LABC Consultancy Services

Terms and Conditions

LABC CONSULT STANDARD CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

1 INTERPRETATION
In the Conditions the following expressions shall (unless the context requires) have the following meanings:

"Client" means the person, firm or company to whom a Quotation is addressed or for whom any Services are carried out;

"Confidential Information" means all information which a party may have or acquire before or after the date of the Contract which relates to a party’s business, products, developments, trade secrets, know-how or other matters connected with the Services and information concerning a party’s relationships with actual or potential clients, customers or suppliers and all other information designated as confidential or which ought reasonably to be considered confidential;

"Company" means District Surveyors Association Ltd trading as LABC or named operating unit thereof;

"Contract" means the contract for the supply of Services comprising the Quotation and these Conditions;

"Intellectual Property Rights" means rights of whatever nature (including patents, inventions, know-how, trade secrets, registered designs, copyrights, database rights, trademarks, service marks, logos, domain names, business names, trade names and design rights) and all registrations or applications to register any of the aforesaid items, together with any renewals, revivals and extensions of any of the aforesaid items;

"Losses" means all losses, liabilities, claims, costs, expenses, damages, actions, awards, penalties and/or fines, obligations and also includes all losses, liabilities, costs and expenses (including legal fees on a full indemnity basis) in relation to or resulting from any demands, claims or proceedings;

"Price" means the price stated in the Quotation, or otherwise agreed with the Client;

"Quotation" means the Company’s quotation (whether written or oral) which shall be subject to the Conditions save to the extent of any inconsistencies which will be resolved in favour of the terms of the Quotation;

"Report" means any certificate, technical report or inspection record, drawing, spread sheet, recommendation, advice or the like issued by the Company in respect of a Service;

"Service" or "Services" means the service(s) specified in the Quotation.

2 QUOTATION
2.1 The Quotation constitutes an offer by the Company to provide the Services subject to the Conditions (save to the extent of any inconsistencies between the Quotation and the Conditions which will be resolved in favour of the terms of the Quotation) and is open for acceptance for ninety days only from the date of the Quotation unless previously withdrawn by the Company. Acceptance is based on the receipt of an instruction in writing or receipt of the signed acceptance.

2.3 Except in accordance with the Conditions - no variation of the Contract will be accepted unless agreed in writing by the Company.

2.4 The Quotation and the Conditions, shall prevail over any terms or conditions contained or referred to in any correspondence, order, documentation submitted by the Client or elsewhere. Further, no condition, statement or representation contained in any advertisement or brochure or in any trade or promotional circular or other literature, nor the terms or conditions of any trade association or other body, or which would or might but for this sub-paragraph be implied or incorporated by custom or trade, usage, negotiations, course of dealing or otherwise shall be deemed to be incorporated in the Contract and all of the same are hereby expressly excluded from the Contract.

3 PRICE
3.1 The Price is based on information available to the Company at the date of the Quotation. If during the period of the Contract there shall be any variation in the cost of materials, labour or otherwise to the Company, the Price may, in the absolute discretion of the Company, be adjusted to take account of such variation.

3.2 In addition to the amount specified in the Quotation the following shall be payable if appropriate:

3.2.1 any applicable value added tax;

3.2.2 insurance incurred by the company, in its absolute discretion, in respect of any property belonging to the client in the possession of the company;

3.2.3 with prior notice, the cost of all sub-contractors employed by the company unless included in the quotation;

3.2.4 any additional costs incurred by the company in accordance with the conditions; and

3.2.6 any special standards or specifications required for the performance of the service.

4 PAYMENT
4.1 The Price shall be paid to the Company in full, in cleared funds, without any deduction, set-off or counterclaim within the credit terms specified in the invoice Time of payment is of the essence to the Contract. In default of payment within the specified term, the Company may: suspend any further Services being carried out for the Client; withhold the provision of Reports;
alter or withdraw credit terms; and amend terms, prices or service levels. The amount outstanding from the payment date shall bear interest (both before and after any judgment) at the rate of 5% per annum above The Bank of England base rate. Rates for calculating interest will be fixed for six month periods from the due date for payment until payment is made in full, and interest will accrue on a daily basis. The Bank of England base rate on 31 December will be used for debts becoming late between 1 January and 30 June. The rate in force on 30 June will be used from 1 July to 31 December.

