

First Project Newsletter – July 2010

Low Impact Buildings Project

Funded by:

Technology Strategy Board
Driving Innovation

EPSRC
Pioneering research
and skills

Project Team:



OXFORD
BROOKES
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With the support of:

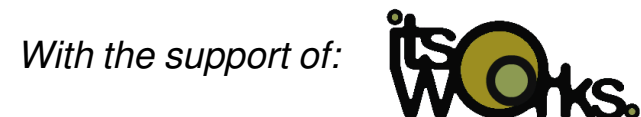


Welcome

This is the first newsletter of the Low Impact Buildings project.

This [TSB](#) and [EPSRC](#) funded project is focused on developing an integrated waste, carbon and cost model to help deliver future low carbon buildings.

The project is being managed by sustainability experts [Best Foot Forward](#) with support from [Oxford Brookes University](#). Other consortium partners include leading architects [Zedfactory](#) and developers of the energy modelling software [DesignBuilder](#). Support is being provided by [ItSoWorks](#).



The project team

We realise that delivering environmentally friendly buildings in a cost efficient way is a challenge that requires a multidisciplinary approach.

The Low Impact Buildings (LIB) project team comprises academics, environmental experts, software developers, architects and quantity surveyors. We will also be engaging construction companies.

Project Managers: [Paul Cooper](#) (BFF), [Craig Simmons](#) (BFF), [Joe Tah](#) (Oxford Brookes)



The Team

Best Foot Forward Ltd.



Craig Simmons (Project Manager)
[Best Foot Forward](#)

Craig is a co-founder of Best Foot Forward who entered the sector to pursue his interests in ecology – the behavioural, educational and communication issues and barriers relating to the adoption of more environmentally sustainable business practices and lifestyles. He has authored several books including *Sharing Nature's* interests on ecological footprinting and *The ZED Book*, a definitive guide to creating low carbon communities. Craig is a founding member of the Global Footprint Network and member of the International Footprint Standards Committee. Craig leads technical accounting, methodology development, and directs BFF's software team in the evolution of [Footprint](#).

Oxford Brookes University



Professor Joseph H. M. Tah (Principal Investigator)

Joe Tah is Professor in Project Management and Head of Department of Real Estate and Construction at Oxford Brookes University. His current research interests are in the application of artificial intelligence (AI) and distributed computing techniques to the development of decision support systems for low impact building design and construction. For more details please see <http://www.brookes.ac.uk/schools/life/tahtfor/epshh.html>



Professor David Duce (Co-Investigator)

David Duce is a Professor of Computer Science in the School of Technology, with research interests in Web technologies, visualization, computer graphics and digital forensics.



Dr Franco Cheung (Co-Investigator)

Dr Franco Cheung is a senior lecturer at Oxford Brookes University specialising in construction cost forecasting and risk analysis.



Dr Esra Ercul (Co-Investigator)

Esra trained as an architect in Turkey and her current research interests lie in the role social networks play in the delivery of a sustainable built environment.

ZEDfactory Ltd.



Bill Dunster

Bill Dunster is founder and principal of the ZEDfactory - a cross between an architectural practice, a product design service, urban designers, zero carbon zero waste systems thinking, and an environmental pressure group that tries to change our conservative industry by building replicable demonstration projects at all scales.

ItSoWorks Ltd.



Eric Ostrowski

Eric Ostrowski is a specialist in mechanical and electrical cost consultancy working through his own company ItSoWorks Limited. Eric has over 30 years cost planning experience and has worked for a number of leading cost consultancies and client organizations including Balfour Beatty and Unilever. He has developed and used knowledge-based models in practice including the development and use of data mining techniques for identifying rules for estimating cost from large project databases which can be used at the early stages of a project in the absence of sufficient data.

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Project context/1

The construction industry is under pressure to respond to increasingly tight environmental standards whilst cutting costs and delivering quality infrastructure and buildings.

This is fuelling the development of an increasing number of new construction methods, materials, technologies, processes and innovative practices aimed at improving sustainability.

Low Impact Buildings Project

Home



630 days until Project Completion

Join Our Discussion

Other Links
[internal project website](#)

Messages

Low Impact Buildings (LIB) Project website

The **TSE** and **EP2PC** funded project is focused on developing an integrated design, carbon and cost model to be applied to the campus buildings. For more details of the project aims and objectives, see [Project Details](#).

This is a challenging project that can only succeed with close collaboration between academics and external private sector partners.

