

8. NEC4 Engineering and Construction Short Contract (ECSC) and Understanding Z Clauses

Why you should attend this workshop?

These two half day workshops combined to form a one-day session will review in detail the contents of NEC4 Engineering and Construction Short Contract, and also consider in detail Z clauses and how to understand them.

Engineering and Construction Short Contract:

The morning session will focus in detail upon the key mechanics and provisions of the short form of NEC contract (ECSC). This is a simpler version of the Engineering and Construction Contract and is a lot slimmer in volume and complexity as it is intended to be used for a project that is low risk and low complexity. You will gain an understanding of the key processes both leading up to contract award and then how to administer the contract for the duration of the project. Attendees of this course will have a much clearer understanding of the intent of the specific contractual clauses and in practical terms begin to see how they should administer them for the benefit of all parties on a particular project.

You will learn about:

- when this particular form of contract is particularly suitable
- preparing tender documents and appraise tenders received
- the roles and responsibilities of the key Parties
- how to apply ECSC in practice and achieve satisfactory solutions to problems
- the important ECSC clauses, in particular early warning, communications and compensation events

Understanding Z clauses

Clients will typically amend the standard contract wording so it is important for Contractors and Subcontractors to understand what these can mean and how they could significantly alter their risk profile. Such amendments will be reviewed in detail, including:

- why Z clauses are used
- how they may alter a Contractor's risk profile
- review of practical examples of Z clauses and what they would mean

Typical bespoke project amendments (Z clauses) will also be considered in terms of how they can change the rules and principles of the contract. The session will focus on the types of amendments to look out for at tender stage that could significantly alter the risk profile for a Contractor/Subcontractor. Practical case studies for the second half of the afternoon will draw out the key elements around Z clause amendments for attendees to ensure that the elements have been understood and will be able to be applied in practice.

Recommended for

This workshop is recommended for everyone currently involved with or about to be working under an ECC, ECS or ECSC contract including project managers, contract managers, quantity surveyors, clients, consultants, planners, to make sure they understand which elements of contract data will affect their own specific roles within their organizations. This session will be suitable for those who are relatively new to these forms of contract as well as those who are already more experienced in the contract and looking to enhance their level of knowledge and understanding.