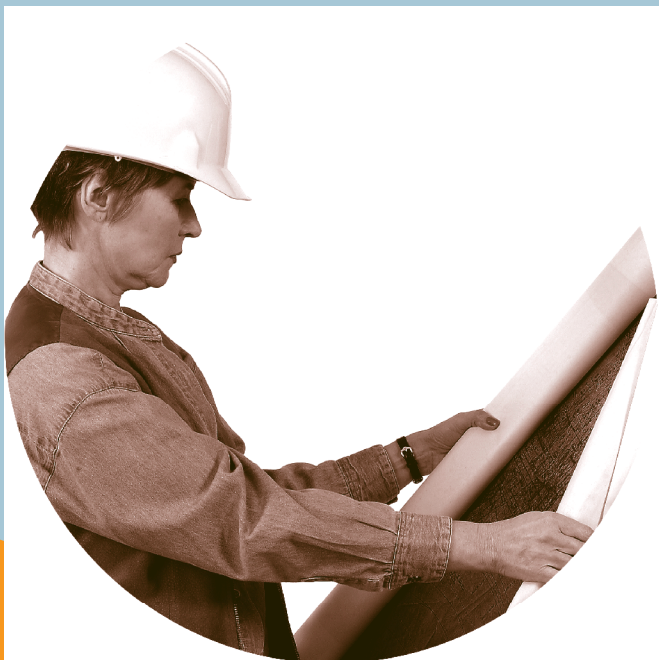


The site manager

is also known as the agent, contracts manager, building manager or construction manager. They are basically responsible for running a construction site, or a large part of it. This can be very difficult, but also highly satisfying when everything goes smoothly. A construction manager has a highly regarded, professional position, which can be achieved after several years in the industry. Projects that site engineers work on will vary from small scale to multi-million pound ventures. With experience, engineers tend to progress to more complex and expensive projects. Every project is different, but a common source of job satisfaction is seeing an end result. The majority of site engineers work for contractors. Although projects can take place all over the world, overseas posts normally require experience and are not suitable for new graduates. Clients can include central and local government, developers and multinational corporations.

The job involves:

- Before construction starts, preparing the site and generally liaising with other construction professional; architects, engineers, buyers, estimators, surveyors and many more
- Developing a programme for the project and a strategy for making it happen
- Planning ahead to solve problems with the delivery and storage of equipment and materials, before they occur
- Making safety inspections of the site when work is under way
- It is important to be able to communicate with all kinds of people including the public and the workforce



Further Information

contact:

Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)
Englemere, Kingsride,
Ascot, Berkshire SL5
7TB
Tel: 01344 630 700
www.ciob.org.uk

Entry qualifications and progression routes

There are several general construction courses at this level, covering most of the subjects relevant to students aiming to become technicians in the construction industry. Subjects can include everything from maths to concrete technology.

Courses generally last one or two years and can be taken on full or part-time basis. There will be opportunities to specialise in the areas you wish to pursue. Suitable courses at FE level are BTEC First and National Diplomas and AVCE in Construction and the Built Environment. Make sure that if you have a particular career in mind you look at the subject options available before choosing a course. Once you have undertaken a course in the built environment, you may consider working whilst studying for a part-time degree in construction management or progressing to a degree or HND course.

Degree courses that lead to a career in construction management are called building studies, building engineering, construction engineering management, building technology, building management or simply building. Broadly, they cover the science, technology, economics and organisational aspects of construction and management. You learn about management and the practices of running a project, whilst studying the world of economics, cost accounting and computer systems.

The site manager

