

Specification Consulting: A quick guide



We manage a web-based master specification system for the Marks & Spencer store roll out.



Specification Consulting is a truly unique service amongst construction consultants.

Our unrivalled global experience means we can help clients reduce their exposure to risk and maximise the likelihood of them achieving their designer's vision.

What do we do?

Our Specification Consulting team works closely with both clients and designers to generate concise, robust and unambiguous specification documentation either on projects, or for updating their in-house requirements.

Our services include:

- Advising on how issues such as design responsibility, procurement, project location, national and regulatory standards, quality and performance benchmarking, material use and sustainability affect the specification format, content and use.

- From Stage C onwards, providing experienced specification consultants who will work with designers to generate specification documents tailored to reflect individual project requirements.
- Providing Specification Management for multiple building projects such as Building Schools for the Future programmes or programme management commissions, setting specification guidelines, monitoring outputs, facilitating supply chain usage, etc.
- Due diligence reviews on existing specification documents to provide a health check for concerned clients.

How can we help clients?

The depth and breadth of our industry knowledge and expertise means we can help clients by:

- Reducing the risk of contractor claims and late design queries.
- Allowing their designers to focus on design rather than specification delivery.
- Ensuring the specification is of the highest technical standard to deliver the design quality required.
- Having a specification that is aligned with the contract and procurement route and fully coordinated with other consultants' documents, thereby preventing duplication or conflict.
- Achieving their sustainability goals through material usage.
- Saving money by producing coordinated specifications on multi-site projects which include standard material palettes, thereby enabling bulk purchasing.
- Reducing risk exposure to their designers working in new markets, sectors or locations.
- Getting the maximum value for their money by ensuring the designer has a clear and unambiguous document to drive delivery from.

Who do we work for?

Specification Consulting is not confined to specific sectors or geographies. We work across all sectors globally from our teams based in the UK, Ireland, Dubai, South Africa and Australia on behalf of:

- National and international architects on a framework or project basis, employed as sub-consultants.
- Clients and developers who employ us to write their in-house design briefs or their in-house specifications.



Great Court, British Museum
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- Multi-disciplinary major project design teams, eg. Crossrail.
- Contractors on Building Schools for the Future programmes.
- Government bodies.

What solutions do we offer?

We bring 25 years experience in the field of specifications with an unrivalled reputation and client base. We have worked on some of the world's most famous buildings of recent times with some of the most famous designers, providing us with a huge database of knowledge to tap into. We know what works and what doesn't work in certain markets and we share this to help our clients achieve their design aspirations.

Designers and clients come to us because they have confidence that we can deliver when they may not be able to.

For example:

- Having won a design competition in a new market sector or location, they can tap into our international knowledge.
- Having suffered claims against their own documents, they acknowledge the need for watertight documents.
- Project programmes and inexperienced staff necessitate outsourcing.
- The scale of the task of keeping in-house master specification documents up to date is too difficult and costly.
- We can mobilise quickly using our internationally-based teams, utilising our web-based software to deliver multiple format consistent services anywhere.

Contacts



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