

SUMMARY OF TECHNOLOGY

The scarcity of a wide range of locally available technical skills and the relatively small technological base in Trinidad and Tobago, lead to problems associated with the implementation of construction projects. Among these are the planning, design, erection and operational phases of process plants.

The type of contract signed, depends on many factors. These include the degree of involvement the client seeks in the various phases of the project, the local technological base available to the client and the project financing arrangements. The client needs to examine closely and to choose the type of contract most beneficial to him. This could even be taken to the point where the client creates "work packages", and assumes responsibility for the co-ordination and control of the project.

The design phase and the formulation of specifications in process plants' construction, are usually done in the developed countries. Usually the input of the client is minimal and often does not reflect unique local conditions.

The composition of the owner's organization and his intended degree of participation in all phases of the project, determines the extent to which technology is successfully transferred. The quality of the expatriate recruited by foreign contractors, their attitudes and construction management practices, have created poor impressions with local professionals and the average construction worker. There is room for improvement on the issue of the transfer of skills and technology, desired by the client.

The pros and cons of an alternate approach to the turnkey contract is discussed in this paper.