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# Accepted Manuscript

Driving carbon reduction strategies adoption in built environment – the moderating role of organizational culture

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# Highlights/Managerial Statement

- 1. Numbers of strategies were advocated but failed to foster carbon reduction in built environment
- 2. The relationships among carbon reduction drivers, strategies adoption and organizational culture (OC) are investigated
- 3. Stringent regulations may not necessarily induce adoption of carbon reduction strategies
- 4. Relationship between the carbon tax and the adoption of carbon reduction strategies can be further enhanced by OC
- 5. Assisting organizations to reduce carbon is vital for fostering sustainable development of built environment

#### A Paper submitted

to

# **Building and Environment**

# **'Driving carbon reduction strategies adoption in the Australian construction sector** – the moderating role of organizational culture'

(Ref: BAE3408)

by

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# Driving carbon reduction strategies adoption in built environment – the moderating role of organizational culture

# ABSTRACT

In recent years, numbers of strategies were advocated to foster carbon reduction in built environment. However, few studies have acknowledged that strategies adoption is a matter of organizational culture (OC). In this study, a conceptual model that depicts the hypothesized relationship among carbon reduction drivers, strategies adoption and OC is developed. The model is then tested with data collected via a survey conducted in Australia. The results suggest that the significant relationship between the carbon tax and the adoption of carbon reduction strategies can be further enhanced by OC in terms of goal clarity, rewards, and innovation. Surprisingly, stringent regulations may not necessarily induce adoption of carbon reduction strategies in built environment even if OC exists.

Keywords: carbon reduction, strategies adoption, organizational culture, built environment

# **INTRODUCTION**

Formulating appropriate policies to combat global climate change has been an imminent but challenging task for many countries (HMGovernment, 2009; UNEPSBCI, 2009). In Australia, the government committed to reduce the national carbon emissions to a maximum of 25% below the 2000 level by 2020 (DCCEE, 2011). Achieving this target is no easy task. This requires a pivotal contribution from the major carbon emitting sectors of the country. In this regard, the government has been urging the construction sector to eradicate their carbon-intensive ways of operations (CIE, 2011; RAE, 2010).

The liability that the construction sector has on carbon emissions has already been justified by statistical records. The sector is a major contributor to carbon emissions in the country

according to the latest figures published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (2011), in which the sector produced 40.1 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (mtCO2e), sourcing 20.1% of the total emitted carbon throughout all sectors (ABS, 2008). Carbon released through construction activities must be properly controlled and reduced (Iyer-Raniga and Wong, 2012; Lam, et al., 2010). In this regard, researchers have put forward a number of strategies to reduce carbon emissions in built environment in recent years. This includes: adopting less carbon-intensive materials in buildings (González and García Navarro, 2006), advancing technologies to optimize energy efficiency (Li and Colombier, 2009; Skopek, 1999), developing mechanisms for evaluating the environmental impact driven by the construction activities (Fieldson, 2009; Li and Colombier, 2009; Osmani, et al., 2008), and reducing energy consumption and pollution in construction processes (Osmani, et al., 2008). Furthermore, governments also joined hands with the local professional bodies to establish benchmarks of carbon emission levels suitable for the construction sector. In Australia, Green Star and National Australian Built Environmental Ratings Scheme (NABERS) were developed for the sake of benchmarking construction design and reducing carbon at the planning stage (GBCA, 2012; NABERS, 2012).

Some new government policies were introduced with an intention to drive carbon reduction in construction operations. For examples, some State Governments in Australia like Victoria have passed new regulations to disapprove new construction or alteration works that fall below the tightened energy efficient and site operations standards. Furthermore, the Australian Federal Government introduced the Clean Energy Bill in October 2011 (DCCEE, 2011). The Bill encompasses a carbon pricing mechanism that has been criticized by the public as no different from a consumption tax (Singer 2009). Indeed, when compared to carbon price, the phrase 'carbon tax' is more frequently employed by the Australian populace (Deane, 2011). Advocates of the Clean Energy Bill believe that the introduction of carbon

price will drive companies' behavioural change, ensuring that environmental initiatives are a more cost effective option, rather than paying a tax on emissions (Deane, 2011). In this sense, being taxed supposedly would motivate construction organizations to adopt carbon reduction strategies (Parag and Darby, 2009).

However, the perception about the positive effects of tightening regulations and the carbon tax in adjusting an organizations behaviour has aroused much debate in recent years (Deane, 2011; Singer, 2009). Based on a literature review, (Wong, et al., 2012b) identified that despite strategies for reducing carbon emissions being available; construction organizations are generally slow to adopt them in practice. Construction organizations in this paper refer to the organizations collaborating in a construction project. This includes the developers and their consultants, the main contractors and the sub-contractors. Acquaye & Duffy (2010) argued that it would be difficult for construction organizations to change their behavior if the responding actions are in conflict with their core values. Boiral (2006) emphasized that organization's attitudes towards environmental issues may not necessarily drive behavioral change of which benefits are not justifiable.