4.2 All payments due to the Company shall be payable within the specified time irrespective of whether or not the Client has recovered payment from a third party and, for the avoidance of doubt, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, this includes payments of fees due to the Company acting as experts or as expert witnesses when instructed by solicitors acting for a party to a dispute.

4.3 If, in the Company’s view, the Client’s credit-worthiness deteriorates before completion of the Service, the Company may require payment in full or in part of the Price prior to completion, or the provision of security for payment by the Client in such form as is acceptable to the Company.

4.4 The Company has a general lien on all the Client’s property in the Company’s possession in satisfaction of any amount owed by the Client to the Company under the Contract, and may deal with it as it sees fit.

5 EXECUTION OF SERVICES

5.1 The Services shall be carried out singly unless prior written instructions from the Client are received for replicates or unless the Company considers replicates are necessary or desirable. The Company reserves the right to charge for replicates even if the original result is confirmed.

5.2 The Client shall supply as much information as possible about each Service requirement in order to assist in achieving an efficient service. Where information relating to the Service requirements is incorrect and the Company is involved in additional work, the Company reserves the right to charge for such additional work.

5.3 Methods of carrying out the Service and providing the Report shall be at the sole discretion of the Company unless prior instruction in writing is received from the Client specifying a particular procedure which is accepted in writing by the Company. Charges for such special procedures will be agreed between the Company and the Client prior to carrying out the Service.

5.5 A general description of the method used in the performance of the Service shall be given verbally on request. Where written descriptions of detailed procedures are requested, whether as part of the Report or issued separately, the Company reserves the right to make an additional charge. If the method referenced in the Report represents the end product of development work carried out at the Company’s expense, the method shall only be revealed at the discretion of the Company.

5.6 The Company may, at its sole discretion, undertake to give priority in carrying out a particular Service. A surcharge may be imposed by the Company for the carrying out of priority work. Details of these arrangements will be issued by the Company on request.

6 SERVICES SUBJECT OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

6.1 If any aspect or element of the Services is, or is likely to be, the subject of or relevant to legal proceedings, this fact must be notified to the Company in writing before the Services are carried out. If that fact is not disclosed to the Company at that stage, the Company may not, in its absolute discretion, be prepared to provide expert testimony.

7 DISCLAIMER/LIABILITY

7.1 The following provisions of this Condition 7 set out the entire liability of the Company, its employees, agents and sub-contractors to the Client howsoever arising.

7.2 The Company does not exclude or limit its liability (if any) to the Client:

7.2.1 for breach of the Company’s obligations arising under section 12 Sale of Goods Act 1979 or section 2 of the Supply of Goods and Services Act 1982;

7.2.2 for personal injury or death resulting from the Company’s negligence;

7.2.3 under section 2(3) of the Consumer Protection Act 1987;

7.2.4 for any matter which it would be illegal for the Company to exclude or to attempt to exclude or limit its liability, or

7.2.5 for fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation.

7.3 Except as provided in Condition 7.2 the Company shall not be liable to the Client whether in contract, tort (including negligence), breach of statutory duty or otherwise for any loss of profit, loss of business, loss of market, loss of contract, damage to goodwill, loss of anticipated savings, loss of revenue, loss or damage incurred as a result of third party claims or any indirect or consequential loss howsoever caused.

7.4 Subject to 7.2 & 7.3, the Company’s total aggregate liability under the Contract in any calendar year (whether in contract, tort (including
negligence), breach of statutory duty or otherwise) arising out of or in connection with the performance or contemplated performance of the Contract or any delay in performance or failure to perform by the Company or otherwise howsoever arising shall be limited to the greater of (i) 125% of the value of the Price paid or payable in that calendar year; or (ii) five thousand pounds Sterling.

7.5 Subject to the other provisions of the Conditions any claim by the Client against the Company shall be made in writing and notified to the Company within 365 days of completion of the Services under the Contract by the Company to the Client.

