

## European Construction Costs

### Website & Book

RLB and IGG have formed European Construction Costs Ltd. (ECC) a venture to create a pan-European construction cost database.

What is it?

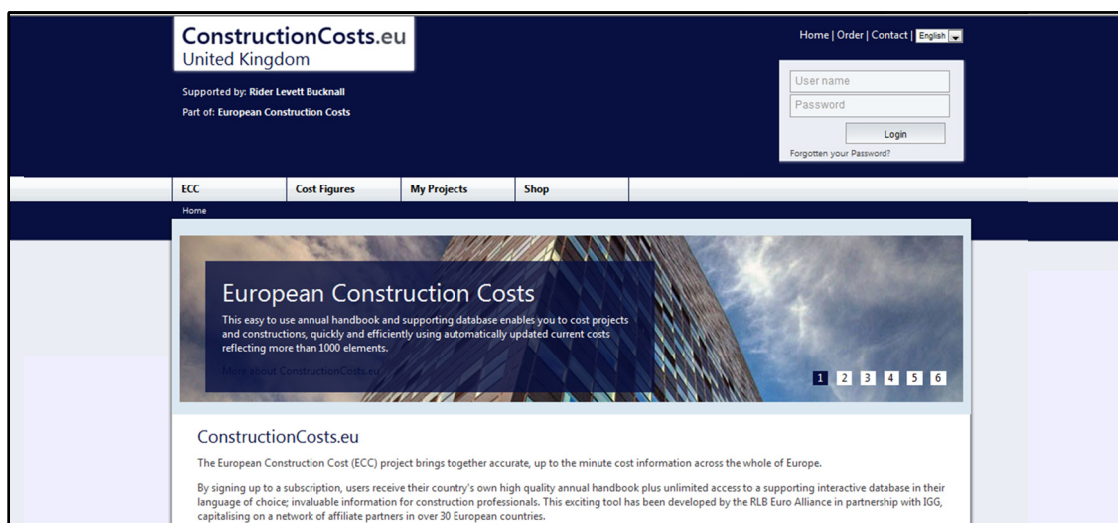
- Cost estimating system
- Web hosted
- Elemental level of cost data

The sale of the product, mainly to construction professionals across Europe is to provide an accurate, current database of each countries construction costs. Each annual subscription provides an annual handbook plus unlimited access to their national database and the full databases of all the other participating countries.

The local affiliate is responsible for providing the latest current cost data each quarter to update the cost of the models presented in the hand book (replicated on the site).IGG is responsible for collating and managing the data and its presentation.

The site may be accessed via;

<http://www.constructioncosts.eu/>



The ECC site not only presents the cost data but enables customers to estimate the costs of their own project from the cost figures presented. The versatility of the programme enables any changes made to be recalculated immediately and retained for subsequent use by the subscriber.

### How it works

We are now in the 'soft launch' phase of the UK hard book and online database. RLB as the UK affiliate for the venture have piloted the preliminary phase using their data capture

and experience to populate the database to a point where the product is ready for testing. RLB offices are being asked to review the data as well as the usability and functionality view of the whole concept with fresh eyes and thoughts! After we have fine-tuned the contents of the hand book and web platform we will be better place to bring other countries on board.

To enable for you and your office to test the database and website, a log on has been provided to provide full access as a normal user.

### Cost Figures

- Under the `Cost Figures` tab there are a range of cost plans for a number of building types. These building types are categorised with similar building types. Under each building type there are 3 levels of model for each building type (low/basic/high), each level having a different specification resulting in changes in costs.

Please remember that the write up for each model is intended to be generic and not necessarily the model in the photo. We show cost GFA, cost per m<sup>3</sup> and rebuilding cost.

Please review the cost figures and give your feedback in relation to the cost data.

### My Projects

- Under the tab `My Projects` the user can make their own projects.
- Select the `New Project` option, follow the on screen instructions and enter all the project information in the `project information` screen. The location of the project also needs to be selected at this point which will have an impact on the project cost.
- On the next screen `Project definition` the type of building type needs to be selected with 4 choices that need to be confirmed.
- Following this; the `object definition` needs to be confirmed. In this section the GFA is to be inserted along with any ratio's that are known for the specific building type. The quality that you require also needs to be selected with the total areas from the GFA selected shown in the Totals section.

- When completed select the `next` option that will bring you to the end of your object calculation.

The figures presented have either been gathered by RLB Welwyn from RLB projects or have been generated as typical models.

## **Future Considerations**

We already have other countries (Spain, France, Belgium and Turkey) that are very keen to come aboard at the earliest opportunity and so this initial experience with the UK will be invaluable. Following this phase 2 launch, we look to deploy in other European markets

We would like to establish your ideas as to how you would and could use the platform. For example we are looking at the addition of;

- Carbon content to calculated models
- Carbon in use
- Additional costs of BREEAM
- Functional costs (cost per student, parking space, hotel bed etc)
- What else could we offer? Refurbishment, environmental upgrade? Green feasibility?

Though the subscription will generate an income the benefit of being the professional linked to the site will help make RLB the 'must call' for professional advice.

**Feedback (please send to [eccfeedback@uk.rlb.com](mailto:eccfeedback@uk.rlb.com))**