The above suggested that policies change does not necessarily lead to the adoption of carbon reduction strategies. However, until now, a deeper understanding of whether low carbon initiatives like new policies or more stringent regulations would be conducive to a change in construction organizations' behavior towards emission reduction is still lacking. In this aspect, Hartmann (2006) described that organizational culture (OC) can be an instrumental vehicle to drive behavioral changes. OC is a developing and emerging research topic in construction. Previous research mainly aimed to import the definitions of OC obtained from other fields to construction (Ankrah and Langford, 2005). These studies largely adopted Schein (1985) organizational theory to explain culture (Liu, 1999, Coffey 2002, Ankrah and Langford 2005, Cheung et al. 2011). Schein (1985) conceptualized OC as a pattern of shared

basic assumptions about the reality that the employees learned as they addressed and resolved problems. Since then, his efforts have further been advanced by a number of researchers (Barney 1986, McNamara 1999, Peter and Waterman 2004). Barney (1986) described OC as an 'expression of values that members of an organization share with each other'. McNamara (1999) extended Schein's (1985) concept by defining OC as a set of values and norms that hold members in an organization together. When time goes by, new employees would consciously or unconsciously follow such norms. A similar definition was used by Peters and Waterman (2004) who defined OC as a set of beliefs and assumptions which define the way a firm would adopt to cope with its problems in terms of internal integration and external adaptation. The notions of OC in construction were also expounded from these classical definitions (Maloney and Federle 1991, Liu, 1999, Ankrah and Langford 2005, Ozorhon et al. 2006, Zhang and Liu 2006, Cheung et al. 2011, 2013). In these studies, construction researchers often emphasized on the significant impact of OC on the attainment of the project goals (Ankrah and Langford 2005, Cheung et al. 2011, 2013). Ankrah and Langford (2005) described that OC has powerful consequences in shaping behaviour, especially when the organization's values are being challenged by the deteriorating project performance. Zhang and Liu (2006) defined OC as the approaches that embody the shared values of an organization. This study benefited from this wealth of studies and defines OC as a set of shared values that determine the approaches taken by an organization to complete a construction project. In order to break out the entrenched carbon emission intensive operating modes, construction organizations may require a set of common values that can motivate and foster strategies adoption (Hartmann, 2006). In this study, OC is perceived as a moderating variable of the relationship between the carbon reduction drivers and the construction organization's adoption of carbon reduction strategies. Further details about the concept of

OC and how this can be identified in a construction project are provided in the next section (in particular Table 3) of this paper.

This paper reports on a study that aims to examine the effects of tightening regulations and the carbon tax on the construction organizations' adoption of carbon reduction strategies in an OC perspective. Boiral (2006) stressed that our understandings about the organizational behavior associated with carbon reduction are difficult to be consolidated as they are embedded to social and sectoral contexts. In this regard, the construction sector engages a substantial portion of the work force and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of many countries (ABS, 2008). In view of the construction developments required to sustain the economy, it is of paramount importance that future infrastructures and construction facilities can be developed with due consideration of carbon emissions. Furthermore, construction design affects household carbon emissions following occupancy. To a great extent, the construction sector determines the carbon footprints of all future construction facilities in Australia. Providing appropriate assistance to foster carbon reduction by the construction organizations is thus a pressing issue to foster sustainable development of built environments.

To accomplish the research objective, the following hypotheses are tested in this study:

**H1:** The adoption of carbon reduction strategies is contingent on two drivers - tightening building regulations and the carbon tax

**H2:** The interactions between the carbon reduction drivers and OC have a moderating effect on construction contractor's adoption of carbon reduction strategies.

This paper is organized into three sections. Firstly, a conceptual model depicting the hypothesized relationships among drivers of carbon reduction, adoption of carbon reduction strategies and OC is presented. Then, the research methodologies used for examining the

hypothesized relationships are introduced. Finally, the findings and the implications thereof are discussed.

#### CONCEPTUAL MODEL DEVELOPMENT

Having summarized the literature, a conceptual model which depicts the energizing effect of OC on the drivers of carbon reduction and the adoption of carbon reduction strategies is developed and presented in this paper. The conceptual model is underpinned by three streams of studies, namely: carbon reduction drivers, carbon reduction strategies and OC

#### Carbon reduction drivers

The first stream of literature is related to the drivers of carbon reduction. There have been policies like the carbon tax or emission trading schemes proposed or even enforced in some countries aiming to reduce carbon emissions (DCCEE, 2011; Sathre and Gustavsson, 2007). While they may seem different on the outskirts, the rationale behind these policies is no different to a penalty mechanism. Emission trading scheme policies operate by means of issuing a limited amount of tradable permits capping the total national emission volumes within a targeted level. By reducing the quantities of those permits over time, should the volume of carbon emissions remain unchanged, there will be a rise in the carbon price. On the flip side, revenue generated from the carbon tax or trading schemes can be used to subsidize other low carbon technologies such as green electricity (DCCEE, 2011; Schleich, et al., 2009). It is anticipated that construction organizations will persevere with their efforts to reduce emissions from their construction operations, in face of the mounted pressure of additional cost.