7.6 All Services are undertaken in good faith, to a reasonable standard of care and on a confidential basis. Reports are issued on the basis of information known to the Company at the time that the Services are carried out. Although the Company will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure accuracy, the Services depend, inter alia, on the effective co-operation of the Client, its staff and on the information submitted to the Company. Save as required by law, no representation or warranty, whether express or implied or otherwise as to the accuracy of a Report is given by the Company. In consequence, all Reports are prepared on the basis that:

7.6.1 there is no responsibility to any person or body other than the Client;
7.6.2 they are not carried out for any particular purpose and no statement is to be deemed, in any circumstances to be or give rise to a representation, undertaking, warranty or contractual condition unless specifically stated;
7.6.3 they are determined solely by the professional analysis undertaken by the Company’s staff on each individual Contract and any forecasts by the Company of the results is an estimate only;
7.6.4 the Company is entitled to be paid the Price irrespective of the results or conclusions reached in the Report;
7.6.5 the results are final and approved by the Company. The Company shall be under no liability where the Client has acted on preliminary, unapproved results or advice.

7.7 All time limits, if any, for the provision of the Services are estimates and no undertaking is given to carry out the Services or to despatch any Report within any period of time. Time of performance of the Services shall not be of the essence to the Contract.

7.8 The Company shall not be liable to the Client or be deemed to be in breach of the Contract by reason of any delay in performing, or any failure to perform, any of the Company’s obligations in relation to the Services, if the delay or failure was due to any cause beyond the Company’s reasonable control. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, causes beyond the Company’s reasonable control shall include an Act of God, explosion, adverse weather conditions, flood, earthquake, tempest, fire, accident, war or threat of war, acts or threats of terrorism, sabotage, insurrection, riot, civil disturbance, requisition, acts, restrictions, regulations, bye-laws, prohibitions or measures of any kind on the part of the governmental, parliamentary or local authority, import or export regulations or embargoes, strikes, lock-outs or other industrial actions or trade disputes (whether involving employees of the Company or of a third party), difficulties in obtaining raw materials, labour, fuel, parts or machinery, power failure or breakdown in machinery.

7.9 Except where the Services are provided to a person who deals as a consumer (within the meaning of the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977), all warranties, conditions or other terms express or implied, statutory, customary or otherwise are excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law.

7.10 Where the Services are provided under a consumer transaction (as defined by the Consumer Transactions (Restrictions on Statements) Order 1976 as amended) the statutory rights of the Client are not affected by the Conditions.

7.11 The Client acknowledges that the above provisions of this Condition are reasonable and reflected in the price which would be higher without those provisions and the Client will accept such risk and/or insure accordingly.

8 OBLIGATIONS OF CLIENT

8.1 The Client shall provide with each Service a unique purchase order or unique reference or unique authorisation with sufficient detail to allow the Company to relate it to a specific Quotation and Service and the Company shall be entitled in good faith to rely upon such purchase order or reference provided to carry out the Service;
8.2 The Client may reproduce or replicate any Report in the form provided by the Company but shall not, without the written consent of the Company, reproduce or replicate any Report which has been modified from the form provided by the Company.
8.3 The Client agrees to indemnify, keep indemnified and hold harmless the Company from and against all Losses which the Company may suffer or incur arising out of or as a result of any breach or negligent performance or failure in performance by the Client of the terms of the Contract or breach of any law or any claim threatened or made against the Company by any third party arising out of the Services or out of any delay in performing or
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failure to perform the Services. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Conditions, the Client’s liability under this indemnity shall be unlimited.

8.4 Where Services are provided at the premises of the Client, the Client will be responsible for providing a safe system of work for the Company and its employees while providing the Service and the Client shall be responsible for all costs necessarily required in discharging this obligation and shall indemnify the Company, its employees, sub-contractors and agents in respect of all Losses suffered as a result of any breach by the Client hereof.

8.5 In addition to any specific Client obligations set out in the Quotation, where Services are provided at the premises of the Client, the Client shall:

8.5.1 provide the Company with necessary access to any Client premises;
8.5.2 ensure that any premises provided by the Client for the provision of any part of the Service is suitable for that purpose;
8.5.3 provide all usual auxiliary and operating materials (including gas, water, electricity, lighting etc) relevant to any Client supplied premises; and
8.5.4 provide the Company with any permits required for the performance of the service.

