

expert witness and advisory services

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: John Wasilewski

BSc(Eng), CEng, MICE

Nationality: British

Profession: Civil Engineer

Position in firm: Director

Education/ 1968 : BSc (Eng) Hons, Civil Engineering, Southampton

Professional: 1974 : Chartered Engineer

Qualifications: 1974 : Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers

1979-83 : Registered Structural Engineer, Hong Kong

1996-13: Member of the Academy of Experts



Extensive practical knowledge of permanent and temporary works, construction contracts and contract management, through working for contractors for nine years in Britain and the Arabian Gulf states on rail, motorway, bridges and concrete-framed building construction, port works and oil industry projects, progressing to site agent level. Long experience with consulting engineers in UK, Hong Kong and UAE, in investigation, structural and geotechnical design, contract administration, site management and supervision, construction of building and engineering works, and forensic investigation, litigation support and expert advice and evidence.

Experienced in the design, construction and investigation of mainly *in situ* and precast reinforced and pre-stressed¹ concrete structures, including foundations, basements, substructures, and superstructures, but also of structural steelwork, structural timber, brickwork, cast iron, stonework and faience. Design experience includes acting as design-and-build contractors' design consultant.

In-depth diagnostic experience of design and workmanship issues, relating to cracking, spalling, sagging, corroding, leaking, 'decaying', heaving or subsiding structures, in precast and *in situ* reinforced and prestressed concrete, steel, and loadbearing brickwork. Particular experience in cracking, deflection and reinforcement corrosion in structural floors, beams and columns, unsafe and/or collapsing structures, leaking basements, groundbearing and raft slabs, piled rafts, deep excavations, diaphragm walls, secant/contiguous piled and other types of inland retaining walls and coastal quay structures.

Experience as an adjudicator, expert determinator, party-appointed expert, single joint expert, in litigation, arbitration, mediation, adjudication and expert determination.

¹ Pre-tensioning and post-tensioning are both prestressed concrete techniques.



Experience Record:

May 2007 onwards: Director (forensic), Capita Property and Infrastructure² (2015 and 2016: also General Manager, Capita Property & Infrastructure Consultants, Abu Dhabi)

Setting up and leading³ a professional team of technical and forensic experts, assisting colleagues within the company with complex technical problems whilst providing in-depth technical reports for clients, with advice and/or evidence to assist in the resolution of building and engineering problems, failures, disputes, claims, in many different types of projects, buildings and sites. These are some examples:

- A very large dispute about construction methods, quality control, workmanship and piled foundations in more than a dozen buildings at a new international airport in the Middle East;
- A twin tower 60-storey building in Dubai, with issues concerning differences in vertical strain between different parts of the building and how the resulting vertical and rotation movements were to be catered for in the structures and suspended floors connecting the towers.
- Dispute about concrete quality and the extent of, method of repair, and time needed to repair, widespread deficiencies in concrete cover in several very tall luxury apartment blocks in Ho Chi Minh City.
- Dispute about concrete quality and the reasonableness of demolition/rebuilding instead of remediation of two very tall concrete towers in a leisure complex in Dubai.
- Very large dispute about structural floor adequacy, and the viable sequence and method of erecting 14m high steel-framed stone-faced walls inside a very large passenger terminal in the Middle East.
- Dispute between joint venture partners about construction responsibilities for a large cementmanufacturing plant in the Arabian Gulf with alleged defects in reinforced concrete structures and prestressed concrete silos.
- Nature and cause of extensive structural damage in 12 two-storey residential buildings in southern Oman.
- Dispute between process engineering specialist providing civil guide drawings and its joint venture partner preparing detail designs and managing constructing of a very large industrial process plant in Qatar (this matter completed by a co director because of concurrent hearing dates).
- Design problems about how the basement walls were to be supported, in a design and construction contract for a very large mixed use city centre development in Birmingham.
- Lateral support inadequacy of adjoining old brickwork during basement construction in south London;
- Near-collapse and subsequent demolition of an adjoining building because of inadequate temporary shoring during redevelopment of old buildings in Glasgow city centre,
- Collapse of a seven storey steel-framed and prestressed concrete building in Essex;
- collapse of a cinema ceiling in Glasgow, with 10 tonnes of fit-out and equipment falling onto the seats;
- Problems and urgent remediation in a 200m x 80m x 30m reinforced concrete below-ground structure at a power station in Wales;
- Workmanship issues in a large concrete leisure industry structure in Dubai;
- Damage to high-tech sandwich panel cladding on two office blocks in southern England, due to a very large explosion in an industrial plant 2km away;
- A deep excavation for a Scunthorpe steel manufacturing process, with ground anchors to support the walls,
- Excessive deflections of ultra-thin/long span concrete floor slabs in numerous office blocks in High Wycombe;
- Design-related defects in a prestressed concrete floor in a factory building in Oxfordshire;
- Cracked dividing walls due to uneven movement of a ground-bearing floor slab near Glasgow;

² Formerly, Capita Symonds

³ 2007-2014: Head of Dept/lead director; 2014-onwards: director.

