

RIBA 

South

Whole-Life Costing

*Whole-Life Assessment for Low
Carbon Design*

Thursday, 14 May 2009

2pm - 5pm

Green Park, Reading

RIBA South

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Whole-Life Costing

Whole-life thinking is an essential component of sustainable design. The idea is very simple: when comparing alternative designs for a construction project, don't just focus on minimising the initial investment, but select the alternative that performs best over the building's life cycle.

To assess whole-life value you have to balance capital costs against future benefits. This is a problem because the future cannot be predicted with certainty. The standard method of whole-life costing assumes that data about the future is available, so the method is of limited value. Cambridge Architectural Research has developed a new approach to whole-life costing which takes account of future uncertainty.

The amount of uncertainty is crucial. When there is high uncertainty there are two consequences:

- future benefits are devalued, reducing the level of capital investment that can be justified
- lifecycle options become increasingly attractive

A durable and efficient design often gives better whole-life value than lower specification alternatives, but not always. Investing more doesn't necessarily give good value: hence the need for a systematic approach to whole-life assessment. The basics of whole-life assessment apply equally from a cost-effectiveness or a CO₂-savings perspective.

To use whole-life assessment in practice, architects should understand the method's fundamental principles and techniques, and also its limitations. This will be explained at the seminar, together with **worked examples** and **exercises**.

Speaker

Dr William Fawcett, Cambridge Architectural Research Ltd

Dr Fawcett is an architect involved in research, teaching and practice. He has co-authored the book "New Generation Whole-Life Costing" (with Ian Ellingham, Taylor & Francis, 2006) and edited the recent RIBA Low Carbon Design Tool on whole-life assessment.

Programme

1.30pm Registration with tea & coffee
2.00pm - 5.00pm Seminar

This event qualifies for 3 hours CPD. RIBA members are required to complete 35 hours of CPD per year. 19.5 hours should come from the Core Curriculum. Within this, it is compulsory to study 2 hours in health and safety matters.

Whole-Life Costing Thursday, 14 May 2009

Booking Form

Name	
Practice Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone	
Email	

Fees

Members	£55.00 + VAT (£63.25)
Non-Members	£65.00 + VAT (£74.75)
Student Members	£27.50 + VAT (£31.62)

Payment Details

- Please find a cheque enclosed for £..... made payable to RIBA South
- I would like to make a donation of £.....to the Architects Benevolent Society

Please specify any dietary or access requirements

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Please return this form to RIBA South, Room G01, Building L019, University of Reading, London Road, Reading, RG1 5AQ or fax back to **0118 931 4493**

Booking Conditions

- Refunds cannot be made, but substitutes are accepted at any time. Please inform RIBA South of any changes by calling **0118 987 4900** or emailing caroline.cotton@inst.riba.org
- Please note bookings cannot be confirmed until payment has been received.
- VAT receipts will be sent to you along with a confirmation letter and a map/directions once your booking form and payment has been received.