

Compliance and Best Practice



The Source

for Critical Information and Insight™

The Construction Information Service
Wardell Armstrong

Objective

To provide Wardell Armstrong with an online information service ensuring compliance, supporting them in the delivery of best practice.

Solution

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

Why IHS?

IHS delivers current regulations, standards, guidance and best practice documents direct to user's desktop, including:

The Construction Information Service is a unique knowledge tool that delivers key technical information critical to all construction projects in one easy-to-use online package. Developed by IHS and NBS, it provides instant full-text access to current regulations, standards, technical advice and a vast array of related news and briefings. Fully searchable, intelligently classified and constantly updated, it's an indispensable source of key information, tailored to meet your real needs.



The Occupational Health & Safety Information Service provides health, safety and environmental practitioners with the only comprehensive, online information service which has daily updates.

Specify-it 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.

Wardell Armstrong - Overview

Wardell Armstrong is an independent engineering consultancy with a range of professional skills that extends from civil and structural project work to environmental analysis and solutions.

The company has a head office in Stoke-on-Trent and eight regional offices spread throughout the UK from Cornwall to Edinburgh. It employs over 250 professional and technical staff, all of whom use information products delivered by IHS.

Wardell Armstrong subscribes to a wide range of IHS information services. The core product is The Construction Information Service, supplemented by Specify-it, The Occupational Health & Safety Information Service and The Environmental Management Service.



The diversity of the services to which Wardell Armstrong staff has access reflects the diversity of the work they undertake. As well as acting as consulting engineers on conventional construction projects, they advise clients on everything from renewable energy to hydrology, from mining to waste management, and environmental planning to health & safety.

Pauline Cooke is a Principal Engineering Geologist with the company. As well as carrying out technical work for clients, she is responsible for managing aspects of the company's information procurement – which includes all the IHS products. *“Originally, we used a microfiche system for accessing information on standards and regulatory issues. Then we upgraded to CD ROMs. But the conversion to internet-based information has made it much more flexible, convenient and efficient,”* she says. *“Our technical people can simply log on to the services via the company intranet. It's like a comprehensive online library that's open all day, every day. Even when our people go abroad on assignment, they can access the system.”*

Operating at the forefront of modern architectural practice, the firm's professionals rely on

The Construction Information Service to provide them with online access to a comprehensive suite of data on prevailing standards, criteria and regulations.

How important are these services for Wardell Armstrong's people?

“Our clients rely on us to adhere to prevailing standards and to achieve best practice. One of the difficulties we face is that standards and regulations are constantly changing as a result of UK, European and international decisions. So we have to make sure that we're always abreast of the latest information – and that's exactly what the IHS services give us. Virtually all the information we need is instantly available and up to date.”

Reliability and customer support are also important.

“The systems are robust, and the IHS help desk is always quick to respond if we've got a query.”

Wardell Armstrong's staff have developed an outstanding reputation for solving their clients' problems, and IHS services are one of the vital tools that helps them to achieve their objectives.



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UK
t: +44 (0) 1344 328000
e: marketing@ihs.com
w: uk.ihs.com

Southern Europe
t: +33 (0)1 44 50 54 33
e: info@ihsfrance.com
w: www.ihsfrance.com

Northern Europe
& CIS Countries
t: +45 39402244
e: info@ihsnecis.com
w: www.ihsnecis.com

Germany
t: +49 (0) 89 8952690
e: mail@ihs.de
w: Germany.ihs.com

SNV Shop Switzerland
t: +41-(0) 52 2245454
e: info@snv.ch
w: www.snv.ch

IHS Inc.
t: 1-800-525-7052
w: www.ihs.com

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