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# **Project Management:**A Lawyer's Perspective

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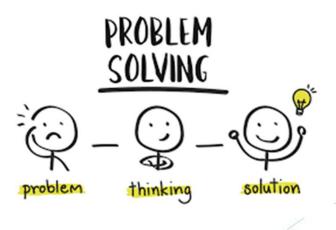
#### Introduction





#### **Agenda**

- Typical issues that arise on a Construction Project
- Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance
- Questions



#### **Typical issues**

- Variations / changes in scope
- Delay and Extensions of time for completion (EOTs)
- Liquidated damages (LDs)
- Money Claims:

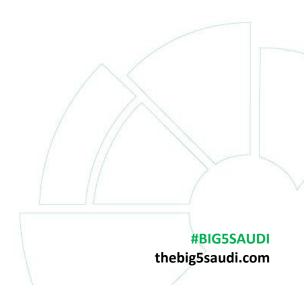
Prolongation

Disruption

- Defective works
- Subcontractors







#### **Variations / changes in scope**





Variations are a common source of disputes and raise questions such as:

- Was the contractor's scope in fact varied?
- Was a change instructed?
- Did the Employer comply with the relevant contractual requirements?
- How is a variation valued?
- Must the parties agree the value of a variation before progressing the additional works?



# Delay and Extensions of time for completion (EOTs)





- Delay isn't uncommon in construction projects. Typical causes may include:
  - Contractor management and performance problems
  - Changes to the scope of the works or design
  - Approvals from authorities
  - Unavailability of labour, materials, and equipment
  - Defective specifications and designs
  - Weather conditions
- If a contractor thinks its performance has been delayed, the main remedy is an extension of the time in which to complete the works (an EOT).
- Prolongation costs



#### Liquidated damages (LDs)





Usually, though not always, if a Contractor does not complete the works by a specific date, it is in principle liable to pay the Employer a pre-agreed rate of damages relating to delay, known as 'liquidated' damages or LDs.

An EOT relieves the contractor from liability for delay LDs by pushing back the time for completion.



# **Typical Money Claims** (Contractor)

Prolongation Costs
Disruption Costs







#### **Defective Works**









# Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Consistency of contractual terms / know your contract











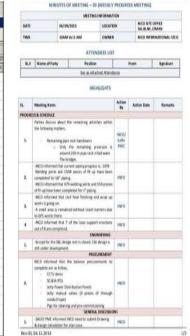
# 2. Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Project records and document management

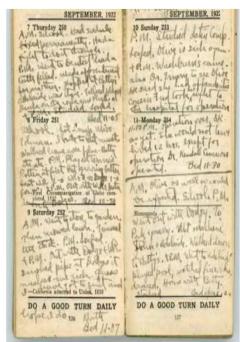












#### Preserving and gathering evidence





Site Records

Talk to the people involved

Talk to the experts

- Programmes
- Reasons for delay
- Photos of defects
- Marking up plans with defects
- As-Builts
- Materials records
- Minutes of meetins

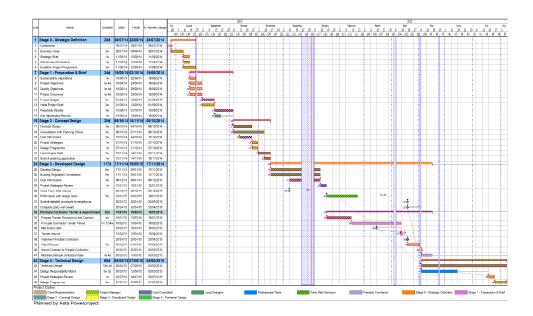
- Get the facts now, not later
- Record observations on site
- Get their site diaries
- Get expert views on what evidence they need
- Invite the other side to inspect with experts, client reps
- Third party observation/tests

