





Presented by Falconbury

# The Commercial Manager's Summer School

8-12 July 2024

Commercial management is a crucial function that, if undertaken well, enables overall success and growth of a business. This highly-interactive summer school has been specially designed to help commercial and contracts managers excel in their demanding role.



Format:

Classroom

(1)

CPD:

30 hours for your records

Q

Certificate of completion

## **Course overview**

Successful commercial managers enable a business to maximise profitability by making informed decisions in a proactive and decisive manner, to satisfy customers, utilise resources to their maximum and effectively manage supplier relationships. This enhances a business' competitiveness while simultaneously minimising exposure to unacceptable levels of risk and liability. It is a crucial function that, if undertaken well, enables overall success and growth of a business.

This practical and interactive summer school has been specially designed to give commercial and contracts managers the knowledge and skills they need to understand this multifaceted role and become a highly-valued member of their business.

There are many elements of contracts and associated documentation that a commercial manager needs to understand to manage them effectively, while keeping stakeholders on-board and mitigating against the numerous risks.

The expert trainer will take you through the elements of a legally binding contract and provide you with best practice methodology to enable you to easily identify possible areas of risk, both in the drafting of a contract and selecting suppliers.

You will learn the importance of your role as a facilitator, knowing what questions need to be asked of stakeholders and suppliers, and what information needs to be collated, to understand fully the impact and probability of potential risks and what options are available to mitigate or reduce the criticality of those risks.

You will learn how to undertake effective negotiations aiming for a win-win outcome and also practical proactive risk management of project documents. This in turn creates a strong, positive contractual relationship, appreciating the interdependency nature of that relationship, with practical remedies to ensure your projects are always moving forward and progressing, rather than being hindered with delays and disputes. Demonstrating that an effective commercial manager can add value by ensuring goods relationships are maintained, cooperation enhanced and avoiding any potential litigation as the contract is created to resolve any dispute.

You will learn how to apply a logical, systematic and comprehensive approach to reading, negotiating, managing and implementing a contract so that you are confident in your role and contribution, and fully appreciate what is required of you, your team, all stakeholders and the other contracting party(ies) to satisfy the legal obligations laid out in the legal, but also practical, contract.

Drawing on real-life experiences and using many workshop-style exercises, case studies and examples, the expert trainer will focus on giving you the necessary knowledge, tools and processes to be able to draft, review, negotiate and manage contracts and make them work for you and your organisation, not against you.

#### **Benefits of attending**

By attending this summer school you will:

- **Understand** how a contract adds value to the management of a project
- Get to grips with how best to manage contracts and stakeholders
- Learn how to develop a successful procurement strategy and negotiation approach
- Understand the risks around tendering and the associated documentation
- Boost your knowledge of risk management and contingency planning
- Enhance your relationship management skills
- Recognise the role of proactive project planning and management
- Build on your negotiation skills and tactics to secure the outcomes you need

#### Who should attend?

- Commercial managers
- Contracts managers and engineers
- Procurement managers
- Project / bid managers and technical staff
- Finance managers
- Business development managers
- Contract administrators, officers and specialists

This highly experiential summer school is a must-attend event if you are:

- Managing the execution of commercial contracts
- Accountable and/or responsible for the successful completion of contracts
- Drafting and negotiating contract documents
- Unclear of the obligations that contracts place legally on you and your organisation
- In need of a refresher on the risks associated with a project

This practical programme is presented without the use of legal jargon.

There will be plenty of time for interaction with the expert trainer and opportunities to network with other delegates, so you can share experiences and get answers to your questions.



#### Day 1

#### Welcome and introduction

## Module 1: Understanding and Managing Contracts

## Purpose and structure of a commercial contract

- Legal protection
- Clarity, avoiding misunderstandings, misinterpretation, and disputes due to ambiguity
- Assign liability
- Governance / Supply Chain Management (SCM) and Supply Relationship Management (SRM)
- Proactive risk management
- Realising potential opportunities

### Protection: Ensuring contract is legally binding

- Exercise Co-op v ILC (International Computers Limited now part of Fujitsu)
- Creating a legally binding contract:
  - Legality
  - Intent
  - Legal capacity
  - Consideration
  - Agreement (battle of the formal)
  - Invitation to treat v Offer
- Letter of Intent v Authority to proceed