For the reasons, the LIB project has been supported by a [grant](#), [in-kind](#) support from leading academics, environmental experts, software developers, and design and building contractors. As the project progresses we will also be engaging construction companies.


Key Milestones

Lead partner	Milestone	Due Date	Complete
BFF	Newsletter	July 5, 2010	
BFF	Newsletter	January 17, 2011	
BFF	Newsletter	July 4, 2011	

Showing 3 items from page [Low Impact Buildings](#) sorted by Date Desc.
Lead partner: Complete [View more](#)

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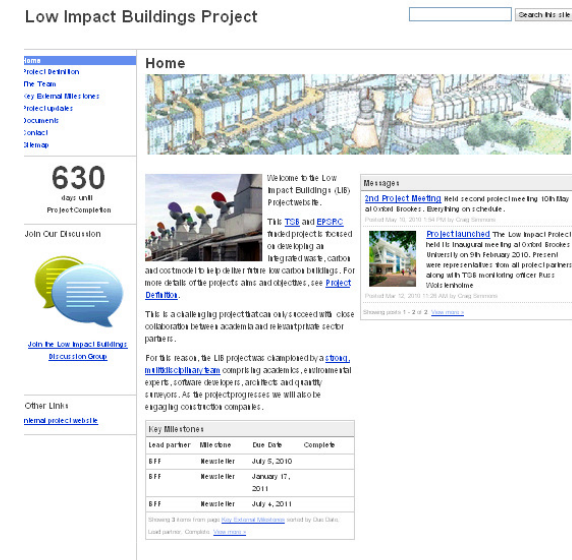


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Project context/2


As the number of options increase, so does the complexity. Informed decisions require the management of vast amounts of information and knowledge about alternatives and their performance. It is not cost-effective to manually assess or prototype all options so, increasingly, software-based estimation methods and models are being used.

This project has been developed in response to the call from the TSB for research proposals on “*Design & Decision Tools for Low Impact Buildings*”. The aim is to help the construction industry respond to regulatory and procurement driven markets for buildings which have less impact on the environment.



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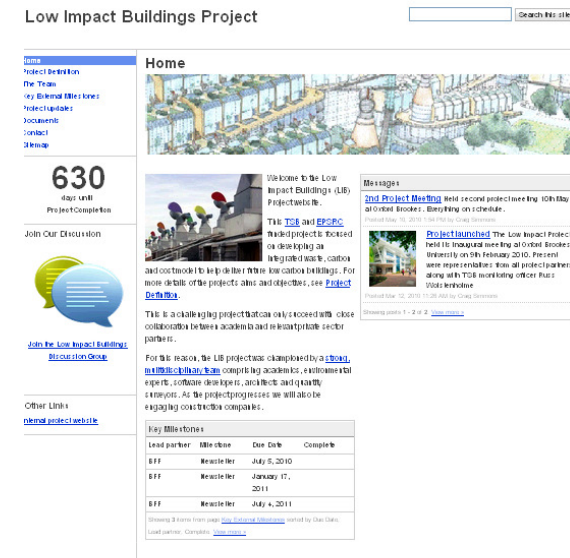


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Project work packages and schedule

The work will be undertaken over 24 months (starting February 2010) through the following work packages:

- Work Package 1: Project Management
- Work Package 2: End-User Requirements
- Work Package 3: Embodied Carbon Emissions Measurement
- Work Package 4: Integrated Carbon, Waste, Time, and Cost Models
- Work Package 5: Development of Decision Support Tools
- Work Package 6: Testing, Validation, Implementation and Exploitation



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Want to know more?

Go to the LIB website: www.lowimpactbuildings.org where you can:

- Learn more about the project
- Find contact details for the project team
- Join our Discussion Group
- Download project documents

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Low Impact Buildings Project website. At the top, there is a search bar and the text "Low Impact Buildings Project". Below this is a navigation menu with links for Home, Project Definition, The Team, Key External Milestones, Project Update, Documents, Contact, and News. The main content area features a large image of a modern building complex. Below the image, there is a section titled "630 days until Project Completion" and a "Join Our Discussion" button. A "Messages" section contains several news items, including "Project Definition" and "Project launched". At the bottom, there is a "Key Milestones" table.

Lead partner	Milestone	Due Date	Complete
BFF	Masterplan	July 5, 2010	
BFF	Masterplan	January 17, 2011	
BFF	Masterplan	July 4, 2011	

Thank You

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