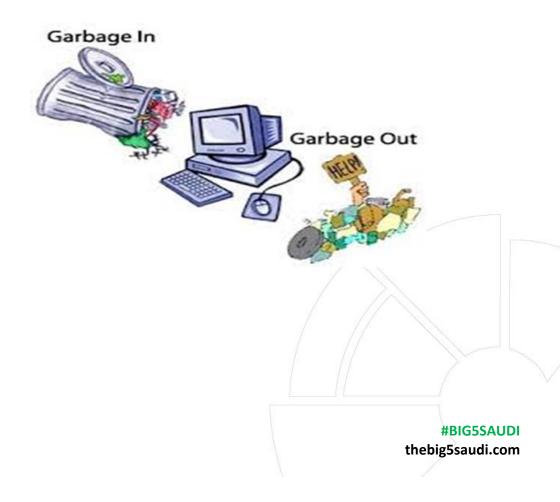


# 3. Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Programmes









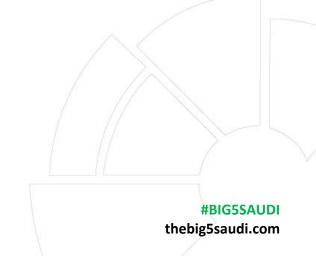
### 4. Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Contractual Notifications Requirements





A clause requiring the parties to give notice of any delay (and its entitlement to an extension of time) within a certain time period, and which encourages efficient contract administration

Parties therefore need to follow the contractual notification procedure, failing which the claim may be time-barred or waived.

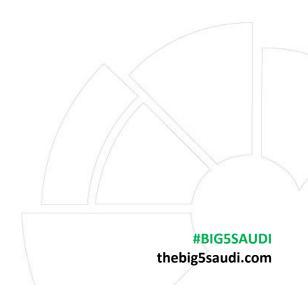


### 5. Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Look ahead: sub-contractors





- Employers avoid a blind spot
- What goes up, will come down (and vice versa): the Employer needs to understand what is happening at the subcontractor level



# 6. Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Analysing Delay – get it right





**Prospective Analysis – Cause and then Effect** 

Theoretical "estimation" of the impact of delay

Retrospective Analysis – Effect and then Cause

Factual "calculation" of the impact of delay

### 6. Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Analysing Delay – get it right





Method of Analysis	Analysis Type	Critical Path Determined	Delay Impact Determined	Requires
Impacted As-Planned Analysis	Cause & Effect	Prospectively	Prospectively	<ul> <li>Logic linked baseline programme.</li> <li>A selection of delay events to be modelled.</li> </ul>
Time Impact Analysis	Cause & Effect	Contemporaneously	Prospectively	<ul> <li>Logic linked baseline programme.</li> <li>Update programmes or progress information with which to update the baseline programme.</li> <li>A selection of delay events to be modelled.</li> </ul>
Time Slice Windows Analysis	Effect & Cause	Contemporaneously	Retrospectively	<ul> <li>Logic linked baseline programme.</li> <li>Update programmes or progress information with which to update the baseline programme.</li> </ul>
As-Planned versus As- Built Windows Analysis	Effect & Cause	Contemporaneously	Retrospectively	Baseline programme.     As-built data.
Retrospective Longest Path Analysis	Effect & Cause	Retrospectively	Retrospectively	Baseline programme.     As-built programme.
Collapsed As-Built Analysis	Effect & Cause	Retrospectively	Retrospectively	<ul> <li>Logic linked as-built programme.</li> <li>A selection of delay events to be modelled.</li> </ul>

# 7. Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Early engagement of Experts









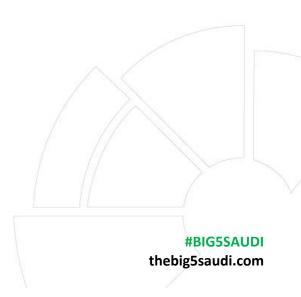


# 8. Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Know your options





- Negotiation
- Mediation
- Expert Determination
- Arbitration
- Litigation
- DAB



# 9. Practical tips for mitigation and avoidance – Reserve your rights



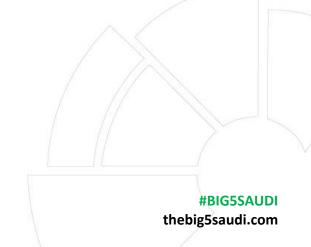












#### **Questions**









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