#### Structure of an express term contract

- Understanding the relationship between Civil (Contract and TORT) and Criminal law
- Understanding difference between Contract law ('promises' law) & TORT ('duty of care' law)
- Components of the 'whole' Agreement
  - Implied terms (statute)
  - Express terms (negotiated terms agreed verbally, in writing or by conduct)
- Understanding the starting position in statute (Implied terms) and how, and why, Express terms are used to amend or deviate from the Implied terms
- Focus of the 'why' being:
  - Clarity removing 'one size fits all' subjective, ambiguous elements of implied terms
  - Proactive risk management
- Effective governance

## Structure of an express term contract: 3 simple areas

- Promise clauses contractual obligations
- Procedural clauses governance / control & managing relationship
- Liability / consequence clauses – proactive risk management
- Exercise Multiple choice questions on implied terms in statute, focus on Sale of Goods Act, to understand how express terms may deviate from statute / amend default position in statue and why, which of the contracting parties benefits from such deviations / amendments from statute



### Module 1: Understanding and Managing Contracts continued

#### Express Term Promise clauses

- Deviating from Sale of Goods Act / Supply of Goods and Services Act
- Capturing ALL promises within the legal contract those
  of Supplier AND Buyer
- Implications of the 'Reasonable' rule in English contract law
- Best endeavours v reasonable endeavours
- Importance of using the 'Definitions' section in the contract
- Defining 'Satifactory quality', use of KPIs / SLA
  - O Changing qualitative into quantitive measures
  - Ownership of liability of 'fit for purpose'
  - Conformance specification v Performance specification
- Use of terminology: 'shall / will' v 'should / could'
- Exercise Reviewing a real-life scope of supply to identify ownership of contractual obligations
- Exercise Identifying ambiguity in a real-life scope of supply
- Exercise Drafting KPIs for a Performance Specification

#### Express Term Procedural clauses

- Applicable law
- Privity of contract v Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act
- Right to assign, right to subcontracting
- Complete / Entire
   Agreement, Order of
   Precedence, Contract
   Amendments,
   Waivers, Right of visibility / transparency of progress
- Reporting, reviews, auditing, witnessing
- Frustrated Contracts Act v
   Force Majeure
- Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act, Set off
- Limitation Act, dispute resolution, termination for breach, frustration and convenience

#### Express Term Consequence / liability clauses

- Different liability if breach a 'terms' compared to breaching a 'conditions'
- Liability in statute of monetary compensation and termination v practical remedies in express terms of Plan B's / contingency planning
- Use of express terms to pass liability / risk
  - Exclusion, Disclaimer, Indemnity clauses
- Use of express terms to limit liability / risk
  - Express term limit of / capping liability clauses
- Use of express terms to exclude liability in TORT (duty of care)
- Application of the Unfair Contract Terms Act

## Extracting and compiling information from the contractual documents into a user-friendly format

- Importance of cross-checking ALL documents for inconsistencies / contradictions
- 'Toolkit' methodology to review express term contractual documents to easily identify:
  - Ambiguous promise clauses
  - Impractical procedural clauses
  - Unacceptable liability clauses
- Action Plan proforma an effective approach for capturing all the information needed to proactively manage a contract
- Exercise Applying the 'toolkit' methodology delegates will review and cross-check a real scope of supply document and a real set of contract terms and conditions to identify where there is ambiguity and ownership of legal liability of contractual obligations. This review will then provide the information necessary to populate an Action Plan proforma summarising where clarity needs to be established and liabilities need to be appreciated to enable all parties to proactively management a project



#### Module 2: Successful Procurement Strategy

#### Effective procurement

- Difference between a buyer and a procurement professional: strategic approach
- Ensuring right product / service, right supplier, right relationship for optimum outcome
- Selection process:
  - Preparing a Request for Quotation (RFQ) / Invitation to Tender (ITT)
  - Responding to a RFQ / ITT
  - Vendor selection process / understanding the supplier
- Appreciating interdependency of buyer/supplier relationship
- Identifying requirement / need
- Involvement of 'stakeholders' / crossfunctional teams
- Exercise Listing the 5
   Whys of a procurement
- Classifing type of purchase
- Exercise Kraljic exercise

#### Developing a strategy / plan

- Understanding procurement options
- Determining appropriate contractual relationship
- Exercise Determining most appropriate contracting relationships
- Determining optimum approach to tendering

