

Designing with the correct standards



The Source

for Critical Information and Insight™

The Construction Information Service
RMJM Architects

Objective

To provide RMJM with an online service that delivers essential documents for designing all types of projects from popular structures and renovations to cutting edge carbon neutral buildings, helping them to deliver fast, accurate and authoritative specifications.

Solution

IHS a leading edge supplier of standards, regulations, product and supplier information supporting to core industries construction & engineering, health & safety and environment. Information delivered directly to the desktops of architects, civil & structural engineers, designers, health & safety professionals, standards engineers, quality assurance managers, compliance officers and strategic planners.

Why IHS?

IHS provides RMJM with the following online information services:

The Construction Information Service - a unique knowledge tool that delivers key technical information critical to all construction projects in one easy-to-use online package. Developed in partnership with NBS, it provides instant full-

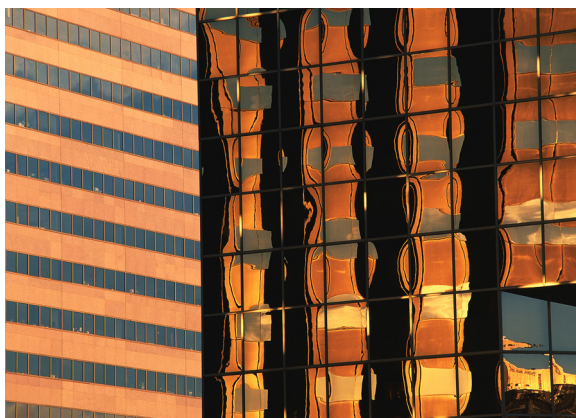
text access to current regulations, standards, technical advice and a vast array of related news and briefings. An indispensable source of key information, tailored to meet our customers' needs.

Specify-it is a comprehensive collection of construction component and equipment information for the construction industry professionals, covering both UK suppliers and overseas suppliers with recognised UK agents.

RMJM Perspective

Since it was founded in 1956, originally based in Edinburgh and London, RMJM Architects has grown into a worldwide practice. Today, the firm employs more than 1000 people in 17 offices around the world, including Beijing, Moscow, New York, Singapore, Dubai and Hong Kong.

RMJM's professional architects and engineers are constantly engaged in developing building projects across a wide range of industry sectors including commerce, education, leisure, retail, residential, science and healthcare, in both the public and private spheres.



Signature projects include the Scottish Parliament Building, Beijing's 7-Star Hotel, and the Dubai tower in Doha, Qatar.

Operating at the forefront of modern architectural practice, the firm's professionals rely on IHS's The Construction Information Service to provide them with online access to a comprehensive suite of data on prevailing standards, criteria and regulations.

Responsibility for managing the provision of The Construction Information Service lies with Christine Macleod, Knowledge Centre Co-ordinator at the firm's Edinburgh office.

"Our architects, engineers and building services professionals have been using this service since 1993," says Christine. "It's used by about 60% of our people. It's certainly played a significant role in reducing the physical size of our own information library. With huge amounts of critical information online, we have been able to clear out large volumes of hard copy and make our service to internal clients a great deal more efficient."

"It's a robust, reliable system that's always available. And IHS do a professional job in keeping the site up to date," says Christine. "In our business, we have to be absolutely certain that we're designing to the correct standards, and that we comply with the prevailing regulatory and legislative frameworks. Sometimes that's not easy, given that the legislation is constantly being reviewed and amended. The Construction Information Service is a real benefit in this regard. In fact, I'd say it is a critical business tool."

On a more functional level, the service helps RMJM's staff with day-to-day decisions. *"In the past, if our architects needed to find, say, doorhandles, they had to order trade literature from a range of suppliers. This would take time and generate waste. But within The Construction Information Service there's a service called Specify-it, which is a fully searchable online database of products, suppliers and manufacturers' catalogues. It's quick, easy, comprehensive and entirely electronic, so there's no waste. It saves them – and me – a huge amount of time."*



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