



The global lean construction community

This thriving network of academics, practitioners and consultants meet in a variety of fora to exchange ideas, research approaches and results, and to explore the application of lean thinking applied end-to-end to the programming, design, realisation and use of built environment facilities.

The fora include the *International Group for Lean Construction* founded in 1993 <http://www.iglc.net>, the *European Group for Lean Construction* founded in 2005 <http://www.eglc.eu> (both primarily academic with some practitioners and consultants and with little formal organisation) and the *Lean Construction Institute* (LCI) founded in 1997 <http://www.leanconstruction.org> and various national lean construction groups (primarily practitioners and consultants with strong academic links and some sort of formal organisation structure – e.g. LCI in the US is a 501(3)c charitable organisation).

Topics of interest to the lean construction community include:

- *value* for the owner, client, end-users and participants,
- [integrated and lean project delivery](#),
- [lean design, product development and design management](#),
- [production system design](#),
- production planning and control,
- people (including ergonomics), culture and change,
- supply chain management,
- [prefabrication, assembly and open building](#),
- [enabling lean with IT](#),
- health, [safety, quality and the environment](#),
- [relational contracts, contract and cost management](#).
- [theory](#) relating to all of the above – including *complexity* and *Transformation-Flow-Value*
- research methods appropriate to the investigation of emergent theory and practice.

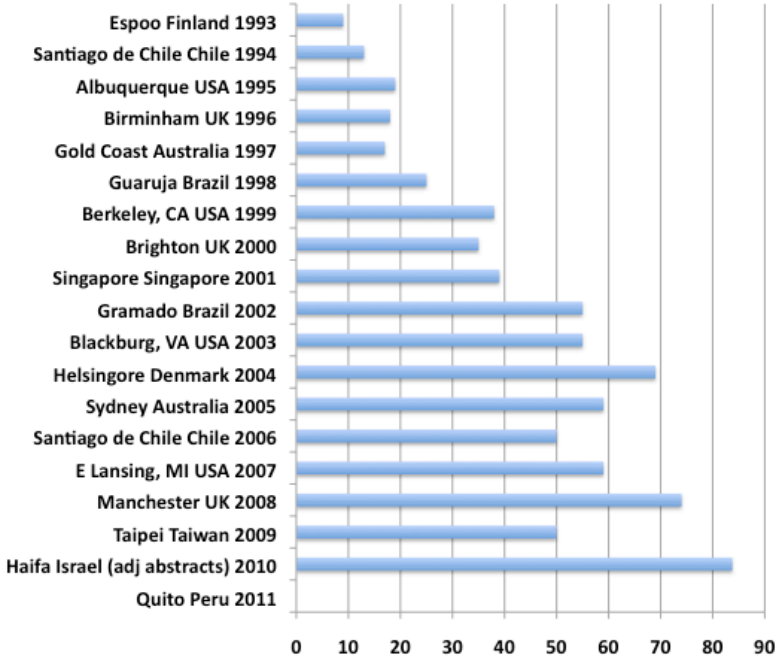
All iglc papers from 1996 are available at <http://www.iglc.net> as well as in printed proceedings. The papers from the first three conferences are available in book form.

The community is served by:

- a peer-reviewed free-to-access on-line journal — *The Lean Construction Journal* <http://www.leanconstructionjournal.org>.
- an annual IGLC conference – 2010 is at Technion, Haifa <http://iglc18.technion.ac.il/>
- an annual LCI Congress — 2010 is in Boulder, CO in October
- twice yearly meetings of EGLC – the next is in Portugal 29-30 April 2010
- various special interest groups and *ad hoc* meetings — see e.g. http://www.lean-in-public.org/lips_en_proceedings.html and <http://www.leanconstruction.org/files/>
- email lists for *IGLC*, *EGLC* (primarily academic) and *Planner to Planner* (mostly practitioners)
- a number of lean construction groups on *LinkedIn*, the professional networking site www.linkedin.com, with memberships that overlap both IGLC and LCI.

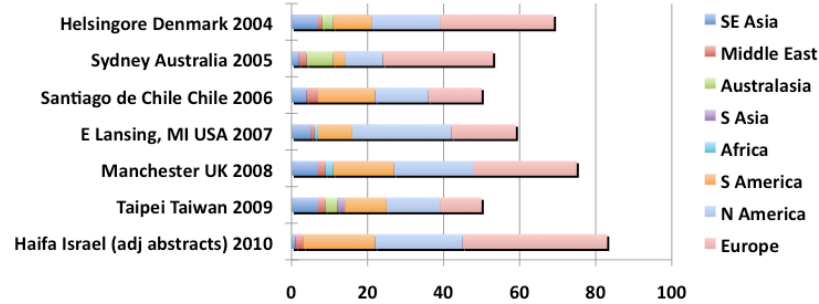
The community is active in 6 continents and first authors of papers presented to IGLC conferences have been based in at least 34 countries: Australia, Brazil*, Canada*, Chile, Colombia, Denmark*, Finland*, Germany*, Hong Kong, India*, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru*, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden*, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, UK* & USA*. Practitioners from the 10 *countries have spoken at an LCI Congress in USA.

Numbers of papers accepted at each IGLC Conference (all papers are blind peer reviewed)



(note: 2010 data assumes that 67% of abstracts will become papers)

Sources of papers by region – IGLC Conferences 2004-2010



There is a Wikipedia entry at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lean_construction.

Ideas from the lean construction community are being used in shipbuilding, aircraft design, software engineering and other examples of *project-based production*.

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