

[Abstracts](#)

**MANAGING ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE IN BRITISH
CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATIONS: CHALLENGES, STRATEGIES
AND ACTION**

By

Peter A. Strachan and John Moxen

The Robert Gordon University, Faculty of Management,
School of Public Administration and Law,
Garthdee, Garthdee Road, Aberdeen, AB10 7QE
Tele: (01224) 263400 and Fax: (01224) 263434,
email: p.a.strachan@rgu.ac.uk

ABSTRACT

The British Government has recently indicated that the construction industry has an important part to play in its national sustainable development strategy and has embarked upon a consultation process that aims to improve the environmental policies and strategies of construction organisations. This paper critically examines the current efforts being made by British construction organisations to develop and sustain more effective environmental policies, strategies and management. More specifically, this paper investigates how the level and nature of environmental pressures, concerns and organisational responses are changing in this sector. 200 large construction organisations were surveyed and the results found that environmental issues are very important to their long-term competitiveness. However, many construction organisations have not established the basic components of an environmental management system, nor are they aware, or planning to use standardised environmental management systems such ISO 14001 or the EMAS Regulation. The paper also presents a number of other interesting findings and concludes by examining the governmental and organisational strategies that are needed to improve the environmental performance of British construction organisations.