

CESMM3 Price Database 2009

Edited by Franklin and Andrews

Institution of Civil Engineers

CESMM3 Price Database 2009

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Foreword

The Institution of Civil Engineers' *CESMM3 Price Database 2009* is the sixth edition of what has become the standard in the provision of civil engineering price information. It has been thoroughly revised and updated to provide over 25,000 realistic unit rates and over 2,000 material prices based on information accurate at the third quarter of 2008. Once again it has been structured in line with the requirements of CESMM3 to enable users familiar with the class structure of the CESMM to go directly to the section they require.

The data for this new publication has been compiled using the unparalleled industry knowledge and expertise of Franklin and Andrews, one of the UK's foremost cost advisers and construction economists involved in construction engineering and whose dedicated Economic Research Unit produces high quality cost data for the many publications it has compiled for use in all sectors of the construction industry.

The *CESMM3 Price Database* should be on the desk of every contractor, estimator, engineer, quantity surveyor and project manager actively involved in civil engineering work, in both the public and private sectors of the industry, to provide efficient responses to demands for 'quick cost estimates'. It is also a volume that should be alongside *CESMM3* and the *ICE Conditions of Contract* in the bookcase of every director, senior partner or chief officer who needs to be aware of current cost trends and to be knowledgeable on the developments in the construction industry.

The database will doubtless be used for estimating/costing purposes at various stages in civil engineering contracts and will be an invaluable cost management tool. However, whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of pricing data, it must be borne in mind that resource availability, location, nature and size of project etc. will all have a bearing on the pricing for any individual project and the CESMM3 price data may only be regarded as 'average prices' under 'normal conditions' and are current the third quarter of 2008, reflecting average discounts. Prices exclude Value Added Tax.

Thomas Telford welcomes comments from users on changes or amendments which would further enhance the usefulness of the publication. Please address any correspondence to:

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Introduction

This is the sixth edition of the *CESMM3 Price Database*. Completely redesigned and updated for 2009, this new edition still follows the same structure and presentation as earlier editions, the bulk of the book consisting of pricing information covering all aspects of civil engineering activity structured in accordance with the requirements of CESMM3 and broken down into the 26 classes of CESMM3, with an additional section, Class ZZ, which covers alteration works.

The price information is complemented by sections covering approximate estimating, plant hire rates and outputs, economic forecasts, the Working Rule Agreement, professional, government and trade bodies and, finally, a section of technical information useful for those preparing costs and quantities for civil engineering projects.

It is generally accepted in the construction industry that unit costs for civil engineering works are more profoundly influenced by such factors as scale, nature and characteristics of the project than the similar unit costs for building works. The reasons for this are many and varied but the greater opportunity for the contractor to exercise his expertise and ingenuity in arriving at the optimum solution to a particular problem, combined with the wide variety of available plant with its different outputs and applications, must be major factors.

Consequently the build up of the civil engineering unit rate is of particular significance and it is for this reason that the book provides detailed information on how the rates have been derived in order to enable users to make adjustments to allow for the various factors affecting a particular project.

The information contained in this book will have many applications including providing valuable data for use in the preparation of budget estimates at the various stages of civil engineering projects from inception to completion, supplementing the information already in contractors' estimating departments and forming a basis for the negotiation of new rates within existing contracts. However, rates, prices and discounts can fluctuate

dramatically over short periods of time and between various regions of the country, particularly as now during periods of economic instability. The costs shown are third quarter 2008. Prices *exclude* Value Added Tax, general items, contractor's profit and overheads (see Section 1, Unit Pricing).

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