PROFESSIONAL SKILLS MODULE

Manage the production process of price determination documents for built environment projects

Module 2 Examination

May 2016

Time: 3 hours
Total marks: 100

Notes:

(a) This is a closed book examination – No material may be brought into the examination.

(b) The use of Personal Computers, Laptops, PDAs with Excel, etc. is NOT PERMITTED. Only a conventional calculator, scientific, or financial, may be used.

(c) Candidates are advised to set out their work clearly, concisely and logically. Marks will be deducted for incoherent and/or untidy work.

(d) Only work written on the lined pages will be marked.

(e) This question paper consists of 4 questions. You are required to answer a total of 3 questions; any 2 questions from Section A (Questions 1 - 3), and the single question from Section B (Question 4).

(f) Clearly mark the question number on each page used and at the end of the exam number the pages in the correct order and bind them with the pin provided.
SECTION A (ANSWER ANY TWO OF THE QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION)

QUESTION 1

Davis et al. (2009) describe the ‘benefits and dis-benefits of BoQ’ as applied within the Australian construction sector. Using their structure as a guide, describe the appropriate equivalent issues relating to the usage of bills of quantities at the various stages of a typical construction project within South Africa.


*Hint: The answer to this question should firstly reflect the structure used by the authors, with clear descriptions being applied for South African usage. If the local usage differs from the Australian experience, such differences should be indicated and explanations provided.*

[30]

OR

QUESTION 2

Bowen et al. (1998) conducted an extensive survey of construction participants, investigating, amongst other issues: the extent to which clients know their building requirements at the inception of a project; and project factors relating broadly to time, cost and quality considerations commonly decided during the briefing process. Discuss their findings in detail, commenting specifically on issues where significant differences of opinion amongst stakeholders were identified; factors that were found to be considered of ‘low significance’ by respondents; or where the authors expressed concern at the findings.


*Hint: Use the framework provided within the question stated above to identify and discuss pertinent findings and underlying issues.*

[30]

OR
QUESTION 3
Discuss the purpose, advantages and disadvantages of standardised methods of measurement, including an explanation of the general principles commonly adopted by these documents.

*Hint: Use the latest version of the Standard System of Measurement (SSM v. 7) in South Africa as an example in providing a comprehensive, detailed commentary on typical SSMs.*

[30]

SECTION B

QUESTION 4
Bandi (2011) describes a number of different formats of Bills of Quantities (BOQ). Formats described included: (a) Trade order BOQ (conventional / traditional); (b) Elemental BOQ; (c) Sectionalised Trades BOQ; (d) Operational BOQ; (e) Activity BOQ; and (f) Annotated BOQ.

Clearly describe the distinguishing features of BOQ types (b) to (f), using diagrams / examples to explain typical usage and provide reasons why particular formats are typically chosen.


*Hint: In describing the various differing formats, it may be of use to compare each one to the typical “Trade Order” format (conventional / traditional format)*

[40]