Another carbon reduction driver that has been highlighted in previous research studies is 'Tightening Regulations' (Horne and Hayles, 2008; Iyer-Raniga and Wong, 2012). It has

been advocated that tightening of regulation would prompt the organizations rethink their ways of operation and develop plans that endorse new practices (Jiang and Tovey, 2010). In the construction context, imposing more rigorous building regulations may help to reduce the use of high carbon embodied building materials (HMGovernment, 2009). In Australia, some state governments such as Victoria have tightened their regulations to disapprove new construction or alteration works that fall below a set of stringent energy efficiency standards (Iyer-Raniga and Wong, 2012). Tightening regulations have been seen as the first step toward forcing behavioral changes into the construction sector (Horne and Hayles, 2008). The operational statements of the above carbon reduction drivers are listed in Table 1.

<Table 1 here>

# Carbon reduction strategies

The second stream of literature is related to the carbon reduction strategies. A number of industry reports and research studies in relation to benchmarking carbon reduction activities have been published in recent years. Baumgartner *et al.* (Baumgartner and Zielowski, 2007) conducted a review on carbon emission reduction strategies and highlighted improvement of total material productivity and separation of output products and waste as the effective strategies of carbon reduction in construction projects. Zuo et al. (2012) stated that there is a large amount of carbon emissions from existing buildings. They emphasized the importance of design change to reduce the operational energy and embodied energy consumption of future buildings. However, practical solutions for operational changes on construction sites were not provided. Cuéllar-Franca *et al.* (2012) developed a life cycle assessment (LCA) framework to evaluate carbon emissions from the proposed construction developments. Chen et al., (2012) applied a similar approach to investigate the direct and indirect energy use and carbon emissions in the design and construct stage of the building life cycle. The results

generated from an input-output analysis showed that construction activities induce a considerable amount of CO2 emissions as fossil fuels are used to a large extent. Chan *et al.* (2012) called for immediate action in reducing the construction industry's consumptions of fossil fuels.

From the above review, it is not difficult to observe that researchers have been calling for pragmatic carbon reduction strategies applicable to construction operations. In this regard, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) suggested seven strategies: working to introduce a carbon trade mechanism for buildings, working with governments to develop policies that make a difference in emissions behavior, dedicating research and development to zero net buildings, renovating buildings to maximize the reduction of emissions, demonstrating technology on buildings and rented office, moving to holistic and systematic solutions to sustainable buildings, and educating the supply chain. However, UNEP have not proposed any objective measures to evaluate the proposed strategies.

Global Reporting Initiatives (GRI) (2011) specifically developed guidelines for construction organizations to report their sustainability performances whereby their performance is assessed under three key aspects: management approach, strategy and profile, and performance indicators. As with the work of UNEP, the guidelines developed by GRI are not project-specific, implying that they may not be effective in a construction project to evaluate a contractor's carbon reduction behavior. In this respect, the inventory developed by the European Network of Construction Companies for Research and Development (ENCORD) may be deemed more suitable. It is because the proposed inventory evaluates the carbon emitted by contractors in a construction project specifically. The inventory proposes evaluating the carbon emitted under twelve aspects as shown in Table 3 with methods for measuring the emission amounts. This study adopts the work of ENCORD (2010) and proposes that the up taking of carbon reduction strategies by construction organizations can

be evaluated under these twelve aspects. The related operational statements are outlined in Table 2.

#### <Table 2 here>

#### Organizational culture (OC)

The third stream of literature is related to OC. In this study, OC is defined as a set of shared values that determines the approaches taken by an organization to complete a construction project. Depending on the focus of the studies, construction researchers adopted different approaches to evaluate OC (Liu, 1999; Coffey, 2002; Ankrah and Langford, 2005; Zhang and Liu, 2006, Cheung et al. 2012). Liu (1999) used nine cultural dimensions to investigate the OC of the real estate sector in Hong Kong: team orientation, power orientation, rule and procedure orientation, communication orientation, result orientation, innovation orientation, people orientation, external vs. internal focus, and result orientation. In contrast, Coffey (2002) based on the Corporate OC framework proposed by Denison (1990) and proposed to evaluate OC of contractors by twelve identifiers: agreement, vision, empowerment, capability development, team orientation, core values, goals and objectives, strategic direction and intent, creating change, coordination and integration, customer force, and organizational learning. Employing an Organizational Culture Assessment Instrument (OCAI) that was developed by Cameron & Quinn (1999), Zhang and Liu (2006) evaluated the OC of the Chinese construction enterprises through six dimensions: [1] the criteria of success that determine how victory is defined; [2] dominant characteristics of the organization; [3] how employees are managed under different working environments; [4] the leadership style that permeates the organization; [5] the criteria of success that determine how victory is defined; and [6] the organizational bonding mechanisms that hold the organization together. A recent study conducted by Cheung et al. (2011) deployed an extensive review of literature about OC

in construction. They found out that the OC models adopted in previous studies were not construction specific. In this regard, they developed an organizational culture inventory specifically for the construction industry.

