

*Intelligent Construction Contracts: Industry Readiness
Alan McNamara & Dr Samad Sepasgozar*

1. What is the research study about?

You are invited to take part in this research study. The research study aims to ascertain the readiness of the construction industry for the implementation of intelligent construction contracts (iContract) through the collection of data comprising the attitudes and thoughts of a cross section of the industry to the iContract concept. Following this study, the data collected is expected to inform the next stage of research in the development of an iContract system architecture. You have been invited because you are a relevant construction industry professional or you work in closely aligned profession pertaining to construction law or construction technologies. You have been invited through your relationship with the targeted industry LinkedIn groups associated with this study.

2. Who is conducting this research?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers: Dr Samad Sepasgozar and Alan McNamara, Faculty of the Built Environment.

Research Funder: This research is being funded by the Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarship

3. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Before you decide to participate in this research study, we need to ensure that it is ok for you to take part. The research study is looking recruit people who meet the following criteria:

- You are a construction industry professional
- You work in a field that is closely associated with the Construction Industry
- You work in a field that is closely associated with Construction Law and/or Construction Technology

4. Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in any research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the research study, you will be asked to:

- Read the information carefully (ask questions if necessary);
- Complete the online questionnaire.

5. What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you decide to take part in the research study, we will ask you to complete an online questionnaire. The questionnaire will ask about your level of agreement or disagreement with defined statements pertinent to the potential readiness of the construction industry for the iContract concept. It should take approximately 5-10min to complete.

If you experience discomfort or feelings of distress while participating in the research and you require support, you can stop participating at any time. You can also tell a member of the research and they will provide you with assistance.

6. What are the possible benefits to participation?

We hope to use information we get from this research study to benefit the development of an iContract framework solution which aims to bring efficiency and optimisation to the core contract administration process of construction projects.

7. What will happen to information about me?

Submission of the online questionnaire is an indication of your consent. By giving consent and proceeding with the survey you are providing your permission for the research team to collect and use information about you for the research study. Your data will be kept for a period of 5 years after

the publication of the research results. We will store information about you in a non-identifiable format at Room 3004, Red Centre Building, University Mall, Kensington NSW 2033. Your information will only be used for this study but information collected for this research project may be made available to other research projects in de-identified form only following a request by the secondary researcher to Dr Samad Sepasgozar and subsequent approval. Release of the data will be reliant on the secondary researchers having the appropriate ethics approvals in place. Dr Samad Sepasgozar will report to the HREC on an annual basis the number of times information has been accessed for a secondary research purpose.

8. How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?

The research team intend to publish and/ report the results of the research study in a variety of ways. All information published will be done in a way that will not identify you.

If you would like to receive a copy of the results you can let the research team know by adding your email within the consent form. We will only use these details to send you the results of the research.

9. What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. You can do this by closing the questionnaire. If you withdraw from the research, we will destroy any information that has already been collected. Once you have submitted the questionnaire however, we will not be able to withdraw your responses as the questionnaire is anonymous.

The information you provide is personal information for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). You have the right of access to personal information held about you by the University, the right to request correction and amendment of it, and the right to make a complaint about a breach of the Information Protection Principles as contained in the PPIP Act. Further information on how the University protects personal information is available in the [UNSW Privacy Management Plan](#).

10. What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:

Research Team Contact

Name	Alan McNamara
Position	Student researcher
Telephone	+61 439 826 195
Email	alan.mcnamara@student.unsw.edu.au

What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

Complaints Contact

Position	Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
HC Number	Reference HC190366