



**DESIGN + CONSTRUCTION  
EXCELLENCE**

Continuing Education for NYC Capital Program Staff

**DESIGN QUALITY INDICATOR—Metrics  
for Increasing the Value of Public Works**

MAY 12, 2008

31 CHAMBERS STREET  
CONFERENCE ROOM 209

The recent creation of a quantitatively-based metric to measure design quality allows us to establish design quality as a priority on equal footing with project schedule and budget management. This methodology, termed Design Quality Indicator—or DQI—emerged from a collaborative effort initiated and owned by the UK’s Construction Industry Council, with leading involvement of Sunand Prasad, current President of the Royal Institute for British Architects.

Based upon the premise that “the value of design can be, and has to be, measured and demonstrated,” DQI and the process for using it have been in use in Great Britain since mid-2002. This tool permits the design team, working with a client/user group, to establish and continually assess design quality on a capital project from start to finish, in equal measure with schedule and budget. In this model, design quality encompasses not only aesthetic concerns that people typically associate with design, but also building functionality, with a particular focus on the users needs, and construction quality.

The DQI tool helps the project team create a better building, evaluated along a spectrum that includes aesthetic, functional and construction-based values, while increasing the chances that it comes within budget and on schedule. The Green Book, an official publication of the British Treasury (the British OMB), now includes design quality as one of the key considerations relevant to capital project analysis and specifically cites DQI as a useful means to this end.

<b>10:00 am</b>	Light refreshments
<b>10:20 am</b>	Introduction – Commissioner David Burney, Department of Design and Construction
<b>10:30 am</b>	Design Quality Indicators—Sunand Prasad, President, Royal Institute of British Architects
<b>11:30 am</b>	Q & A and Summary—Commissioner Burney

**Please let us know by email ([matthewte@ddc.nyc.gov](mailto:matthewte@ddc.nyc.gov)) whether you will be able to attend.**