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## **SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND PROPERTY INDUSTRIES**

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**Calbert H. Douglas <sup>1</sup>, Wing Kit Lau, Abdalsalam Rhumah, Andrew Clark**

University of Salford, UK  
The Research Institute for the Built and Human Environment

<sup>1</sup> Calbert H Douglas  
The Research Institute for the Human and Built Environment  
University of Salford  
Salford, Greater Manchester, M5 W4T  
UK

Tel: +44 (0)161 295 5605; Fax: +44 (0)161 295 5015  
Email: [c.h.douglas@salford.ac.uk](mailto:c.h.douglas@salford.ac.uk)

### **ABSTRACT**

In this paper, we develop understanding of the meaning and the application of the concept of sustainable environmental management and corporate social responsibility set within the context of the construction industry. The nature of the industry is characteristically wide, covering areas of building and property development activities. Model approaches to environmental management and corporate social responsibility as applied in the industry are still under development. The paper argues that industry plays an important role in urban development and regeneration processes. It should carry out its activities in a way that promotes sustainable development and provides for social and environmental justice for stakeholders communities. We argue that in these respects organisations within the industry must develop sustainable environmental management initiatives and pay due consideration to the principles of corporate social responsibility. The paper draws on empirical qualitative and quantitative data from a sample of construction companies' reports and web-based materials. The approach followed used content analysis to identify common and differentiated themes and approaches to corporate social responsibility across the sector. Thus, the paper explores a set of themes by which we show how the industry can improve its environmental and CSR performance. We consider a range of social and sustainability issues that arise at the planning stage and at various operational levels of activities. In this way, the paper shows how environmental and corporate socially responsible investment can provide for social, environmental and property management concerns and in which the industry's responses to the EU Building Directive is of paramount importance.