Notwithstanding the difference in terminology, researchers of the above studies evaluated OC through the organizations' behaviours in a project. In this aspect, Ankrah and Langford (2005) argued that despite OC is an intangible concept, the organization's behaviour that reflects culture is tangible. Based on such argument, they agreed with an approach to evaluate OC through assessing the organizations' behaviours. However, as time passed multitudes of attributes were proposed to evaluate OC in construction (Liu, 1999; Coffey, 2002; Ankrah and Langford, 2005; Zhang and Liu; 2006). In this regard, Cheung et al. (2011) described these multitudes of attributes as the OC identifiers that 'include all the phenomena that one sees, hears and feels about his/her organization. As such, OC identifiers can be observed but are not easy to apprehend the deeper assumptions per se. Nonetheless, when some OC identifiers were considered collectively they reflect the beliefs and values shared by members of an organization. To this end, Cheung et al. (2011) suggested that those OC identifiers with similar nature can be grouped into a smaller number of behavioural dimensions to reflect the values being assessed. Extended the work of Ankrah and Langford (2005), Cheung et al. (2011) deployed an extensive review of literature about OC in construction. They found out that many OC identifiers proposed in previous studies were not construction specific. In this regard, they developed an organizational culture inventory specifically for the construction industry. This was an exploratory study that no underlying construct of OC was presumed. However, 26 OC identifiers were found by reference to a number of previous reported studies on OC. These factors were factorized to eight underlying behavioural dimensions by the use of Exploratory Factor Analysis: goal settings and accomplishment (GC), coordination and integration (CI), conflict resolution (CR), employee participation (EP), innovation orientation

(IO), performance emphasis (PE), reward orientation (RO), and team orientation (TO). This organizational culture inventory was then successfully adopted in their further study investigating the effect of OC on the performance of the construction organizations (Cheung et al. 2012).

In this study, the OC inventory developed by Cheung et al. (2011) is solely featured as one of the references used to develop the OC identifiers and behavioural dimensions. However, while devising the relevant operational statements to characterize OC, other relevant references to content were also taken into account. The operational statements of OC are listed in Table 3.

### <Table 3 here>

#### The conceptual model

Based on the hypotheses and the attributes identified in Tables 1 to 3, a conceptual model as shown in Figure 1 is developed. The arrows represent the direction of the hypothesized influence. The conceptual model is partly underpinned by the work of Cheung et al. (2012) which identified OC according to the eight dimensions (i.e. GC, TO, CI, PE, IO, EP, RO and CR), as summarized in Table 3. The drivers of carbon emission reduction are evaluated by carbon tax (D1) and more stringent standard (D2). Construction organization's adoption of carbon reduction strategies are evaluated according to the twelve aspects proposed by ENCORD (2010) (i.e.  $S_1$  to  $S_{12}$  as summarised in Table 2).

<Figure 1 here>

# **DATA COLLECTION**

# Measurement of construct and questionnaire

To test the conceptual model, a questionnaire survey was performed for data collection. The questionnaire and the data collection method adopted for this study received approval from

the local university research ethics committee whose clearance standards are outlined in the Australia National Ethics Application Form (NEAF). The questionnaire contains four parts. Part 1 deals with demographic information about the respondents. Respondents were asked to specify a project they had been involved in for at least one year, and the questionnaires of those not having taken part in a specified project for more than one year were discarded. The respondents were requested to answer the questions in Parts 2 to 4 of the questionnaire by referring to their experience gained in the specified project. In Part 2, questions engage the extent of the drivers that enable adoption of carbon reduction strategies (refer to Table 1). Part 3 seeks to solicit the degree of respondents' agreement on the strategies being adopted in their projects (refer to Table 2). In Part 4, respondents were asked to express their degree of agreement on the use of the operational statements to reflect the OC of their companies (refer to Table 3).

A pilot study that involved twelve industry experts was conducted before undertaking the main survey. Equal numbers of experts were invited from three major groups: developers, consultants and contractors to avoid domination of input by more powerful and vocal stakeholders. Apart from some minor revisions regarding the format, the experts generally endorsed the content of the questionnaire as relevant to the construction project scenario. A sample of the questionnaire is presented in Figure 2.

#### <Figure 2 here>

#### Sampling

The targeted respondents for this study were assembled from two major sources. Firstly, the registered contractors list maintained by the Masters Builders Association of Victoria and New South Wales, was adopted. Master Builders is a major building and construction industry association in Australia, and its members represent 95% of all sectors of the

Australian building industry (MBA, 2011). Secondly, targeted respondents in the developers and consultant sample group were searched from the yellow pages, using the keywords developer, architect, engineer, surveying consultant, and also from general browsing on the official webpages of professional institutes including the Australian Institute of Builders, Australian Institute of Architects, Engineers Australia and Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors. 600 target respondents were randomly selected from the above sources. Questionnaires were dispatched with an even distribution ratio to the target respondents from the developers/consultants and the contractors (refer to Table 4). The target respondents were invited to participate in the survey via either an online platform supported by Qualtrics or hardcopies delivered by our research team. To avoid disruption to selected hardcopies recipients, the research team initially sought permission via telephone before visiting the respective companies in person.

