



















Barry Neilson (Chief Executive CITB NI)

Developing a World Class Digital Construction Sector

How do we facilitate a multifaceted sector to develop their Digital Skills from their **1**<sup>st</sup> to their **Next** step

Reducing the energy footprint in the built environment



#### Why would the sector want to develop digital skills?

- Improving energy efficiency through better design and execution of that design?
- More sustainable and efficient management of our Built Environment over the life of a facility?
- Better communication of construction solutions throughout the design, delivery and maintenance teams?
- More efficiency and less waste in the construction process?
- Minimising costs of design, construction and maintenance?
- Improving communication of issues and benefits of a project to non-construction professionals?



#### Where do we find the Answers?

- What is the Construction (or Built Environment) Sector?
  - Clients
  - Designers
  - Construction Planners & Project Managers
  - Fabricators
  - Site operatives
  - Material / Component Suppliers
  - Financial Managers
- Do they all have the same drivers for taking up the Digital Journey?



# I Suggest Not!





Different sub-sectors in different areas of the EU have different drivers.

#### So, how do we;

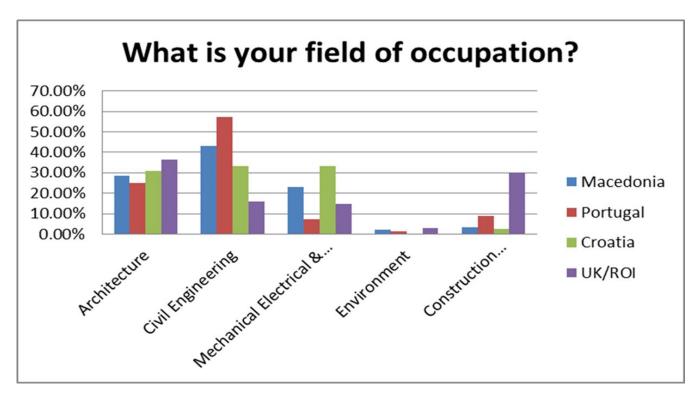
- motivate them
- Incentivise them
- Engage them
- Provide an accessible mechanism for them all to start (or continue) their digital journey



#### What have we learned from BIMcert research?

Who Participated in the research?

What does this tell us about the people who are engaging?

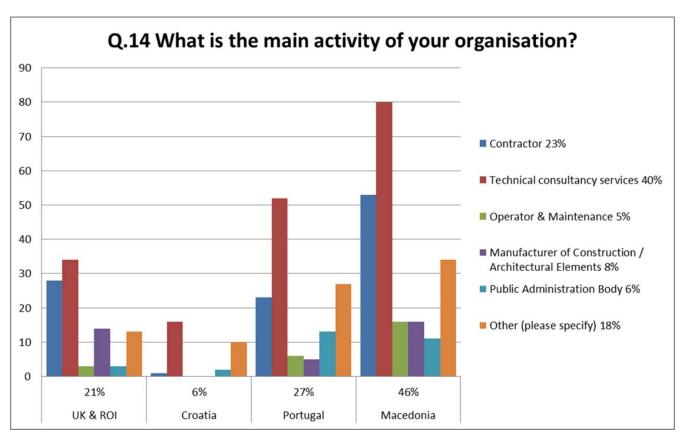




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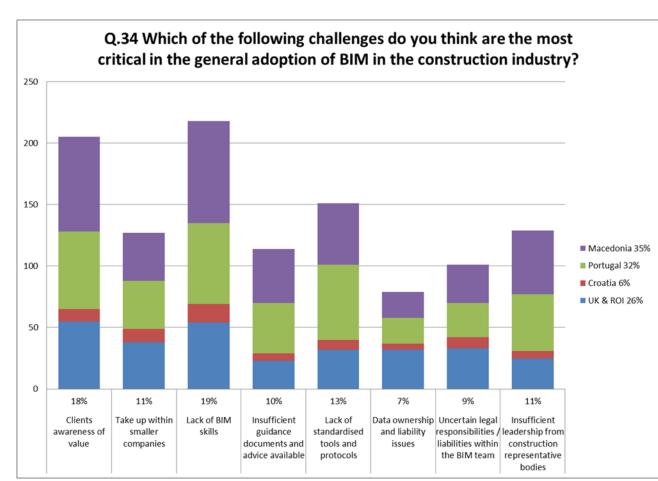




#### What have we learned from BIMcert research?

What did respondents see as the major structural challenges?

Where are the issues that need to be addressed?

