

Commercial Management vs. Quantity Surveying: Hoax or Harmonization

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Abstract : Purpose: This study investigates the perceived disparities between Quantity Surveying and Commercial Management in the construction industry, questioning if these differences are substantive or merely semantic. It aims to challenge the conventional notion of Commercial Managers' superiority by critically evaluating QS and CM roles, exploring CM integration possibilities, examining qualifications for aspiring Commercial Managers, assessing regulatory frameworks, and considering terminology redefinition for global QS professional enhancement. Design: Utilizing mixed methods like literature reviews, surveys, interviews, and document analyses, this research examines the QS-CM relationship. Insights from industry professionals, academics, and regulatory bodies inform the investigation into changing QS roles. Findings: Empirical data highlight evolving roles, showcasing areas of convergence and divergence between QSs and CM. Potential CM integration into QS practice and qualifications for aspiring Commercial Managers are identified. Limitations/Implications: Limitations include potential bias in self-reported data and findings. Nevertheless, the research informs future practices and educational approaches in QS and CM, reflecting the changing roles and responsibilities of Quantity Surveyors. Practical Implications: Findings inform industry practitioners, educators, and regulators, stressing the need to adapt to changing QS roles and integrate CM principles where applicable. Value to the Conference Theme: Aligned with 'Evolving roles and responsibilities of Quantity Surveyors,' this research offers insights crucial for understanding the changing dynamics within the QS profession and informs strategies to navigate these shifts effectively.

Keywords : quantity surveying, commercial management, cost engineering, quantity survey

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