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Introduction to Sustainable Engineering Design by Derek Mowlds, Chairman, CIBSE, Republic of Ireland Region

Derek Mowlds

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Introduction

On behalf of the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) in Ireland, I would like to welcome you to the first edition of this exciting new publication on sustainable design and applied research.

This journal is the result of a continuing and productive collaboration between CIBSE Ireland, DIT and our members, and will provide an important repository of documented evidence in engineering design and research. We hope that it will prove to be a useful source of information and discussion to researchers, designers and all involved in the built environment.

It is important to emphasise that the building services industry needs to progress from ideologically-based sustainable or green initiatives towards proven and evidence-based technical solutions that deliver, in a cost-effective way, on a whole life-cycle basis. We feel this can only be achieved through evidence-based evaluation and applied research, and the *SDAR* Journal* is well placed to report and share these findings.

We believe that there are genuine opportunities for building services engineers, architects and academics to form alliances and strategic partnerships in the area of evidence-based research and evaluation to continuously improve the built environment based on real data and analysis. This continuous improvement cycle will not only generate much-needed activity in the market, but will deliver more sustainable buildings and communities.

This journal is made up of a strong spine of industry-based research. It comprises companies, and individuals within companies, disseminating insightful findings based on evidence gathered from live projects that drive us towards a more sustainable world. We learn from their successes but we also learn from the things that went wrong. Critical reflection is central to all of the work published here and, in that way, the quality is enhanced.

In addition, the journal also includes good-quality articles from young engineers. Indeed, with our instigation of the Irish Young Lighter in 2003, we have a proven track record in encouraging our young bright engineers

of tomorrow.

I would encourage engineers, contractors and other professionals in the built environment to consider submitting articles for the next issue of this journal which is scheduled for summer 2012. I would also encourage submissions to the Irish Lighter/Young Lighter and SDAR* Awards competitions.



Regards,

Derek Mowlds
Chairman CIBSE
Republic of Ireland Region