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Do you have a question about this guide, or want some help? Let us know!

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ABOUT CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION SERVICE

Construction Information Service is an online database that gives access to a wide range of material relevant to construction, architecture and surveying.

It contains information such as regulations, standards, technical guides, briefings, news, a collection of relevant British Standards, access to the AJ, books, and much more. It is an essential resource for anyone studying these subject areas.

Most of the information in CIS is available as full text but there is part of the databases that is only available as abstract information.

Please note that the papers on this database must only be used for non-commercial academic purposes and you must follow the terms and conditions.
ACCESSING CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION SERVICE

In order to access Construction Information Service, go to the RGU Library webpage and access the Subject Resources section, then Databases by Subject.

You will see a list of all our available subjects on the Library Guides pages. This database will likely be most used by Architecture and Surveying students, however you will find it in other subjects, such as Law or Occupational Health.

Select your subject from the list.
Each subject will have a number of available databases, search for Construction Information Service in the list and click on the title.

Now use your RGU username and password to log in to the database.

Find CIS in the list of products and click view product.
SEARCHING AND BROWSING

BASIC SEARCHING

To begin searching, type in your search terms in the box at the top of the page. You can then choose between the all terms and exact phrase option and search.

All terms will return results with your words included anywhere in the results.

Exact phrase will ensure the terms appear as a phrase somewhere in the results.

Top Tip!

Make sure when you first log in that you scroll down the home page and see what is available.

Here you will get quick links to some of the most used documents within CIS such as the Metric Handbook. It is also where you will find the link to the Architect's Journal.
To look at the advanced search click on Advanced, near the basic search box.

This page will offer you more specific searching, such as:

- Abstract
- Document Number
- Author
- Title
- Publisher
- Series
- ISBN

You can also narrow your results down to a specific date range.
BROWSING

There are also options to browse through some different groups within CIS by using the menu options on the left hand side of the screen.

There are also interests sections that group together documents on new legislation, BIM, and sustainability.

For example, you can browse through all available Subjects. They are grouped in alphabetical order and you can select the letter you are looking for. After that, select a subject that interests you.

Once you select a section to browse through such as subjects more options open up and you can simply scroll through the options to locate the heading and then select it to see the documents.
RESULTS AND GETTING THE FULL TEXT

Once you have completed your searching you will see a list on the search results page. As an example, a search for ‘timber frame construction’ returns 3907 results.

USING FILTERS

As the number of results is quite high, you can use the filters on the right hand side menu to narrow down to results that are more accurate.

You can filter by:
- publisher
- published date
- series, or
- the date the item was added to CIS

After you select your preferred filters, click on Apply.

Top Tip!

At the bottom of the results column you might get options for NBS building regulations and Suppliers via Specify-it. Click on them to see what is available.

NBS Building Regulations (739)
Suppliers via Specify-it (15)
GETTING THE FULL TEXT

After you perform the search, the results window will display:

- the list of results in a column on the left, and
- full information about the selected documents on the right

The list can be scrolled through and while it is initially sorted by relevance, it can be re-ordered by title, date, publisher and series.

The window on the right lets you see the full information of any document you have clicked on from the list of results. It includes information such as title, status, document history, author, publisher, abstracts and subject.

Finally if it is available as a full text document there will be a download button to allow you to download and read the full document.