

ABSTRACT**Operational Problems Facing a Sample of Construction Firms
in Trinidad and Tobago****Deogratius D. Mugishagwe**

This report presents the results of an investigation of operational problems facing a sample of construction firms in Trinidad and Tobago.

The report is divided into five sections, with the first introducing the reader to the subject matter and discussing the aim and scope of the report.

The second section covers the literature review of previous studies of operational problems of construction firms. Generalised studies and case studies both from developed and developing world are reviewed separately. Special emphasis is put on the literature review of previous studies in Trinidad and Tobago as well as those of the Caribbean region.

The third section discusses the survey of operational problems conducted on Trinidad and Tobago construction firms by the author. It deals with the questionnaire formulation review and highlights the problems encountered when conducting the survey.

The fourth section presents and analyses the results of the questionnaire survey. The results are interpreted and then compared with those of previous studies done in Trinidad and Tobago.

The fifth and last section draws conclusion and provides recommendations to improve the construction environment in Trinidad and Tobago. The summary of major observations from the survey are also incorporated for easy reference.

Dr. T.M. Lewis for his guidance and instructive comments as Project Supervisor.

Professor L.D.C. Imbert for his acceptance of my enrolment and encouragement throughout the M.Sc. Programme.

Lecturers in Construction Engineering and Management Programme - 1992/1993 for their valuable contribution to my knowledge of the construction environment of the West Indies and their lectures in the M.Sc. Programme.

Hafeez Karamath Construction for allowing me to obtain first-hand information on the contracting industry of Trinidad and Tobago through practical attachment.

Mr. Indiyaz Adams for critical inputs and friendly assistance on the procurement of data.

Ms. Rohana Rafeek for her relentless assistance during the M.Sc. Programme and for typing this Project.