Title: Sustainable Supply Chain Management and its Integration in a Construction Company’s Corporate Social Responsibility Policy.

Researcher: Kieran Ladden

Supervisor: Kevin Ryan

Submission Date: August 2012

Purpose: The purpose of this research is to examine the issue of sustainable supply chain management practices in the construction industry and how these practices can be integrated within a construction firm’s day to day operations. The construction industry has significant impacts on the environment and is a major consumer of the world’s resources, and it can no longer ignore its obligations to the sustainable future of the planet. With this in mind sustainable principles and practices will be assessed in the context of mainstream construction management operators to outline the future of sustainability in construction.

Methodology: A literature review and case study analysis were undertaken to form a deep understanding of sustainable supply chain practices and how these practices could be implemented within a construction firm’s day to day operations. The research method chosen was a qualitative study which allows experienced participants from the construction industry to outline their perspectives and attitudes regarding sustainability practices within the industry. This research was then evaluated and correlated in the study. Primary research was collected through semi-structured interviews.

Findings: The research found that sustainability practices within the construction industry is becoming increasingly prevalent particularly where governmental bodies are placing additional emphasis on sustainable procurement policies and where enlightened private sector clients are beginning to understand their environmental obligations. Substantial benefits commercially and otherwise can be derived by integrating sustainable supply chain management within the organisation’s practices and policies.

Keywords: Construction, Sustainability, Supply Chain Management, Environment, Corporate Social Responsibility.