Additional costs or Losses arising for the Company due to the Client’s failure to comply with the obligations in 8.5 shall be borne by the Client.

9 OWNERSHIP, COPYRIGHT AND PATENTS IN RELATION TO SERVICES

9.1 All Intellectual Property Rights (including copyright in records, scientific documentary, primary data or electronic means of handling data) produced during any Service shall belong to and remain the property of the Company unless otherwise expressly agreed as part of the Contract.

9.2 Ownership and copyright in the Report shall remain with the Company. Upon the Client discharging all its obligations under the Contract, including payment of the Price, the Client will obtain an irrevocable, royalty-free, non-exclusive licence to use the Report (including the right to sub-licence), subject to the terms of Conditions 8.2, 9.3 & 9.4.

9.3 The Client hereby warrants that it will not use the Report or any other reports, results, or information supplied by the Company for the purposes of advertisement or publication to third parties. Any such issue of the Report or other reports, results or information is permitted under the Contract only with the prior written consent of the Company who shall have the right to increase the Price where it consents to such advertisement and/or publication.

9.4 The Client hereby undertakes to abide by any regulations imposed by Certification Authorities, Standard Owners, Accreditation Bodies or the Department of Trade and Industry of Her Majesty’s Government relating to marks, emblems or logos attached to the Reports or any other documents issued under the Service.

9.5 The Client shall indemnify the Company against all damages, penalties, costs and expenses to which the Company may become liable as a result of a claim that the use of any data, equipment or other materials supplied by the Client for the performance of the Services involves the infringement of any Intellectual Property Rights of any third party.

10 DATA PROTECTION

10.1 In exercising its rights and performing its obligations under the Contract the Client, to the extent necessary, shall at all times comply with the Data Protection Act 1998. To the extent that any personal data (as defined in the Data Protection Act 1998) is processed by the Client, the Client shall at all times take all appropriate technical and organisational measures against unauthorised or unlawful processing of such personal data and against accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, such personal data.

10.2 If the Company receives a subject access request from a data subject who is identified in the personal data then the Client shall provide the Company with all such assistance as the Company may reasonably required to enable the Company to timely comply with the subject access request.

11 SUB-CONTRACTING AND ASSIGNMENT

11.1 Unless otherwise restricted by the terms of the Contract and/or obligations under any accreditation or governing approval, the Company shall be entitled, in its absolute discretion, to sub-contract the whole of or any part of the Service.

11.2 The Company may assign, delegate, licence or hold on trust, all or any part of its rights or obligations under the Contract.

11.3 The Contract is personal to the Client which may not assign, delegate, licence, hold on trust or sub-contract all or any of its rights or obligations under the Contract without the Company’s prior written consent.

12 TERMINATION

12.1 The Client shall not terminate the Contract without the written consent of the Company which may be subject to such terms, as in the Company’s absolute discretion, recompense the Company for all loss it may suffer as a result of termination.

12.2 The Company may terminate the Contract and any other contract with the Client forthwith, without prejudice to any other right or remedy available to the Company and without the Company incurring any liability to the
Client, in the following circumstances:
12.2.1 if the Client commits a breach of any terms of the Contract or any other contract with the Company which is incapable of remedy or, if capable of remedy, has not been remedied by the Client in accordance with a written notice from the Company requiring remedy within the period specified in the said notice;
12.2.2 if the Client fails to make payment of the Price within the specified time;
12.2.3 the Client makes any voluntary arrangement with its creditors or becomes subject to an administration order or (being an individual or firm) becomes bankrupt or (being a company) goes into liquidation (otherwise than for the purposes of amalgamation or reconstruction) or ceases or suspends payment of any of its debts or is unable to pay its debts as they fall due within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986;
12.2.4 an encumbrancer takes possession, or a receiver or administrator is appointed, over any of the property or assets of the Client;
12.2.5 the Client ceases, or threatens to cease, to carry on business;
12.2.6 the Company reasonably apprehends that any of the events mentioned at Conditions 12.2.3, 12.2.4 or 12.2.5 above is about to occur in relation to the Client and notifies the Client accordingly; and
12.2.7 as provided in Condition 8.3.