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- Damage and distortion due to inadequate design of a piled ground-bearing slab in an oil-industry installation in the west of England;
- · Fire damage to an exceptionally large steel frame in a film studio building in southern England;
- · Leaking ground-bearing basement slab in a block of flats in Scunthorpe;
- Structural problems, including a partial failure, during construction of temporary works 25m deep in the sea in a port in Northern Ireland:
- Excessive movement of retaining structures in a city centre project in the north of England.

1978 - April 2007: Jacobs, Babtie and Harris & Sutherland - London and Hong Kong (five years)

Senior engineer, rising to associate, technical director and then divisional director of Babtie Group designing, specifying and managing civil and structural engineering work such as:

- reinforced concrete superstructure and lightweight structural steel roof for a new 360-bed general hospital on the south coast;
- refurbishment into modern offices of an eighteenth century town-house in Mayfair;
- a foundations contract for c.1000 large diameter bored piles & reinforced concrete watertight basement;
- a new multi-storey concrete-framed office bock in Guildford with underground parking;
- a new shipyard in Hong Kong with land reclamation and deepwater precast concrete quay and ship launching ways, with extensive onshore measures to safeguard stability of 50m-high side-slopes;
- new steel framed light industrial/commercial buildings in Enfield;
- a two-storey addition to the top of a ten-storey loadbearing brickwork building in Chelsea;
- numerous low-rise and high rise concrete-framed residential building projects, some on extremely difficult sites (e.g. 30°-40° hillsides and fifty metre deep reclamations);
- new schools in inner London, two new concrete-framed teaching blocks at Sunderland university;
- land reclamation design in Macau;
- precast concrete design for a new university in Saudi Arabia;
- thirteen-storey concrete-framed civic centre and cultural complex with 50m long driven steel piles;
- A large number of technical/forensic investigations, assisting clients with structural/geotechnical problems, defects and failures, advising on causes, prognoses and cost-effective remedies.

1977 – 1978: Al Quebeisi Mowlem Company – construction site, Abu Dhabi (one and a half years)

Site agent on a four-storey concrete building then project engineer for roads, reclamation, large areas of ground-bearing concrete and the alternative design and construction of hundreds of metres of sheet piling in a piled and dredged jetty and port works contract for Ruweis oil terminal complex in a remote desert location. Set up and managed a large mechanised concrete batching plant. Rigged and erected a two tonne tower crane, set up and managed welding stillages, organised sheet piling, supervised all materials quality control, paving quality concrete and concrete batching, curing, testing and recording under the desert sun.

1975 - 1978: John Mowlem and Company - construction sites, UK

Section engineer responsible for deep excavations in diaphragm wall temporary works cofferdams on the foreshore, deep below sea level, with very heavy concrete and steel propping and shoring systems. Also responsible for dock floor construction, watertight concrete services tunnels, high quality (2mm tolerance) reinforced concrete gate cills, very high quality concrete finishes (12m tall, 0.2 millimetre tolerance) concrete gate hinges, high quality cope walls, for Royal Portbury Dock (Bristol West Dock). At Fawley oil refinery, preparing tenders and managing road, railway, drainage, and buildings contracts within the refinery. Site agent on a marine/piling jetty contracts in Southampton Water, with offshore steel piling in deep water and





underwater concreting, and devised and supervised temporary works and jetty repairs over water, at Milford Haven refinery.

1973 - 1975: Harris & Sutherland - London

Design engineer responsible for design of highway structures, including reinforced/pre-stressed concrete flyover section of Colchester Relief Road, pre-stressed concrete M-beam bridges on Irvine by-pass, design checks, including seven-span concrete box section Dover Harbour Bridge.

1968 - 1973: Costain Civil Engineering - construction sites, UK

Graduate engineer under indentured training. Motorway and railway bridge construction, site engineer then section engineer. Concrete and steel structures, large diameter bored piles, deep cofferdams, formwork, falsework and other temporary works design, very large retaining structures, rolled-in rail bridges, weekly, monthly and stage programming, head office support. Section manager constructing reinforced concrete piled foundations and retaining walls deep underneath and close alongside the main London-Brighton railway lines, with very heavy temporary works, sheet piling, propping, then deep excavations directly under the track to construct new railway bridge abutments whilst trains continued to run overhead. Design experience with Costain working on pre-stressed concrete rail bridges.