

The Civil Engineering Environmental Quality Assessment and Awards Scheme

Improving sustainability in civil engineering

What is CEEQUAL?

CEEQUAL is the assessment and awards scheme for improving sustainability in civil engineering. It celebrates the achievement of high environmental and social performance in civil engineering and public realm projects. CEEQUAL Awards are evidence-based achievement awards, rather than the result of a competition.

CEEQUAL:

- promotes improved sustainability in project specification, design and construction
- demonstrates the commitment of the civil engineering industry to environmental quality
- rigorously assesses performance across 12 areas of environmental and social concern
- provides a checklist of appropriate action to guide project teams throughout their project.

Who can get a CEEQUAL Award?

CEEQUAL Awards are applicable to civil engineering and public realm projects of any size or description. An Award is given to schemes that have been assessed against detailed and specific environmental criteria and verified by a CEEQUAL-appointed Verifier.

Awards are made to projects on which clients, designers and constructors go beyond the legal and environmental minima to achieve distinctive environmental standards in their work.

Five types of Award are available:

- **Whole Project Award** – for a joint application by the client, designer and principal contractor
- **Client & Design Award** – for a joint application by the client and the designer
- **Design Award** – for principal designers only
- **Design & Build Award** – for a joint application by the contractor and their designer
- **Construction Award** – for principal contractors only

In addition, the **Client & (Outline) Design Award** is available as an integrated interim award en route to a Whole Project Award.

Awards achieved

Up to early 2009, forty six CEEQUAL Awards have been made, including ten Interim Awards. Projects that have achieved an Award, and the organisations involved, are listed on the CEEQUAL website, www.ceequal.com

Currently more than 120 further projects are being assessed and the total value of projects that have been or are being assessed now exceeds £6 billion.

Benefits of a CEEQUAL Award

Applicants for Awards report a range of benefits from using CEEQUAL as a driver for improvement and having their project assessed.

- **Reputation-building and good PR** – including delivery of the applicant's environmental, sustainability and/or corporate social responsibility policies.
- **Improvements to projects and best practice** – ranging from whole-life costing, waste minimisation, resource efficiency (materials, water, energy) to reducing complaints and environmental incidents.
- **Demonstrating commitment to the environmental agenda** – to clients within the team and the organisations involved, and to the industry as a whole.
- **Enhanced team spirit** – developing a positive “we must score well here” attitude and rewarding teams that have gone the extra mile.





How does an assessment work?

CEEQUAL is a self-assessment process, carried out by a trained CEEQUAL Assessor. The completed assessment is independently verified by a CEEQUAL-appointed Verifier.

The Assessor receives a copy of the CEEQUAL Manual and a spreadsheet scoring table. The spreadsheet is used to record the scores for each question relevant to the project and to record details of the necessary evidence.

On completion of the verification, Award certificates are presented to all project partners at suitable industry events.

It is recommended that a decision to apply for a CEEQUAL assessment is taken early in the project. This way the CEEQUAL questions can drive best practice on the project and a file of evidence to support the scores can be compiled as the project progresses.

What level of achievement merits a CEEQUAL Award?

CEEQUAL assesses the extent to which the project has exceeded the statutory and regulatory minima. It is not possible to achieve a 100% score due to conflicting environmental issues in the assessment. The Award thresholds, based on the maximum possible score for that project, as scoped by the Assessor and Verifier, are:

- more than 25% – Pass
- more than 40% – Good
- more than 60% – Very Good
- more than 75% – Excellent

(with the actual score being given on the Award Certificate)

How much will a CEEQUAL assessment and Award cost?

A fee is charged to cover the cost of the Verifier and the administration and progressive development of the CEEQUAL Scheme. The fee ranges from just over 0.1% to less than 0.005% of the civil engineering value of the project. The full feescale is downloadable from the CEEQUAL website: www.ceequal.com

In addition, the applicant organisation will need to train or contract in a CEEQUAL Assessor. The fee for the two-day Assessor training courses, which are held regularly throughout the UK, is £785+VAT. To find out about forthcoming CEEQUAL Assessor training courses and to download a course booking form, please visit the *Training Courses* page on www.ceequal.com

CEEQUAL Awards

A CEEQUAL Award for your civil engineering or public realm project will identify you as an organisation that:

- measures and compares standards of performance
- respects people and the society in which it operates
- seeks to undertake its work in an ethical and sustainable manner
- acts in a socially and environmentally responsible way
- protects and enhances the environment
- is concerned about the major impacts of civil engineering projects on their neighbours, the environment and the earth's resources.

A CEEQUAL Award provides

- public recognition
- an independent measure of project performance on a very wide range of environmental and social issues
- encouragement and a target for project teams to deliver high performance

More information

CEEQUAL is managed jointly by CIRIA and Crane Environmental. If you would like to:

- purchase a copy of the Scheme Manual
- register for an Assessor Training Course

please contact:

CIRIA

Classic House
174-180 Old Street
London EC1V 9BP

Phone: 020 7549 3302
Fax: 020 7253 0523
Email: enquiries@ceequal.com

If you would like to:

- apply for an Award
- find out more about CEEQUAL
- ask a technical question about the Scheme

please contact:

Crane Environmental
Phone: 020 8399 4389
Fax: 020 8390 9368

Email: support@ceequal.com

Or visit the CEEQUAL website: www.ceequal.com where you can download a free copy of the CEEQUAL Manual.

