



Editorial

John-Paris Pantouvakis

Dear Reader,

I have been fortunate enough to be involved as a member of the editorial board of the “*Organization, Technology & Management in Construction: An International Journal*” since its very inception in Umag, Croatia in 2008 and very privileged to see the journal overcome difficulties, mature and get established in Central and Southeast Europe and equally in the wider geographical area.

And it is due to this international dimension of the journal that I find it very relevant and appropriate to publish in this issue, after rigorous peer-review, extended versions of selected papers originally presented at the 26th International Project Management Association (IPMA) World Congress, held on the Greek island of Crete in October 2012 (www.ipma2012.com).

The 26th IPMA World Congress brought together colleagues from 55 countries in five continents and included 200 papers published in the Congress ISBN-ed proceedings (<http://procs.ipma.gr>) and four cooperating journals (including OTMC). Around 45 presentations have also been videotaped and are today available in the form of video proceedings with synchronized video and PowerPoint presentations (<http://video.ipma.gr>). I have been honoured to Chair this Congress, assisted by an extended 60-member Scientific Committee from 26 countries around the globe.

Today, I am equally grateful and pleased to be able to edit the issue before you presenting current thoughts and contemporary matters in the wider subject area of construction project management. More specifically:

In the first paper of this issue, *Kim and Park*, investigate client’s demands, potential benefits and adoption requirements of Building Information Management (BIM) systems in housing refurbishment projects in the UK. They argue that besides the mandate for public sector implementation of BIM systems in the UK by 2016, there are distinct benefits leading to greener construction and, thus, foresee wider acceptance of BIMs in the near future.

Management principles can affect project performance as *Locatelli et al.* discuss in the second paper. More specifically,

the use of the lean construction philosophy may lead to astonishing results on project performance by focusing on reducing unpredictable work-flows, minimizing the effects of activity inter-dependencies and avoiding rework.

Mohebifar et al. in the third paper concentrate on collaborative networks between general contractors and suppliers/subcontractors in order to achieve complex construction goals and guarantee project performance. They suggest that the approach may lead to coordinated virtual enterprises ensuring sustainable competitiveness for those involved.

Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) are explored in the following two papers. In the first one, *Alasad et al.* suggest that system dynamics modelling is relevant and appropriate due to its capability to model complex and constantly changing systems. They present the development stages of a conceptual qualitative dynamic systems model for demand forecasting including factors identification and creation and validation of causal loop diagrams.

In the second paper on PPPs, *Carbonara et al.* propose a three-layered theoretical framework for the analysis of PPP projects in different sectors and countries, each layer of which consisting of a number of dimensions. The proposed framework is subsequently exemplified by being applied mainly to transportation projects in Italy.

Finally, in the last paper in this issue, *Leventakis et al.* present a holistic risk assessment framework applicable at a strategic level in heterogeneous transportation networks. According to this methodology risk is propagated between interconnected networks through an “Incident Propagation Matrix” taking into account the nature of the interconnection and the type of threat aiming at reducing eventually the impacts on business continuity.

I hope that the papers in this issue will offer you a taste of the 26th IPMA World Congress and, at the same time, they will prove useful to your current and future endeavours.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. John-Paris Pantouvakis

November 2013