# <Table 4 here>

#### DATA ANALYSIS METHODS

Two data analysis methods were employed in this study, which included the Pearson correlation analysis and the multiple moderated regression (MMR) analysis. To test Hypothesis H1, Pearson correlation analysis was applied. Pearson correlation analysis is a statistical method with a primary purpose of evaluating whether a significant relationship exists between two sets of ratings. The significance of relationship can be expressed by the  $\rho$ -value. If the  $\rho$ -value is greater 0.01, it denotes a significant relationship between two sets of ratings. Furthermore, the extent of correlation between two sets of ratings can be signified by the correlation coefficient value (the *r*-value), which ranges from -1.0 to 1.0, where 0

represents no correlation and 1.0 and -1.0 represent perfectly positive and negative correlations respectively.

The MMR analysis was used for testing H2 (i.e. the interactions between the carbon reduction drivers and OC having a moderating effect on the adoption of carbon reduction strategies). MMR is a commonly used technique in management, social and behavioural science research to test the existence of any moderating effect of an independent variable (Choe, 2004). MMR has also been applied in construction research. For instance, Yiu et al. (2007) used MMR to investigate the moderating effect of construction dispute sources on the mediator tactics and the respective mediation outcomes, while Wong et al. (2012a) employed MMR to investigate whether the effect of intra-organizational learning on performance is contingent on the practice of unlearning.

This study employed the MMR analysis to examine the effect of OC (i.e. GC, TO, CI, PE, IO, EP and RO as summarised in Table 3) on the relationship between the carbon reduction drivers ( $D_1$  and  $D_2$ ) and the adoption of carbon reduction strategies ( $S_1$  to  $S_{12}$ ). The equations for the MMR analysis are as following:

$$S_x = a_1 + b_1 D_y + b_2 OC_z + \varepsilon_1$$
 (Eq. 1)

 $S_x = a_2 + b_1 D_y + b_2 OC_z + b_3 D_y OC_z + \varepsilon_2$ (Eq. 2)

where

 $S_x$  is the  $x^{th}$  attribute for evaluating the adoption of carbon reduction strategies and x = 1, 2, 3, ..., 12

 $D_y$  is the  $y^{th}$  attribute for identifying the drivers of carbon reduction and y=1,2OC<sub>z</sub> is the  $z^{th}$  attribute for evaluating the organizational culture and OC<sub>z</sub> = GC<sub>1</sub> to GC<sub>7</sub>, TO<sub>1</sub> to TO<sub>4</sub>, CI<sub>1</sub> to CI<sub>3</sub>, PE<sub>1</sub> to PE<sub>3</sub>, IO<sub>1</sub> to IO<sub>3</sub>, EP<sub>1</sub> to EP<sub>3</sub>, RO<sub>1</sub> to RO<sub>3</sub>.

Where  $S_x$  is the dependent variable,  $D_y$  and  $OC_z$  are the independent variables,  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are the least square estimate values of the intercepts of Eq. 1 and Eq.2 respectively,  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  are the unknown constants,  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$  represent the prediction errors of the equations. Eq. 1 assumes that  $D_y$  and  $OC_z$  have independent effects on predicting the dependent variable  $S_x$ , whereas Eq. 2 also takes the moderator variable (i.e.  $D_yOC_z$ ) into account. The insertion of  $D_yOC_z$  as the third independent variable in Eq.2 signifies that the hypothesized interaction between the driver of carbon reduction (i.e. Dy) and organizational culture (i.e.OCz) is taken into account to predict Sx. Two indicators can be used to determine whether the inclusion of  $D_yOC_z$  in Eq.2 has a moderating effect:

(1) The coefficient of determination  $(R^2)$ : This represents the proportion of variations in the dependent variable explained by the independent variables in an equation. The possible value of  $R^2$  falls between 0 and 1. When  $R^2=1$ , the specified independent variables perfectly predict the dependent variable. If  $R^2=0$ , the specified independent variables do not account for any variation of the dependent variable (Choe, 2004). If the  $R^2$  value of Eq.2 is significantly higher than that of Eq.1, the null hypothesis (H2) can be accepted.

(2) the significance of the moderator variable  $(D_yOC_z)$  in explaining the dependent variable  $(S_x)$ . If the standardised coefficient of the moderator variable (i.e.  $b_3$ ) is significant at  $\rho$ <0.05, the null hypothesis (H2) can be accepted.

Fisher test (*F*-test hereafter) was used to determine significance of  $\Delta R^2$  (Jaccard and Turrisi, 2003; Wong, et al., 2008). The  $R^2$  value of Eq.2 is considered significantly higher than that of Eq.1 if the calculated *F*-value for  $\Delta R^2$  is significant at  $\rho < 0.05$ . The *F*-value can be calculated by the following equation:

F-value = 
$$[(R_2^2 - R_1^2) / (k_2 - k_1)] / [(1 - R_2^2) / (P - k_2 - 1)]$$
 (Eq. 3)

where

- $k_1$  is the number of predictors in Eq. 1;
- $k_2$  is the number of predictors in Eq. 2;
- *P* is the total sample size;
- $(P n_2 1)$  is the degree of freedom;
- $R^{2}_{1}$  is the  $R^{2}$  value for Eq. 1; and
- $R_2^2$  is  $R^2$  value for Eq. 2.

