The Big Networking Breakfast: Digital Transformation in the Construction Industry
Sponsored by Maidstone Borough Council and Baxall Construction
Clive Emson Building

Why not start your day at Kent Construction EXPO making new contacts over a delicious cooked breakfast? Tickets cost just £21 + VAT, including full cooked breakfast.

Our popular networking breakfast brings together senior representatives from the whole industry. This year, our guest speakers will be examining how digital transformation is affecting the construction industry, with contributions from Microsoft, Baxall Construction and Maidstone Borough Council.

Welcome & Introduction
Jo James, Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Astor Suite

Opening Keynote: Peak Performance: Developing a Winning Mindset
Steve Backley, British Javelin Champion & Three-time Olympic Medalist
Astor Suite

Launching the day in energetic style is former Olympian Steve Backley, with a fascinating keynote about the lessons that businesses in the construction and property sector can take from the world of elite sport: especially around critical success factors such as self-belief, commitment and teamwork.

Steve was one of Britain’s most consistent and popular athletes for over a decade and established himself as one of the all-time greats of his sport, ranked in the world’s Top Ten in the javelin every year between 1989 and 2002 and the only British track and field competitor to win medals at three different Olympic Games: Barcelona, Atlanta and Sydney.

With a passion for performance still at the forefront of his mind, Steve now runs specialist training provider (BackleyBlack) and a successful property investment company (Perform in Property), both in partnership with his fellow Olympian Roger Black.
10.30 – 11.00

**Intelligent Assistance: The Next Generation of BIM Design**

*Adam Salt, Design Engineer & Revit Specialist, Wavin UK*
Astor Suite

With the growing demand for efficiency and sustainability, and the UK Government’s remit that government funded projects use BIM, the use of digital solutions has never been more vital in construction. Wavin’s Adam Salt will show the value of BIM and will present ‘Intelligent Assistance’ their BSI Kitemarked Revit BIM packages.

11.15 – 11.45

**Mapping the Future: Internet of Things, Big Data & Smart Cities**

*Dr Jacqui Taylor, Chief Executive Officer and Smart Cities Advisor to HM Government*

Jacqui will share what to expect as we move towards a future where over 80% of the world’s population will be connected online. The Internet of Things requires a new way of communicating with customers and citizens we haven’t yet met. Jacqui will take you on a journey beyond Big Data through Smart Cities towards the Internet of Things. She will share some of the projects her web science company have delivered, and the impact these have had globally. Setting the landscape for the societal change of the IoT and the impact it will have on all our careers.

11.50 – 12.00

**Building the Homes Kent Needs**

*Rico Wojtulewicz, Senior Policy Advisor, National Federation of Builders (NFB)*

How is Kent tackling the housing crisis? What more can it do? How can it learn from other regions and what can it teach them?

**Medway’s Regeneration Programme – Rich Heritage, Great Future**

*Richard Hicks, Director Regeneration, Culture, Environment and Transformation & Deputy Chief Executive, Medway Council*
Telford Room

The presentation will cover Medway’s monumental Regeneration Programme, together with the cultural offer that makes Medway a great place to live, work, learn and visit. There will also be the opportunity to hear about new developments in Medway such as Innovation Park Medway; 1300 high GVA employment opportunities being created and our recent Housing Infrastructure Bid that has reached stage 2 of the process; £170m unlocking the potential for up to 12,100 homes, new roads, new rail links and social infrastructure.
Research & Development Tax Relief for the Construction Industry  
Julie Barry, New Business Manager, RIFT R&D Tax Credits  
Telford Room

The construction industry is built on innovation and solving problems. So much so, those efforts are too often ignored because they’re "just the way the business works". Discover how the scheme works, which costs can be claimed and the kinds of projects and activities that qualify for R&D tax relief.

Skills and the Kent Construction Market  
Steve Cresswell, Managing Director, Kier Construction  
Brunel Room

How can we ensure the future of the Kent Construction industry whilst improving and changing the image of construction to appeal to a wider workforce, and importantly the next generation? Breaking down stereotypes and rewiring our gender biased brains; How can we achieve gender parity and diversity into our sector; Can technology increase the appeal of this sector; my career route in the industry.

Roundtable: Can Today’s Integration Keep Up With Tomorrow’s Demands?  
Bruce Kidd, Sales and Marketing Director, Operational Accounting Systems Limited (o-ay-sys)  
Roundtable Room

In this fast paced, demanding industry, software can play a vital role in winning and managing projects. The capabilities and effectiveness of a construction management system are continually evolving in a short space of time, but are they handling the growing demands of our contractors and customers?