#### Creating RFQ / ITT documentation

- Time / cost spent drafting Request for Quotation (RFQ) / Invitation to Tender (ITT) v henefits
- Establishing the selection criteria / evaluation process:
  - Cost analysis
  - Alignment of procurement with organisation's strategic objectives
  - O Value adding proposals from Suppliers
- Allocation of liability / risk between the parties
- Information to include in a RFQ / IT:
  - Instruction to bidders to enable easy evaluation / comparison, like for like
  - Benefits of an Executive Summary
- Need for fairness, transparency and accountability. Compliance with regulations
- Asking the 'right questions' / requesting evidence as part of due diligence process:
  - Sources of information
  - Pre-qualification process
  - O Supplier selection criteria: 10Cs
- Getting visibility of a Supplier's risk register
- Evaluating a supplier's present approach to risk
- Challenging any fully compliant supplier
- Exercise listing 10 C's and selection criteria

### Responding to RFQ / ITT from a Suppliers perspective

- Answering the exam question
- Understanding each party's Strengths,
   Weakness, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)
- Understanding your market position and the competition:
  - What are your Unique Selling Points (USP), what differentiates you from the competition?
  - Kraljic target market, price v differentiation
- Understanding how bid fits with own objective / business strategy - Boston Matrix
- Demonstrating alignment between the buyer's needs and your USP
- Writing a selling document but also a legal document, reflecting your organisations attitude to risk (risk taker or risk adverse) and achieving the right balance between profit and
- Exercise Alignment between buyer's needs and supplier's USP / what differentiates them from competition?





#### Module 3: Effective Risk Management

### Pro-active Risk Management (RM) / Supplier Relationship Management (SRM)

- High level objectives:
  - Placing risk with party best able to manage that potential risk
  - Understanding why no one wants monetary compensation or litigation, neither the Supplier nor the Buyer – both are looking for solutions, remedies, moving forward to achieve the optimum outcome when Plan A is no longer possible
- How to achieve this
  - Project planning and management being a combination of the 'Waterfall process' (upfront planning) and 'Agile' (responsive to changes / contingency plans / plan B's)

#### 5 Stages of Pro-active Risk Management

- Pre-signing:
  - Stage 1 Identification
  - O Stage 2 Evaluation
  - O Stage 3 Contingency planning
- Post-signing:
- Stage 4 Monitoring and updating
- O Stage 5 Lessons learnt

#### Stage 1 - Identification

- Storyboarding / visualisation / brainstorming / information gathering / vulnerability assessment of supplier
- Types of risk:
  - Micro / Macro / Market / Supply / Relationship / Compliance / Legal / Reputational / Ethical / Economic / Financial / Environmental / Technological
- Use of checklists: STEEPLE(D)

#### Stage 2 - Evaluation

- Probability (likelihood)and Impact (cost / schedule)
- Risk appetite: 'adverse' or 'taker'
- Risk Reward calculation 'acceptable level of exposure'
- Exercise Traffic light analysis

#### Stage 3 - Mitigation/Contingency planning

- 4 T's: Transfer, Tolerate, Treat, Terminate
- Treat / 'What if' planning: solutions not problems approach - 'Optimum' outcome if 'Best' outcome is not possible
- Business Contingency Planning (BCP) v
   Disaster Recovery Planning (DRP)
- Appreciating best time for buyers to negotiate / agree 'Plan B'
- Maintain good relationships and saving time, if a risk does materialise

During this course delegates are introduced to the 'toolkit' methodology and the Action Plan proforma. This is now extended to consider how risks are managed, through the legally binding contract but in a more practical manner, moving a project forward, providing solutions not merely monetary compensation when plans go wrong. Proactive risk management with the Buyer having full visibility of potential risks and agreeing win-win, acceptable mitigation / contingency plans.

#### Stage 4 - Monitoring / updating: stages 1 - 3

- Ensuring you have the legal right to transparency / visibility of the Suppliers progress
- Creating a relationship which facilitates the optimum outcome is achieved

#### Stage 5 - Capturing lessons learnt / best practise

The experiential learning cycle

#### Supplier Relationship Management (SRM)

- Management (SCM)
- Drucker 'if it cannot be measured, it cannot be managed'
- Embedding Supply Chain Risk Management into corporate culture
  - O Risk management policies and procedures
  - Quality Management System (QMS): Total Quality Management (TQM) v Quality Assurance (QA)
  - Six Sigma (define, measure, analysis, improve, control)
  - O Deming's PDCA (plan, do, check, act)
- Action Plan approach to capture any misunderstanding between stakeholders, internal and external
  - SERVQUAL 'service gaps' gap, explanation, remedy
- Gathering meaningful performance information to enable early warning of risk / challenges materialising but also opportunities arising:
  - Ensure easy means to collect information / KPIs etc
  - Using technology to collect and analyse
- Different approaches to managing performance - 'carrot versus stick'
- Exercise 'carrot v stick'
- Exercise PDCA





