

Joint ICE and Capita Symonds Safety Lecture

Assessment of Risk: How much is 'suitable and sufficient'?

Dr Jean Venables OBE FEng
President, Institution of Civil Engineers

Wednesday 23 September 2009

15:30 Registration

16:00 Lecture

17:45 Drinks Reception

Institution of Civil Engineers
One Great George Street
Westminster
London SW1P 3AA

The lecture will explore the relationship between the exercise of engineering judgement, the need for risk assessments to meet the criteria of being 'suitable and sufficient', and rules of professional conduct.

Having executed professional engineering judgement, one must always accept a certain element of risk. Only through the gathering and sharing of evidence within, and beyond, company parameters, can the profession seek to continuously improve.

Jean Venables will explore various aspects of the relationship between professional conduct and legislation to demonstrate the need to continue to look forward, as well as back. There is a need to understand that mistakes must not be repeated, but nor should potential hazards be disregarded: as project circumstances change, so too do the potential risks.

Whilst we must plan for potential, known, significant risks, Jean Venables will argue that we must always be aware that we can never predict the future – and we can never know, let alone plan for, all eventualities.

Dr Jean Venables OBE FEng

Jean is President of the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), of which she has been a keen member since the start of her career.



Jean's career has focused on flood risk management, a subject she continues through her work for the Association of Drainage Authorities, Thames Estuary Partnership and the Thames Estuary 2100 Flood Risk Management Programme. Jean has also been closely involved with professional conduct matters and the ethics of the engineering profession. She has been a member of the Disciplinary Board, and most recently, a member of the Professional Conduct Panel. She was also a member of the Ethics Committee, which recommended the major changes to the Rules of Conduct implemented in 1999, and was a member of the subsequent Ethics Sub-Committee, which produced the ICE Code of Conduct introduced in 2004.

Lecture free.

Advanced booking essential.
Limited places available.

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