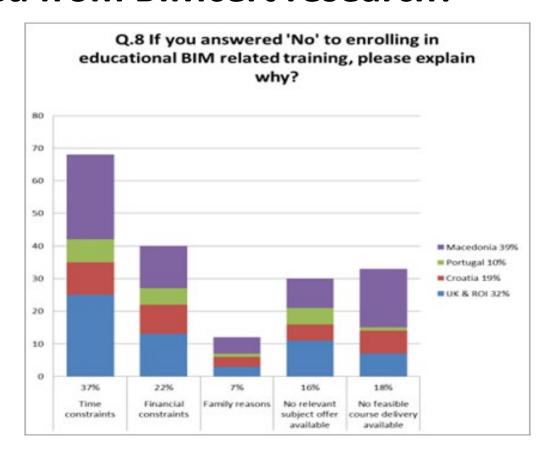




#### What have we learned from BIMcert research?

What did respondents see as the major personal Barriers?

Where are the issues that need to be addressed?

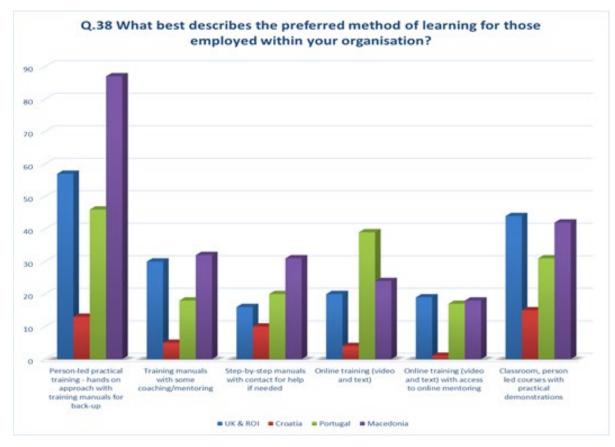




#### What have we learned from BIMcert research?

### How do people want to learn?

Is there a "preferred" method?
Is there only one route to developing people?





#### The Real Challenge?

- What are the "real" barriers to adopting digital construction methods?
  - Fear of breaking something?
  - Not understanding



Not having the time to learn?





#### The Real Challenge?

- What are the "real" barriers to adopting digital construction methods?
  - It's for others not me
  - Logistics I don't know where I will be!



Why should I develop – What's in it for me?

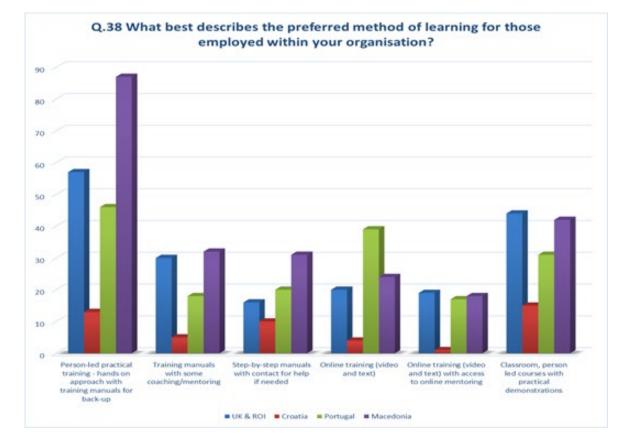


How do we address personal challenges to

development?

We need to find a way to:

- Support individuals
- Provide practical tools
- Provide a safe and supportive environment to learn and practice





What is our sector telling us about developing our people?

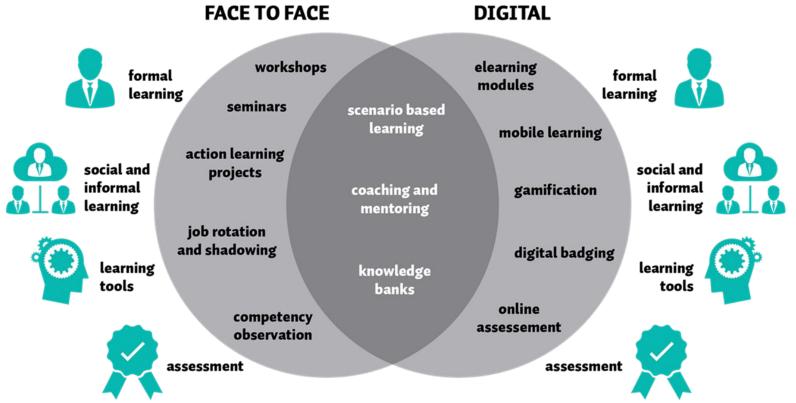
- There is no single method of delivery that meets everyone's needs.
- An individuals learning style can develop in relation to where they are in their learning cycle.