A *t*-test for the regression coefficient was used to examine the significance of the moderator variable  $(D_yOC_z)$  in explaining the dependent variable  $(S_x)$ . The moderating effect of  $D_yOC_z$  is considered significant when the probability of error ( $\rho$ -value) of the standardised coefficient of the moderator variable (i.e.  $b_3$ ) is lower than 0.05 (Jaccard and Turrisi, 2003). In this study, a total of 624 MMR analyses devising from different combinations of the  $S_x$ ,  $D_y$  and  $OC_z$  were conducted. The significance of moderating effects was examined by the *F*-test and *t*-test. Both the Pearson correlation analysis and the MMR analysis were performed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) – Version 17.0.

# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

#### **Response rate and sample profiles**

218 valid responses were used representing a 36.3% response rate (refer to Table 4). This outcome is comparable with questionnaire surveys of this kind (Lam, et al., 2010). The study has attracted a reasonable response rate in comparison to other questionnaire surveys in the construction field normally ranging from 25% to 30% (Wong, et al., 2012a). Likewise, the response rate of the current research is similar to that of study related to carbon emissions conducted by Lam et al. (2010) (i.e. 100 responses out of 652 questionnaires being sent out or 15% of the response rate). Osmani et al. (2008) yielded a 40% response rate for similar studies given 40 out of 100 questionnaires were received. Both sample size and return rate of this survey study are considered acceptable.

A comparatively low response rate of 32.7% was obtained from the developers. The result is not atypical as with similar scholarly studies conducted by Dulaimi et al. (2003). However, this data characteristic should be considered when interpreting the findings. Furthermore, it also points to further research using a larger sample size to validate the current results. It should be noted that more than 73% of the respondents have more than 10 years of project management experience. The creditability of the respondents is indicative of their service to the industry thus their responses are considered to be reflective to the industry's views.

#### <Table 5 here>

# Correlations between drivers and adoption of strategies

The results of Pearson correlation analysis indicate that the carbon tax (D1) has positive and significant correlation (at  $\rho$ <0.05 level) with the adoption of all the carbon reduction strategies (refer to Table 6). The results seem contrary to some forewarning from the construction professional institutes that they would merely pass the additional costs incurred by the carbon tax onto the real estate buyers without changing their operational practices (CIE, 2011). Boiral (2006) stressed that whether an organization would accept or resist new strategies adoption is dependent on the timing. When the policy was not clearly understood, most organizations 'tend to maintain the status quo and not react as long as they are not obliged to do so' (Boiral, 2006). This study was conducted after three months of the carbon tax becoming effective. It is generally believed that the carbon tax will bring a knock on

effect on the cost of construction materials and transportation. Moreover, reducing carbon in construction designs and operations may incur additional project costs that may subsequently erode profits (Spiegel and Meadows, 2010). However, to protect the corporate image and to respond to the market demands of greener products, construction organizations may still need to devise and adopt carbon reduction strategies (Spiegel and Meadows, 2010). The correlation results indicate that the effect of the carbon tax may have driven the construction organizations to work closely together to reduce carbon in construction operations.

Surprisingly, tightening regulations (D2) has a positive and significant correlation (at  $\rho$ <0.01 level) with the adoption of only two carbon reduction strategies, i.e. 'Reducing waste' [S10] (r-value=0.38), and 'Reducing emissions from the facility' [S12] (r-value=0.38). It has comparatively weak correlation with the adoption of the rest of the carbon reduction strategies (refer to Table 6). This may reflect that the respondents do not have a high regard for the effect of stringent building regulations on driving carbon reduction strategies adoption. The result seem to be incompatible with the government's presumption that tightening building regulations would prompt carbon reductions in construction operations (CIE, 2011; Wong, et al., 2012b). It is also contradictory to a similar study conducted by Reid *et al.* (2009) who found that tightening regulations would increase the likelihood that organizations will engage in new strategies adoption. However, the result coheres with some critics mentioning that the construction industry perceived green star ratings as a marketing tool under an assumption of

reduced utilities and better design (Lam, et al., 2010; Ren, et al., 2011; Wong, et al., 2012b). In fact, the construction organizations may not be genuine in seeking low-carbon solutions to comply with the tightened regulations.

As such, the above results partly confirm Hypothesis H1 in which carbon tax (D1) was found as the driver that significantly correlated to the adoption of all the identified carbon reduction strategies.

# <Table 6 here>

# Moderating effect of carbon reduction drivers and OC

Moderated regression analyses (MMR) were performed to validate hypotheses H2. This examination was conducted to investigate whether the interactions between the carbon reduction drivers and OC have a significant contribution to the adoption of carbon reduction strategies. If such an interaction effect is statistically significant, this would lead to a conclusion that the relationship between the carbon reduction drivers and strategies adoption might be energised by the culture of the construction organizations.

