

ConsultA

ACEI Newsletter - 3 June 2021

Information and Advice for ACEI Members

ACEI Work Arrangements

The ACEI office is temporarily closed. Email info@acei.ie with queries or contact sarah.ingle@acei.ie.

Covid-19 Updates

- [ACEI](#)
- [EFCA](#)
- [FIDIC](#)

Online Resources

- [HSE](#)
- [Revenue](#)
- [Institute of Public Health](#)
- [Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection](#)
- [Health & Safety Authority](#)
- [World Health Organisation](#)
- [Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [Health Protection Surveillance Centre](#)
- [Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#)

ACEI Secretary General Elected to EFCA Board

ACEI is pleased to announce that Secretary General, [Sarah Ingle](#), has been appointed to the Board of the European Federation of Engineering Consultancy Associations (EFCA). Sarah's election was approved at the General Annual Meeting (GAM) that took place virtually on 02 June 2021. Joining Sarah on the Board, also appointed at the 2021 GAM, is Søren Adamsen, Executive Business Development Director for COWI's international business.

Sarah is looking forward to her three year term on the [EFCA Board](#), and continuing her contribution to EFCA's advocacy and lobbying work to promote the objectives and interests of the Engineering Consultancy sector in Europe across a range of issues including sustainability, digitalisation, insurance and public procurement.



ACEI Members' Technology & Innovation Needs

As ACEI members will be aware, the built environment and construction sectors in Ireland have huge potential to increase productivity, efficiency, sustainability and ultimately profitability. A Government led team working with industry, including ACEI, is developing new proposals for these sectors. The aim of the work is to empower and enable firms of all sizes, right across Ireland, to become more innovative and to develop and adopt new techniques and technologies.

ACEI therefore encourages all members, to complete an online survey to share your views on the Technology & Innovation Needs of your firm. Only one submission per firm is required. EY will be compiling the feedback obtained, as well as undertaking focus groups and analysing technology trends and innovation initiatives worldwide for the construction and built environment.

ACEI welcomes the expertise and views of our members being captured and incorporated into the initiatives being developed through this process. We hope you will ensure the survey is completed on your firm's behalf using the link below. The survey can be stopped at any time so does not need to be completed in one session.

ACEI Member Survey Link:	Technology & Innovation Needs Survey >>
Average time to complete:	20 minutes
Closing Date:	18 June 2021
Data & Confidentiality:	The survey is GDPR compliant. All responses are confidential and will be aggregated to develop recommendations.

Promotional Opportunity for Cork Based Members

The *Business Post* publishes an annual regional supplement on Cork City and County. Last year's publication date was in September due to COVID-19, however the plan this year is to return to the normal publishing date in June. ACEI members with offices in Cork may wish to consider this opportunity to promote their firms, recent projects in the region, graduate vacancies or other career opportunities.

Further information including costings are provided in the [attached brief](#), and the [2019](#) and [2020](#) supplements are also available to view. If your firm is interested in placing a display advertisement, the *Business Post* would be very happy to offer a special discounted rate along with a free of charge feature that includes an interview and a photo. To obtain more details on this special supplement and the costings, please contact Noel Killeen directly as soon as possible on 087-6781526.

ACEI Contribution to Business Post

ACEI Secretary General Sarah Ingle was pleased to be invited to contribute to a recent [Business Post report](#). Sarah noted that: "Within the Irish built environment industry, consulting engineering professionals that are members of the Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland (ACEI), are ideally placed to address the infrastructure and building challenges." She also stated that consulting engineers hold a unique position in providing advice to clients across the lifecycles of a project. They can, and do, use this opportunity to guide clients towards the realisation of sustainable objectives.

The Difference between Sleep and Rest

In a recent Ted post, author [Saundra Dalton-Smith](#) outlines why sleep and rest are not the same thing. Rest should result in restoration in a number of key life areas including: physical, mental, sensory, creative, emotional and spiritual. Dalton-Smith advises that: "We go through life thinking we've rested because we have gotten enough sleep – but in reality we are missing out on the other types of rest we desperately need. The result is a culture of high-achieving, high-producing, chronically tired and chronically burned-out individuals. We're suffering from a rest deficit because we don't understand the true power of rest."

Recent Good News

- Congratulations are due to Seamus Doyle of ACEI Member firm O'Connor Sutton Cronin who has been awarded an Honorary Mention at the 2021 EFCA Future Leader Award.
- The 2021 FIDIC Project Awards are now open for applications. The submission requirements and further information are available to view on the [FIDIC Website](#).
- A national [pilot initiative](#) in Spain is being planned for later in the year, in order to trial a four-day working week of 32 hours.

ICE Publishes Book on Safe Design

The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) has recently published a new book, [Designing a Safer Built Environment](#). The book addresses "long-standing uncertainties and challenges faced by designers, highlighted by recent events such as the Grenfell Tower fire, by providing a clear methodology for design risk management ... it shows how designers can effectively manage risks to safety and health over a structure's life-cycle whilst also raising standards."

The book is aimed at professionals who manage and oversee design work, as well as those who have an interest in the consequences of poor design.

ACEI Bridging the Gap Initiative

The ACEI *Bridging the Gap* project is now well under way. Member firms have been completing an online survey and the responses are still coming in. If your firm has not yet completed the survey please do so as soon as possible. Consultations with internal and external stakeholders being undertaken by Grant Thornton have also started, and will continue over the next two weeks.

ACEI Office Closure

The ACEI Office will be closed during 4 – 7 June inclusive over the bank holiday weekend. We hope our member firms can enjoy the break as we look forward to a period of increased positivity, along with a gradual re-opening of society in the coming weeks and months.