- .Exercise Negotiation questionnaire identifying delegates default style
- Different theories, same message:
- 6 styles theory: acceptance, compromise, threat, emotion, bargain, logic
- Cooperative (bargaining & logic) v Competitive (threats)
- 3 C's: Compromise. Compete, Collaborate
- 3 types: Assertive (aggressive), Accommodator (relationship oriented), Analyst (conflict avoidant)
- Thomas-Kilmann dual concern model: Competing, Accommodating, Avoiding, Compromising or Collaborate
- Constructive v Destructive
- Push (exerting power) / Pull (persuasion) influences during a negotiation
- Rational compromise
- Consciously selecting an appropriate style to achieve objectives
- .Exercise 'Push' / 'Pull'; 'Constructive' / 'Destructive' approaches

- Confidence v arrogance
- ·Honesty and trust, more than just rapport. Relationship values and drivers. Avoiding getting trapped in the 'vicious circle of blame'
- .Acknowledgement of past interactions - good or bad
- .'Framing' the negotiations
- Opening the negotiation / effective listening & asking questions, gaining insight
- Exchange of information / being aware of your own disclosures
- Getting a reply: 'rephrasing / reframing' the same question
- .Use of empathy for 'win-win' and/or to encourage disclosure of information
- .Ury & Fisher's 'Getting to Yes': separating people from the problem; focusing on interest rather than position (not what but why, reasons behind stance); generating options; focus on objectives
- .Body language
- Silence tactic using it / diffusing it
- . Breaking deadlock and moving negotiations forward
- .Exercise Effective questioning

- . Establishing power of attorney of attendees
- .Ensuring confidentiality
- . Keeping negotiation open until formal written agreement signed
- . Focus use of agenda: pros and cons
- Summarising and capturing the agreement accurately

## Presenter



#### Catherine Hurst

Catherine Hurst BSc(Hons), CIMDip, PgDL, is an independent consultant in the contract and commercial fields. She was formerly a Commercial Manager at BAe Systems, following previous contract/commercial roles with GEC and Siemens. She has extensive practical experience of bid management, contract drafting and negotiation, contract and subcontract management as well as commercial risk management, both with UK and overseas customers and suppliers, in the private and public sectors.

She is a highly experienced trainer, having a style which brings a subject to life, creating interest and stimulating the enthusiasm of delegates. She combines academic best practice with real world experience.

She lecturers Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS) diploma, levels 4, 5 & 6 at Chichester college. As well as being a member of CIPS, Catherine has a degree in Management Studies, a Chartered Institute of Marketing diploma and more recently achieved a distinction in her Common Professional Examination (CPE)/Post-grad diploma in law, winning the prize for the highest achieving student in the contract law module.

Catherine has successfully provided training to organisations across a wide variety of industries, including:

Transport / utilities / energy / construction / engineering / IT / telecons: Network Rail, ScotRail, Balfour Beatty, London Underground, Westinghouse Springfields Fuels, General Dynamics, Siemens, Metronet, Thales, ABB, Hitachi, Jungheinrich, Honeywell, PALL Europe, Senior Aerospace BWT, RES (Renewable Energy Systems), AGI, Silvertown, QinetiQ, Clyde Pumps / Weir Pumps, Scottish Power, NCOC (North Caspian Operating Company), Computacentre, CISCO, BT, United Utilities

Health / pharmaceutical / education: Nuffield Health, Surrey PCT, Bristol Myers-Squibb, Newcastle University, Exeter University

Public: Forensic Science Services, Office for National Statistics, DARA (Defence Aviation Repair Agency), Metropolitan Police

Charity: Phoenix Futures, Homegroup

Retail: Co-op

## **Course date**

8-12 July 2024

Classroom

London

Course code 14230

GBP 2,499 2,999

EUR 3,599 4,299

USD 4,119 4,899

Until 03 Jun

### How to book



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- Most events qualify for an early booking discount prior to 6 weeks before the course date. Be sure to check on our website, where the latest discounts will be shown.

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ALEKSANDRA BEER
Tel: +44 (0)20 7749 4749
Email: inhouse@ipi.academy



YESIM NURKO
Tel: +44 (0)20 7749 4749
Email: inhouse@ipi.academy



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10-12 Rivington Street London EC2A 3DU

ipi.academy

**Tel:** +44 (0)20 7749 4749 **Email:** info@ipi.academy