The F-test and t-test results suggest that 45 out of these 624 sets of MMR results have significant moderating effect. To save space and preserve clarity, only the results that showed the significant moderating effects are presented in Table 6. As an illustration, the effect of the 'carbon tax' (D1) on 'reducing the use of fuel in projects' (Strategy1) is perceived as contingent on 'How well the employees know what they need to do to succeed in the long

run' (GC1). The  $\Delta$ R2 value of 0.10 (Column A) and the F-value for  $\Delta$ R2 of 7.01 (Column B) are significant at  $\rho$ <0.01 level. The standardised coefficient value of the Predictor–Moderator product D1GC1 is 0.77 (Column C) at  $\rho$ <0.01. The other 44 combinations with significant MMR results are also summarized in Table 7. As such, the hypothesis H2 is only partially supported.

# <Table 7 here>

The results of Pearson correlation suggest that 'D2: Tightening regulations' alone may not induce the adoption of carbon reduction strategies. The MMR results further suggest that tightening regulations may not necessarily affect the adoption of carbon reduction strategies even if OC exists. These findings can be served as a cautionary note to the advocator of tightening regulations to engender behavioural change. Policies and stringent regulations implemented by governments are indispensible, as most building industry professionals will only adopt new practices if they are required by the regulations (Li and Colombier, 2009). However, behavioural change should be aligned with professional judgement. Indeed, many of the construction practitioners observed that complying with the tightening standards may result in greater carbon emissions because the local market does not adequately supply those required low-carbon products and materials (Wong et al. 2012). Importing these products to Australia consume carbon too. Interestingly, carbon emissions generated from imports are rarely carefully accounted in Australia. Notwithstanding, it is not suggested to coin such

findings as evidence for diminishing the effectiveness of tightening regulations in fostering carbon reduction strategies adoption. Government policies and instruments play a stimulating role in mitigating carbon emission (Li and Colombier, 2009). The MMR results indicate that out of the twelve strategies, 'reducing wastes (S10)' and 'reducing emissions from the facility (S12)' can be motivated by OC in some extent. The results befittingly indicates that, with a recognized set of guidelines, together with appropriate OC, organizations may be more aware of taking actions in response to the stringent building regulations. However, as the correlations between 'Tightening regulations' and the adoptions of the carbon reduction strategies are generally weak. Taking these correlation results into consideration it becomes less assertive to say that OC can effectively energize the driver –strategy adoption relationships.

It is worth noting that out of the 45 results that were detected to have significant moderating effects, 44 of them were reported to have significant correlations. The results indicate that with appropriate OC, the effect of carbon reduction drivers on the adoption of carbon reduction strategies can be further strengthened.

'Carbon tax' (D1) interacted effectively with OC in terms of GC, IO and RO to facilitate stronger correlations with the adoption of a wide range of carbon reduction strategies. It has been advocated that the carbon tax can be a driving force of carbon reduction in construction projects. However, a number of studies have already pointed out that construction

organizations may simply pass the additional cost driven from the carbon tax onto the endusers (CIE, 2011; Gustavsson and Sathre, 2006). Findings from this study indicate that despite the carbon tax possibly appearing as an unfavourable policy, this can be regarded as one of the effective means that motivate real carbon reduction actions. In particular, the results of the MMR analysis indicate that the effect of the carbon tax on carbon reduction strategies adoption can be energized by a Goal Clarity (GC), RO (Reward orientation) and IO (Innovation Orientation). The results echo the findings of Coffey (2002) that 'goal settings and accomplishment' is an important cultural factor that directs organizations moving towards behavioural change. With common goals to achieve, communication among employees becomes quicker and more effective, and resources would not be wasted to resolve internal conflicts.

Among the eight OC dimensions, RO and IO can be considered as positive cultural factors as suggested by Barney (1986). Construction has been prompted by the governments of different countries to transform into a low-carbon and environmentally responsible sector (HMGovernment, 2009; RAE, 2010; UNEPSBCI, 2009). To achieve this, organizations should develop a culture of rewarding employees for their contributions to reduce carbon in the construction operations. Based on a case study conducted in Switzerland, Hartmann (2006) identified three managerial actions that construction organizations can take to maintain staff involvement in and dedication to the change of operational practices: (1) establishing

reward and incentive schemes to recognize innovative staff ideas, (2) allowing staff to take reasonable risks for implementing innovative ideas in operations and (3) providing prompt and positive feedback on the staff proposals for innovative activities. Item (1) neatly brings our discussion to 'Reward orientation' as a critical cultural factor that motivates carbon reduction strategies adoption. Furthermore, construction organizations should also develop a culture of accepting innovative ideas in order to sustain their performance and competitive advantages. The findings of this study suggest that a shared value of treasuring innovation within an organization can significantly moderate the effect of carbon reduction drivers on the related strategies adoption. However, pragmatic solutions of carbon reduction usually come from the front line project team members. It should be aware that the top-down management structure in a typical construction project may easily drain away innovative ideas on carbon reduction (Cheung et al. 2012). In this regard, rewards from the developers may embody empowerment and acceptance of innovative ideas.

Based on the above findings, it is recommended that the construction organizations should:

1) unite in a common set of targets for reducing carbon emissions in construction operations. The results indicate that the carbon tax may induce adoption of carbon reduction strategies. However, carbon tax is a policy that does not entail any method that integrates carbon reduction strategies into operations. The MMR results of this study reveal that the construction organizations should firstly set carbon reduction as a

common project goal. Subsequently, pragmatic solutions should be devised for achieving the common goal.

