** *The holder of shares in IBB Polonia acquires:*

- 0.5% discount on marketing services listed below for 1 share and up to 50% maximum; planned sales price per share for 2017 - 100 GBP; 2018 - 150 GBP; 2019 - 200 GBP
- The right to a ticket - donation at a reduced price reduced of 5 GBP or VIP
- 50% discount on team merchandise

\* gold, silver, bronze and match sponsor (during the sponsored match) only

For more details visit [www.polonia.vc](http://www.polonia.vc)



# Join IBB Polonia Football FC January League Round-up Gallery



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**MONTHLY DEAL**

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