The updated CDM regulations, apply to most construction and all demolition projects came into force in April 2007. The regulations require health and safety arrangements to be considered at the inception of the project and are addressed through the design, construction, operations, maintenance and eventual demolition of the asset.

Under these regulations a CDM client must:
- Check competence and resources of all appointees
- Ensure there are suitable management arrangements for the project welfare facilities
- Allow sufficient time and resources for all stages
- Provide pre-construction information to designers and contractors

As well as these regulatory pressures the economic climate has meant that construction projects are required to run to compressed timescales and budgets, with many companies have reduced or no ‘in house’ engineering capability.

ABB help companies meet the requirements of CDM regulations.

What we offer
ABB offers the following CDM support to clients:

CDM duty holders
ABB has been working with the original CDM regulations from 1994 and are now working with CDM 2007. We can offer clients professional services to fulfil the CDM roles of:
- CDM coordinator
- Principal contractor
- Designer

CDM processes
We have developed the two staged HAZards in CONstruction (HAZCON) process used as an early stage risk assessment of the project with a particular focus on the site activities.

The outcomes have several benefits:
- Preparation of health and safety plans for the project
- Identification of potentially ‘hidden costs’
- Safer designs
Our ‘constructability’ process examines practical options on how to construct the project in the safest and most efficient way.

CDM competency
We have developed competency models for our own staff and have assisted clients to set up competency frameworks and assessments for their staff. These models are used to identify where individuals may have a skills shortage and where appropriate training is required. We have also developed a contractor competency appraisal process that includes CDM arrangements.

CDM training
We carry out CDM awareness training across the UK. We have trained many people from a variety of backgrounds including clients, CDM coordinators, principal contractors and designers. We also carry out specific duty holder training courses.

CDM advice and compliance
We offer general advice about compliance with CDM and will carry out CDM audits to check where any gaps may exist. We can then offer practical support to achieve compliance.

CDM documentation
We offer assistance in the preparation of pre-construction information packs, construction phase plans, and health and safety files.

Benefits
- Compliance with regulation
- Better and safer organised projects
- Identification of ‘hidden costs’
- Trained staff
- Competent contractors

Why ABB?
ABB have extensive experience of working on construction and demolition projects. Most of our staff are from a client background and have a wealth of experience working in the demanding process and utility industries where health and safety standards are often higher than UK legislation.