

BOPAS

Buildoffsite Property
Assurance Scheme

A BOPAS Case Study

CIMC Modular Building Systems





Background

CIMC Group was established in China in 1982 as a manufacturer of ISO Marine Containers. CIMC Modular Building Systems Ltd (CIMC MBS) was established in 2004. CIMC MBS design the modular units which are fabricated, fitted out in China and transported globally to construction projects.

Overview

CIMC MBS are BOPAS accredited for design, manufacture and project management of construction.

Hotels and student accommodation have been the principal market for the organisation to date, however the need to diversify into other sectors, such as residential was considered necessary to mitigate market risks.





Opportunity

We were prompted to progress BOPAS accreditation when our strategic focus transitioned towards the residential sector, recognising the access that BOPAS facilitated in relation to lending and mortgageability. However, we also investigated alternative routes to certification but found them to lack a fundamental understanding of the MMC sector and we therefore discounted them.

BOPAS - the Process

We found the BOPAS assessment process very detailed, but recognised the added value associated with that detail, highlighting as it did, risk and associated mitigation measures, within our systems, that we had not previously fully considered and in so doing supported our transition to more mature systems. We found the BOPAS assessors to be approachable and through their collaborative attitude, struck the right balance between rigour and pragmatism.



Outcome

The rigorous yet supportive BOPAS process has positioned CIMC MBS to confidently expand its market presence while reinforcing its reputation as a reliable and innovative modular construction provider

Benefits

BOPAS accreditation and listing on the BOPAS website has represented a 'wedge in the door' enhancing our credentials and facilitating meetings with residential sector clients, enabling us to understand their needs and further develop relationships. Similarly our prequalification for framework agreements is enhanced, when, as is often the case, BOPAS accreditation status, is requested

Overall impression

The BOPAS process was lengthy and complicated, but of course, for it to be relevant, it has to be rigorous, but the BOPAS assessor culture is one of being supportive and to make the process as painless as possible.

Testimonial

"I would and indeed do recommend BOPAS accreditation to other MMC Providers. At MMC conferences and seminars, when fellow delegates bemoan alternative certification systems, I will always recommend they pursue the BOPAS accreditation route."

Michael Crane
Regional Director EMEA
CIMC MBS Ltd