12.3 Notwithstanding that the Company terminates the Contract, this shall be without prejudice to the accrued rights and remedies of the parties prior to termination of the Contract and any rights or remedies under the Conditions, which shall remain in force, including the right to suspend all further Services to be made under any other contract with the Client (and in such event the Client shall not be released from any of its obligations to the Company under any other contract) and the right for the Company to receive full compensation for its loss under the Contract or any other contract with the Client.

12.4 On termination of the Contract pursuant to Condition 12.2, any indebtedness of the Client to the Company shall become immediately due and payable.

13 CONFIDENTIALITY

13.1 Each party (the “Recipient”) shall keep all Confidential Information of the other party (the “Disclosing Party”) in the strictest confidence. Save for the purposes of fulfilling its obligations under the Contract, the Recipient shall not, without the prior written consent of the Disclosing Party, disclose, divulge or grant access to the Confidential Information which it has received and shall not permit any of its employees, agents or officers to disclose, divulge or grant access to such Confidential Information.

13.2 Notwithstanding Condition 13.1, a Recipient may disclose Confidential Information which it has received if:
13.2.1 it is required to do so by any governmental, local government or regulatory authority or by law (but then only to the extent it is strictly required to do so);
13.2.2 it is strictly necessary for the purpose only of obtaining professional advice in relation to the Contract;
13.2.3 it was already known to the Recipient prior to the time of disclosure by the Disclosing Party (where the Recipient can prove the same with documentary evidence); or
13.2.4 it is information which subsequently becomes public knowledge other than by breach of the Contract by the Recipient.

13.3 In the event of an information request being made to a Recipient pursuant to any Freedom of Information legislation or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 in respect of any Confidential Information then the Recipient shall notify the Disclosing Party and shall not disclose any information until an analysis has been made as to whether the information requested is capable of benefiting from an exemption from disclosure.

13.4 The obligations of the parties under this Condition 14 shall continue to apply without limit of time.

14 ANTI-CORRUPTION

14.1 The Client undertakes to comply with all applicable laws, statutes, regulations and codes relating to anti-bribery and anti-corruption including but not limited to the Bribery Act 2010 (“Anti-Corruption Laws”) and that it shall not do, nor omit to do, any act that will lead to the Company being in breach of any of the Anti-Corruption Laws. The Client shall comply with the Company’s Anti-corruption policies as may be notified to the Client and updated from time to time (“Relevant Policies”).

14.2 The Client shall promptly report to the Company any request or demand for any undue financial or other advantage of any kind received by the Client in connection with the performance of the Contract.

15 GENERAL

15.1 Each right or remedy of the Company under any Contract is without prejudice to any other right or remedy of the Company under this or any other Contract.
15.2 Nothing in the Conditions shall create or be deemed to create a partnership between the parties.

15.3 The Conditions and the Quotation contain all the provisions which the parties have agreed in relation to the subject matter of the Contract and supersede any prior written or oral agreements, representations, proposal documentation or understandings between the parties. The Client agrees that it has not been induced to enter into the Conditions or the Contract by a statement or promise which they do not contain save that the Conditions shall not exclude any liability which the Company would otherwise have to the Client in respect of any statements made fraudulently by the Company.

15.4 In the event of one or more of the provisions of the Conditions being held by a competent authority to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, in whole or in part, the validity, legality or enforceability of the remaining provisions of the Conditions and the remainder of the provision in question shall not be affected thereby.

15.5 All notices to be served by one party on the other must be in writing and shall be deemed duly delivered or served at the time of service if delivered personally and forty eight hours after posting if posted by first class or airmail pre-paid post in each case to the registered address, if applicable, or if not applicable the last known address of the other party.

15.6 No failure or delay by the Company to exercise any right, power or remedy will operate as a waiver of it nor will any partial exercise preclude any further exercise of the same or of some other right, power or remedy.

15.7 For the purpose of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999, the Quotation and the Conditions do not and are not intended to give any rights or any right to enforce any of its provisions to any person who is not a party to it.

15.8 The Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England and Wales and the Client submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts.