**Call for Papers**

**Earthen construction**

*Construction Materials* is planning a themed issue for 2016 on earthen construction.

It is often quoted that around one-third of humanity live in buildings made from earthen construction. Earthen (unfired clay) materials have provided sustainable forms of construction around the world for millennia. Interest in earthen construction has grown in recent years as the heritage value of numerous historic buildings has been increasingly appreciated. However, the search for more sustainable alternatives to industrialised building materials has also led to the increased use and research work in this traditional form of construction in modern buildings. Earth construction techniques include: adobe (mud bricks); cob; compressed earth blocks; plasters and renders; rammed earth; wattle and daub.

This themed issue of *Construction Materials* will bring together the experience and knowledge of a wide range of experts working on earth construction materials and applications worldwide. The showcase issue will include: latest developments in characterisation and understanding of earthen materials; latest innovations and applications of earth as a modern construction material; seismic strengthening and retrofitting techniques.

**Topics to be covered could include the following:**

- Physical and mechanical characterisation of earthen materials
- Durability studies of earthen materials and buildings
- Environmental characterisation, monitoring and modelling
- Moisture buffering properties
- Development of new earthen materials and products
- Standardisation of earthen construction
- Seismic strengthening and retrofitting of earth buildings
- Life cycle assessment of earthen construction
- Innovative applications of earthen materials

The deadline for abstracts is 26 March 2015. The deadline for submissions is 26 June 2015.

To submit an abstract go to: http://goo.gl/forms/dt3yGUQKYP

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**Invitation to authors**

To submit an abstract or to request further details and full journal guidelines, please contact Josephine Francis T: +44 20 7665 2241; E: josephine.francis@icepublishing.com

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