

Award-winning paper in 2015

Papers published in *Engineering Sustainability* are eligible for awards from the Institution of Civil Engineers. Papers from any of the ICE journals can be nominated for several awards. In addition, each journal has awards dedicated to their specific subject area.

On Friday 7 October 2016, ICE president John Armitt presented an award to the following paper published in *Engineering Sustainability* in 2015. The editorial panel nominated their best papers and an awards committee chaired by Nigel Wright allocated the awards.

Richard Trevithick Memorial Fund

The Richard Trevithick Memorial Fund, presented for the best paper published in *Engineering Sustainability*, was awarded to Whitehead (2015).

Abstract

Engineers have an important role to play in creating a sustainable future. They occupy a pivotal position between known limits to growth, the imperative for change expressed quantitatively and practical action. It is a lack of understanding of the quantitative dimensions of sustainability that has led to campaigns such as 350.org's 'Do the Math' tour. This paper describes the sustainability journey of Balfour Beatty plc, and the tools and techniques that it has developed en route. It is intended as a frame of reference for engineers within infrastructure businesses, to help stimulate debate, establish priorities and shape their own sustainable future. The paper describes Balfour Beatty's progress from a position of naivety to where it scores highly on sustainability in prequalification evaluations and is able to act as a surrogate advisor to its clients when executing projects. It describes the critical dimensions of the company's approach, including how it maps onto the strategic framework for the business, governance, assurance, reporting and stakeholder engagement. The construct of sustainability continues to evolve both within and without the company, and the paper concludes with a summary of lessons learnt to date, a maturity model and a list of focus areas for future work.

REFERENCE

Whitehead C (2015) Towards a sustainable infrastructure company. *Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers – Engineering Sustainability* **168**(1): 7–15, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1680/jensu.14.00043>.



Chris Whitehead receives the Richard Trevithick Memorial Fund award from ICE president John Armitt