Integration should be more than just increasing the efficiency and accuracy of our processes. Throughout this interactive discussion we will provide an insight into what true integration really means and the relationship management it should be focusing on.

12.00 – 12.30
Roundtable: Know Where You Stand – The Sentencing Guidelines  
*Stephen Laws, Consultancy Director, Lighthouse Safety Training Ltd*  
Roundtable Room

Our open discussion will be based on the Health and Safety Offences, Corporate Manslaughter offences definitive guide (unfortunately not Food Safety Offences).

This is a document provided to those who issue sentencing to individuals and Organisation to help guide them into a structured fine category or length of sentence issued.

During the roundtable discussion we will cover:

- The stages that the courts will consider when determining the offence category and culpability
- The sentencing guide for different size organisations
- Examples of fines since the guide inception
- The risk assessment process and how this fits in

12.30 – 13.15

Lunch & Networking Break  
12.30 – 13.15

Grab a bite to eat and visit some of the 150+ essential suppliers and potential partners from Kent and beyond.

13.15 – 13.45

Application of Robotics, Automation and Augmentation in Construction  
*Grant Van Wyk, Director of Sales and Business Development, Construction Robotics UK*  
Brunel Room

Why do we need automation and augmentation?  
Our ongoing market research is providing valuable insights into specific areas of the construction industry that are already of considerable concern. Companies are faced with some serious challenges that will require attention and investment if they are to mitigate the associated risks such as skills shortages, health and safety and productivity and margins.

What can we do about this?  
We must aim revolutionise the industry both at the construction site and prefabrication facilities through automation and augmentation using smart robotic construction technology. Automation has proven its worth and cemented its place in all other major industries radically improving efficiency, productivity and repeat-ability.

Case studies of SAM and MULE from the US markets.
Supply Chain Insolvency – Keeping Your Firm Safe!
Edward Quigg, Director, Quigg Golden
Roundtable Room

These are chaotic times in the construction industry. How safe is your firm if you are in contract with a company at risk of insolvency? In this discussion, we shall discuss what to look out for, how to protect yourself and understand the importance of knowing what you are signing up to.

Roundtable: Let’s Talk about Mental Wellbeing in Your Workplace
Chris Munday, Chief Executive, Crossways Community
Roundtable Room

The high incidence of suicides linked to the construction industry was recently highlighted within the news. Across the UK, 16 million people a year experience mental health issues and stress is a key factor.

Crossways Community helps businesses in Kent make the workplace an area of mental wellness as good mental health for staff is crucial to business success.

During the roundtable we will identify ‘pressure points’ and discuss what businesses can do to help improve workplace mental health, resulting in a healthier workforce and fewer absences.

14.00 – 14.30

All Alone on the 68th Floor: How One Woman Changed the Face of Construction
Barbara Res, Head of Construction, Trump Tower
Astor Suite

Res rose to the top of the male dominated construction business in New York during the 1970s and 80s. Despite encountering sexual discrimination, harassment and intimidation, Res became the first woman to take charge of the construction of a major skyscraper, the Trump Tower.

Alongside her memoir, All Alone on the 68th Floor: How One Woman Changed the Face of Construction, Res has penned numerous op-ed pieces about women in construction and her philosophy on feminism. She also speaks extensively to women’s groups and industry groups about construction and women’s role in it.

Barbara Res will discuss her experience as a female engineer, working on Trump Tower, the successes and challenges of working with Donald Trump, and sexual harassment in construction.
Innovative Approaches to Sustainability: Socially Inclusive Outcomes and Whole Life Asset Circular Economy

Davide Stronati, Global Sustainability Leader, Mott MacDonald
Brunel Room

Construction projects have frequently not been accepted by communities not only because of lack of engagement during the planning, design and delivery stages, but also because they have not delivered inclusive social value at every stage of the asset life cycle.

Equally, the concept of circular economy failed to deliver its full potential because of a focus on the recovery of construction material only.

This workshop aims to provide the audience with the awareness, knowledge and tools for including social and economic assessments, as well as circular economy considerations in the decision-making process of construction asset delivery.

Roundtable: Don’t Become a Victim of Cyber Crime
Adrian James, Cyber Protect & Prevent Officer, Cyber Crime Unit
Roundtable Room

During the roundtable we will walk through the cyber risks businesses could encounter and how to mitigate those risks using simple preventative measures.