We need a learning environment that blends different learning styles to allow the individual to develop the way they need to be taught.



We need a blended approach to learning

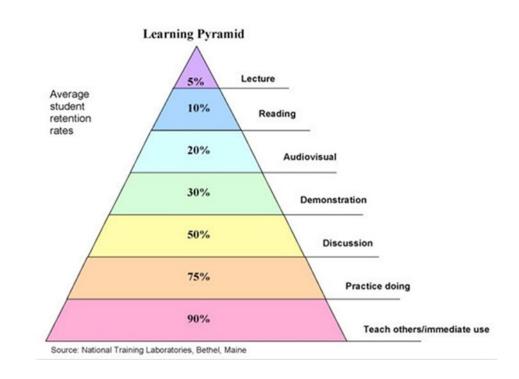
In fact – we need to think "Beyond Blended





#### Encourage a more blended approach to self development:

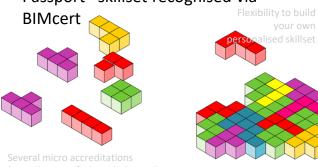
- ➤ Encourage individuals to embrace digital learning as well as digital construction
- ➤ Easy entry level modules for those uncomfortable with technology
- Coaching and mentoring approach to progression into digital learning & working
- Develop desire to continue to develop using digital materials
- ➤ Develop appreciation of how digital construction (BIM) can improve long term performance of the Built Environment

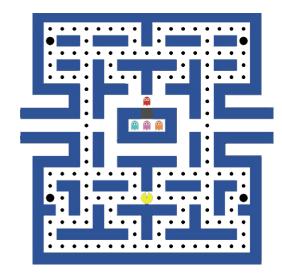




Modules are adaptable to each learners needs and career pathways
Leaners can pick the micro
accreditations that suit them

Allow learner to gain skills required for their own professional needs, combine them to obtain either pre-established qualification or an unique "BIM Passport" skillset recognised via





Not a linear progression
Bite sized micro accreditation



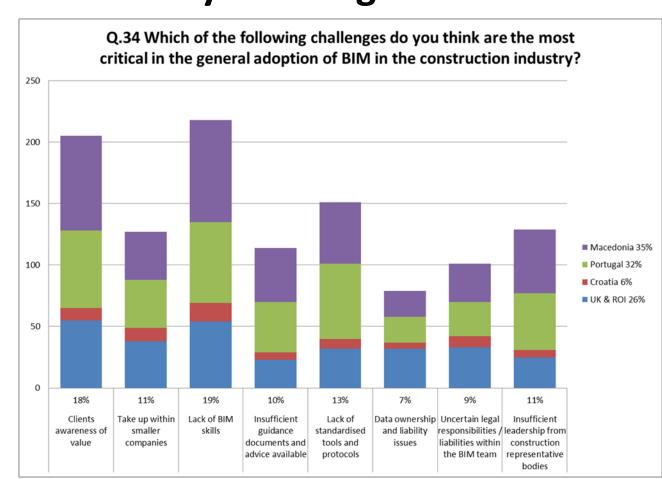


How do we address industry challenges to

development?

We need to find a way to:

- Incentivise organisations
- Provide practical tools
- Create a commercial driver to develop





### How do we address industry challenges to development?

From the research we carried out we gained a perception that:

- The sector responds to Governmental leadership
- Where there is a regulative environment (a "push" approach) industry responds
- Digital construction moves from an "information tool" to a "management tool" when the delivery sector engages with it



### How do we address industry challenges to development?

- Countries where there is leadership from Government are developing Digital Skills faster
- Procurement of public construction works is a significant driver
- Design industries are early adopters and recognise the benefits
- Once the delivery side engages (contracting industry) the spread of digital construction accelerates within the professional & technical disciplines



#### What are the challenges for the future?

- Extending the benefits being realised by some at the design and construction phase of Built Environment project across all organisations within the sector.
- Getting the client sector better informed and competent in requiring Digital Construction methods (BIM) at specification stage.
- Extending the use of BIM / Digital construction into the long term management and maintenance of our Built Environment
- Engaging all people within the entire design and construction sector and developing digital skills appropriate to their role.



#### We Need to Democratise BIM / Digital Skills





#### How do we do that?





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