

Claim Preparation and Defence

Centra has a practical understanding of the building and construction industry alongside experience in dealing with contractual issues that arise on projects. This knowledge base and experience gained in preparing and defending claims means that Centra can provide a valuable service.

Centra can assist in a number of ways: proactively supporting a client by drafting or implementing procedures for adequate record keeping or proper contract administration during projects; investigating project documentation to assess the merit of or defences to a claim; providing contractual advice on matters arising on a project; or preparing or defending a claim.

Centra personnel have the necessary technical skills, backed with legal qualifications to review project documentation and, if necessary, to prepare a fully documented claim. Centra can provide expert advice on the contractual and legal validity of claims and assess the extent of entitlement or liability. If the preparation of a claim is determined to be the appropriate course of action Centra has the knowledge and experience to assist with developing the strategic approach and preparing an effective claim. The manner in which a claim is presented can maximize the potential for recovering potential losses. Clear analysis of the contract and project documentation along with effective written and graphical illustrations of the facts can assist to support a client's position.

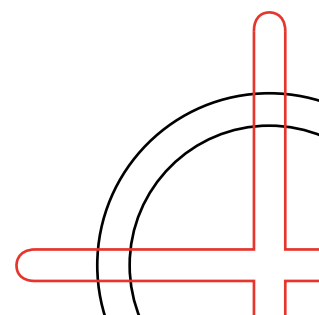
Centra can assist with the preparation and presentation of various claims including:

- Claims arising from changes in scope; and
- Claims arising from delay, including loss and/or expense claims; and
- Claims concerning unforeseen and different physical conditions; and
- Claims concerning deficiencies in contract documentation; and
- Claims arising from the performance of professional advisers; and
- Claims concerning disputed payments.

The quantification of claims can be a daunting task. Using experience gained Centra is equipped to identify liability and quantify damages in a timely and cost effective manner, including identification and costing of resources such as labour, plant and general overheads.

In terms of defending claims this can include advice in relation to contra charges, set-off and counter claims.

Centra can assist by providing the analytical support necessary to prepare and present claims, or alternatively to represent the interests of clients in defending claims received. Centra can carry out the work required to prepare or defend claims or alternatively act in an advisory role to provide guidance and direction for claim preparation by in-house resource.



Delay Analysis and Planning

Centra can carry out a Delay Analysis in relation to building and construction projects. Centra personnel have experience in the forensic investigation required into the causes of delay on projects and are able to prepare the appropriate delay analysis, including critical path analysis, and advise where responsibility lies for delays. This may be as a stand-alone exercise or as part of an overall claim preparation strategy involving review of available contractual remedies and/or monetary claims.

Centra personnel have extensive experience in the planning, programming and analysis of delays on a wide range of projects and also have experience with the different software used in the industry as well as in using different delay analysis techniques. Centra planners have also acted in defence of delay claims and in providing expert reports in various dispute resolution processes.

If it is established that a Delay Analysis is required this can entail a relatively straight forward factual review or a more complex time impact analysis involving processing large amounts of data. Whatever is the case a thorough forensic review of the facts is an absolute necessity, alongside an understanding of the practicalities of the construction process.

Delay Analysis is a subject around which there is a certain mystique. Centra can assist by preparing a Delay Analysis in an accessible and clear manner in order to de-mystify the process. Typically there are four retrospective delay analysis techniques employed, namely:

- As-Planned v As-Built.
- Impacted As-Planned.
- Collapsed As-Built.
- Time Impact Analysis

Centra is experienced in preparation of Delay Analysis using these techniques. Each of the techniques has advantages and disadvantages and the choice of which to adopt will require to be discussed with a client and will be influenced by various matters including the progress records available.

Centra personnel also have the requisite experience and skills from planning complex construction projects to provide services in preparation and monitoring of programmes. Centra is able to prepare programmes and monitor progress or provide training, oversee preparation of critical path programmes, and provide advice on monitoring of progress.

