This Steel for Life e-newsletter highlights steel-related news and resources for those interested in the commercial and cost related aspects of steel construction. Steel for Life is a subsidiary of the British Constructional Steelwork Association (BCSA). Our mission is to support design and construction professionals by providing knowledge, support and tools for designing in steel.

The aim of this newsletter is to showcase the very best of our online content and resources in a way that is engaging, relevant and, above all, useful. In this issue we focus on our cost comparison initiative in Building magazine “Costing Steelwork”. We also signpost to some interesting case studies and to some useful steel-related resources.
Just as the design and the construction process has to be just right, it is important that the costing process is undertaken properly if correct decisions are to be reached. Costing must be accurate as too low an estimate can result in a frustrated client when tenders come in higher than hoped; too high and the decision might go against steel, so the client misses out on what would have been the right choice on cost grounds alone, as well as missing out on the many other benefits that steel delivers at no extra cost.

The steel sector recognises the importance of achieving accurate cost estimates and has invested in providing guidance and assistance to the construction professionals involved for some years.

Costing Steelwork is a quarterly publication launched in Building magazine in April 2017. It aims to provide clear, up-to-date guidance to cost consultants and other construction professionals on costing steel-framed buildings.

Costing Steelwork examines the process of cost planning throughout the design stages and highlights the key cost drivers for different sectors. It provides building type-specific cost comparisons and includes a cost table, which indicates cost ranges for various frame types.

These cost ranges can be used at all design stages to act as a comparative cost benchmark, subsequent articles in Building will provide updates using current data.

The series comprises studies into office, education, industrial, retail and mixed-use buildings.

The fifth study focusing on mixed-use buildings was released in Building Magazine on 20th April 2018. The full series can be accessed through Steel for Life’s new Cost supplement. Both documents can be accessed via the links below.

Below and on the following page are a selection of recent case studies from our publication New Steel Construction Magazine.

50-60 STATION ROAD, CAMBRIDGE

Read the full case study for 50-60 Station Road, Cambridge where BIM aided cost-effective cellular beam design.
DONALDSON’S EDINBURGH

Read the full case study for Donaldson’s, Edinburgh where steel provided the most cost-effective solution for this residential refurbishment.

1-6 SIR JOHN ROGERSON’S QUAY, DUBLIN

Read the full case study for 1-6 Sir John Rogerson’s Quay, Dublin a highly-engineered commercial steel-framed project incorporating two historic structures.

USEFUL LINKS

Steel for Life provides free access to a wealth of online resources related to steel construction, through our online encyclopedia SteelConstruction.info. Click on the links below to access more content.

COST OF STRUCTURAL STEELWORK

Cost is a key consideration in the selection of framing material. Understand more regarding key cost drivers, realistic steel pricing and costing through the design stages.

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT AND EMBODIED CARBON

On this page you will understand some of the key aspects that designers should be aware of and gain access to information and case studies on whole life embodied carbon data for steel and other common framing materials.

STEEL FABRICATION

Fabrication is the process used to manufacture steelwork components that will form a complete frame. Understand more about the process from start to finish and the range of materials and components used.

FIRE AND STEEL CONSTRUCTION

Some issues construction professionals should be aware of when considering the fire protection of steel-framed buildings include; understanding steel’s fire performance, legislation, fire resistance periods and fire protection options for steel-framed buildings.
YOUR STEEL RESOURCES

SteelConstruction.info

A free online encyclopedia containing useful resources and content on UK steel construction including; sector articles, case studies by sector, software, tools, CPD and training.

New Steel Construction Magazine

Published ten times a year, New Steel Construction provides a lively and up-to-date window into the steelwork construction industry. Visit for projects and features, steel construction news, BCSA member listings and to register for your free subscription.

SteelConstruction.org

The website for the British Constructional Steelwork Association. Including searchable BCSA Member directories and structural steel technical publications.

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