Update on the Lower Thames Crossing
Tim Jones, Project Director, Lower Thames Crossing
Astor Suite

Tim Jones will provide an update on the Lower Thames Crossing, a new tunnel and 3-lane motorway connecting Kent and Essex, which will unlock opportunities and economic growth for the south-east and the UK. The crossing will be a 70mph, 13 mile route that will connect the A2 to the M25 via a two tunnels under the Thames. The £4.4-6.2bn project will be part of the biggest investment in roads in a generation.

Construction Procurement in Kent and the South East
Keith Heard, Southern Construction Framework Lead
Brunel Room

Keith will discuss regional and local construction procurement in the South East, providing an update on the SCF Framework and details on upcoming projects.
Funding Growth: Your One-Stop-Shop to Success

John Hesketh, Funding Proposal Team Leader, T4C
Telford Room

All businesses require funding at some point to grow, are you one of these?

T4C’s Access to Funding service adds real value to any ambitious growing business by providing funding at the right time for you to achieve your potential. Such funding is not limited to sectors, so if you want to buy machinery, extend your premises, create jobs, design new products or increase profits and accelerate growth - attending this masterclass is a must!

T4C’s unique software enables our funding team to identify suitable funds from a bank of almost 8000 current funding options. Our software coupled with our funding team’s immense knowledge is a formidable combination! T4C’s services are not limited to grant funding, their expertise covers many other taxable benefits including R & D and Embedded Capital Allowances, along with specialist knowledge of the new Apprenticeship Levy for larger employers.

Roundtable: The Key to Successful Construction Project Management

Nick Baster, Director, Logic PM
Roundtable Room

Sometimes overlooked for more prominent professional services, project management plays a key and fundamental part of any project.

Using a project manager to set your project plan from day one can lead you to delivering to your expectations, with an impartial professional working in your best interest.

At this roundtable discussion we will cover topics such as procurement, project programme, risk management and setting your project strategy.

15.30 – 16.00

How to get in front of 8,000 Buyers

Grahame Howett, Business Development Manager, Constructionline
Telford Room

Constructionline are the UK leading provider for supply chain management within the construction industry.

With 47,000 suppliers and 8,000 Buyers, Constructionline reduces the duplication and bureaucracy therefore saves time and money for all parties. Based on the PAS91 question-set Constructionline verify all information to 4 levels of membership from Associate, Silver, Gold & Platinum. The Buying organisations include Main Contractors, Local & Central Government, Local Authorities, Housing Associations, NHS, Universities, London Boroughs etc... Come along and see how you can get your company in front of these type of Buyers!
**15.30 – 16.15**

**Brexit Panel Session**  
Astor Suite

Until the details of any Brexit deal (or no deal) become clear, it is difficult to predict exactly how different sectors will be affected.

As one of the sectors most heavily reliant on EU migrant labour, the construction industry will certainly be impacted heavily by almost inevitable restrictions to Freedom of Movement – but there will be many more issues to be considered once agreement has been reached about the timing and nature of the UK’s withdrawal from the EU.

Join our expert panellists at this interactive discussion to gain new insights into the potential outcomes you should already be thinking about, with a valuable opportunity to ask questions and hear different perspectives from your peers in the construction industry.

Chaired by:  
Jo James, Chief Executive, Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce

Panellists Include:  
Rico Wojtulewicz, Senior Policy Advisor, National Federation of Builders (NFB)  
Dr Jacqui Taylor, Chief Executive Officer and Smart Cities Advisor to HM Government  
Allan Wilén, Economics Director, Head of Business Market Intelligence, Glenigan

**18.00 – 22.45**

**Gala Dinner**  
Sponsored by Willmott Dixon – Champagne Reception sponsored by DHA Planning  
Clive Emson Building

Designed to drive forward and promote the Construction sector in the region. Kent Construction EXPO celebrates this exciting industry and is the place to network, debate, discover new innovations and ultimately celebrate excellence. The Construction EXPO Gala Dinner taking place on the evening of 4th October is your opportunity to talk, plan, learn, network and do business with the Kent construction community.

Our after-dinner speaker for 2018 is Martin Bayfield, Crimewatch presenter, ex-England rugby player and Robbie Coltrane’s impressive body double as Hagrid in the Harry Potter films. With this sort of background, you can probably guess that he has some fantastic stories to tell!

Individual tickets are £49 +VAT, this includes reception drink, three course meal and after dinner speaker. A table of 10 is £480+VAT.