



Fédération Internationale des Ingénieurs-Conseils  
International Federation of Consulting Engineers  
Internationale Vereinigung Beratender Ingenieure  
Federación Internacional de Ingenieros Consultores

# Conditions of Contract for **Construction**

GENERAL CONDITIONS  
GUIDANCE FOR THE PREPARATION  
OF PARTICULAR CONDITIONS AND ANNEXES:  
FORMS OF SECURITIES  
FORMS OF LETTER OF TENDER, LETTER OF  
ACCEPTANCE, CONTRACT AGREEMENT AND DISPUTE  
ADJUDICATION/AVOIDANCE AGREEMENT

ISBN 978-2-88432-084-9

SECOND EDITION 2017

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GENERAL CONDITIONS

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GUIDANCE FOR THE  
PREPARATION OF  
PARTICULAR CONDITIONS  
AND ANNEXES: FORMS  
OF SECURITIES

FIDIC® Conditions of Contract for  
**CONSTRUCTION**

FOR BUILDING AND ENGINEERING WORKS  
DESIGNED BY THE EMPLOYER

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TENDER, LETTER OF  
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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG BERATENDER INGENIEURE  
FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE INGENIEROS CONSULTORES



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## NOTES

This Second Edition of the Conditions of Contract for Construction has been published by the Fédération Internationale des Ingénieurs-Conseils (FIDIC) as an update of the FIDIC 1999 Conditions of Contract for Construction (Red Book), First Edition.

Along with the FIDIC 1999 Yellow Book (the Conditions of Contract for Plant and Design-Build) and the FIDIC 1999 Silver Book (the Conditions of Contract for EPC/Turnkey Projects), the FIDIC 1999 Red Book has been in widespread use for nearly two decades. In particular, it has been recognised for, among other things, its principles of balanced risk sharing between the Employer and the Contractor in projects where the Contractor constructs the works in accordance with a design provided by the Employer. However, the works may include some elements of Contractor-designed civil, mechanical, electrical and/or construction works.

This Second Edition of the FIDIC Red Book continues FIDIC's fundamental principles of balanced risk sharing while seeking to build on the substantial experience gained from its use over the past 18 years. For example, this edition provides:

- 1) greater detail and clarity on the requirements for notices and other communications;
- 2) provisions to address Employers' and Contractors' claims treated equally and separated from disputes;
- 3) mechanisms for dispute avoidance and
- 4) detailed provisions for quality management, and verification of Contractor's contractual compliance.

These Conditions of Contract for Construction include conditions, which are likely to apply to the majority of such contracts. Essential items of information which are particular to each individual contract are to be included in the Particular Conditions Part A – Contract Data.

In addition, it is recognised that many Employers, especially governmental agencies, may require special conditions of contract, or particular procedures, which differ from those included in the General Conditions. These should be included in Part B – Special Provisions.

It should be noted, that the General Conditions and the Particular Conditions (Part A – Contract Data and Part B – Special Provisions) are all part of the Conditions of Contract.

To assist Employers in preparing tender documents and in drafting Particular Conditions of Contract for specific contracts, this publication includes Notes on the Preparation of Tender Documents and Notes on the Preparation of Special Provisions, which provide important advice to drafters of contract documents, in particular the Specifications and Special Provisions. In drafting Special Provisions, if clauses in the General Conditions are to be replaced or supplemented and before incorporating any example wording, Employers are urged to seek legal and engineering advice in an effort to avoid ambiguity and to ensure completeness and consistency with the other provisions of the contract.

This publication begins with a series of comprehensive flow charts which typically show, in visual form, the sequences of activities which characterise the FIDIC Construction form of contract. The charts are illustrative, however, and must not be taken into consideration in the interpretation of the Conditions of Contract.

This publication also includes a number of sample forms to help both Parties to develop a common understanding of what is required by third parties such as providers of securities and guarantees.

Drafters of contract documents are reminded that the General Conditions of all FIDIC contracts are protected by copyright and trademark and may not be changed without specific written consent, usually in the form of a licence to amend, from FIDIC. If drafters wish to amend the provisions found in the General Conditions, the place for doing this is in the Particular Conditions Part B – Special Provisions, as mentioned above, and not by making changes in the General Conditions as published.

FIDIC considers the official and authentic texts to be the versions in the English language.

# General Conditions

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# General Conditions

## 1 General Provisions

### 1.1

#### Definitions

In the Contract the following words and expressions shall have the meanings stated, except where the context requires otherwise

- 1.1.1 “**Accepted Contract Amount**” means the amount accepted in the Letter of Acceptance for the execution of the Works in accordance with the Contract.
- 1.1.2 “**Advance Payment Certificate**” means a Payment Certificate issued by the Engineer for advance payment under Sub-Clause 14.2.2 [*Advance Payment Certificate*].
- 1.1.3 “**Advance Payment Guarantee**” means the guarantee under Sub-Clause 14.2.1 [*Advance Payment Guarantee*].
- 1.1.4 “**Base Date**” means the date 28 days before the latest date for submission of the Tender.
- 1.1.5 “**Bill of Quantities**” means the document entitled bill of quantities (if any) included in the Schedules.
- 1.1.6 “**Claim**” means a request or assertion by one Party to the other Party for an entitlement or relief under any Clause of these Conditions or otherwise in connection with, or arising out of, the Contract or the execution of the Works.
- 1.1.7 “**Commencement Date**” means the date as stated in the Engineer’s Notice issued under Sub-Clause 8.1 [*Commencement of Works*].
- 1.1.8 “**Compliance Verification System**” means the compliance verification system to be prepared and implemented by the Contractor for the Works in accordance with Sub-Clause 4.9.2 [*Compliance Verification System*].
- 1.1.9 “**Conditions of Contract**” or “**these Conditions**” means these General Conditions as amended by the Particular Conditions.
- 1.1.10 “**Contract**” means the Contract Agreement, the Letter of Acceptance, the Letter of Tender, any addenda referred to in the Contract Agreement, these Conditions, the Specification, the Drawings, the Schedules, the Contractor’s Proposal, the JV Undertaking (if applicable) and the further documents (if any) which are listed in the Contract Agreement or in the Letter of Acceptance.
- 1.1.11 “**Contract Agreement**” means the agreement entered into by both Parties in accordance with Sub-Clause 1.6 [*Contract Agreement*].
- 1.1.12 “**Contract Data**” means the pages, entitled contract data which constitute Part A of the Particular Conditions.
- 1.1.13 “**Contract Price**” means the price defined in Sub-Clause 14.1 [*The Contract Price*].