2) rewarding innovative ideas that are conducive to carbon reduction. From the construction organizations' perspective, rewarding ideas in carbon reduction may incur additional project costs. However, such conventional mindsets may undermine innovative ideas that can strengthen the competitive edge of the organizations under a new market environment that demands sustainable solutions. Proper reward for carbon reduction ideas should be an integral part of the business.

# LIMITATIONS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The findings of this study offered an avenue to interpret the impact of carbon reduction drivers on the adoption of strategies in behavioural perspectives. However, they should be taken within the context of several limitations. Firstly, the questionnaire survey reported in this study was conducted in the States of New South Wales and Victoria of Australia. Therefore, the results should be taken into context considering the geographical confines of this study.

Secondly, although 218 valid responses are considered reasonable for research of this kind, a larger number of replies are preferred. Using greater sample size for analyses and collecting

data from other countries would, therefore, be desirable in further studies. These should help identify whether cultural differences would have a significant impact on the research findings. Thirdly, throughout the study, a seven point Likert scale was employed in the questionnaire survey to collect the perceptive views of respondents. Certain biases may exist in this survey, given that the responses were collected from persons holding key positions, like project managers, engineers, surveyors, etc., in construction organizations. However, as many of them have over 10 years of industry experience, the respondents should have sufficient knowledge about their company's practices to answer the questionnaire, which should increase the reliability of this study.

Fourthly, this survey study was conducted at a time when carbon tax had just been introduced in Australia. It can be understood that further studies may be needed to identify the full extent of the carbon tax and how carbon reduction is being approached. However considering the careful sampling process and experience of the respondents, the results can only be acknowledged as an intermediate snapshot as the influence of the carbon tax has yet to be realized.

Further research into this topic and perhaps a more comprehensive response rate in the years to come should further identify the full extent of the effectiveness of inputted measures as the buffering effect of the carbon tax fades and prices will begin to reflect the impact if at all, significant.

#### **CONCLUDING REMARKS**

This study aims to examine the effect of the carbon tax and stringent building regulations for fostering carbon reduction strategies adoption in an OC perspective. The results of the Pearson correlation analysis partially support hypothesis H1. Carbon reduction strategies adoption is contingent on the carbon tax, however, not on the stringent building regulations. Furthermore, hypothesis H2 is partially supported as suggested by the results of the MMR analysis. Many studies perceived strategies adoption as an indubitable response to the carbon reduction policies. The results of this study indicate that such perceptions may hold especially when the carbon tax is viewed as a driver of carbon reduction. The perceptions may be valid on the assumption that OC in terms of GC, RO and IO are conducive to behavioural change.

Nevertheless, it is found that should OC exist, the effect of 'tightening regulations' on the adoption of carbon reduction strategies may not be motivated. Previous studies often urged construction organizations to adopt carbon reduction strategies in operations, disregarding the fact that the efforts made in behavioural change may not be adequately recognized and rewarded. Although our results do not explain how OC can direct construction organizations to make different decisions in face of different carbon reduction drivers, the results provide a potential avenue for further research on such a question. The findings aptly remind us that an introduction of a policy may not necessarily lead to the anticipated responses.

More research is needed, particularly relating to addressing the needs of the construction organizations to improve the practicality of policies implemented to induce carbon reduction in construction operations. As such, a mission drift of carbon reduction can be avoided if the policy makers can be more receptive of the difficulties being faced by construction organizations. On the other hand, the construction sector should also explain to the public the difficulties they may encounter during the transformation process. A best practice of strategies adoption cannot be established without establishing equilibrium among the diversified interest groups.

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- 2. We have received the above-mentioned article for publication; however, the following references are uncited: Cheng and Liu, 2007; Cummings and Bromiley, 1996; Harkink and Tijhuis, 2006; Ozorhon et al., 2008.

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3. Please introduce appropriate citations in the article. The following references are unmatched: Ozorhon et al. 2006, Cheung et al. 2013, Peters and Waterman 1982. Please provide corresponding references.

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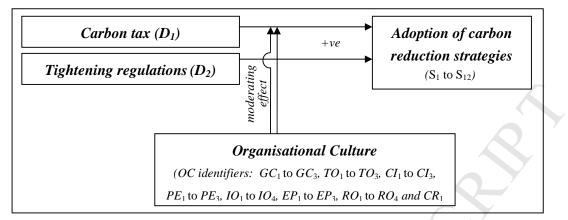
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## FIGURES



**Figure 1**: Conceptual model about the relationships among carbon reduction drivers, organizational culture and adoption of carbon reduction strategies

1

Q1.1       Your working experience in the construction field:       a: <5 years       b: 5-10 years         Q1.2       No. of employees in your company       a: <20       b: 21-50         Your company       c: 51-100       d: >100         With reference to one construction <b>project</b> that you have been (either fully or partly: involved for at least 1 year and provide the following particulars:         Q1.3       Project 1)       Residenti 2)       Office/Amenitie nature         al       s         Q1.4       Project Sum (\$,000s)       a: <5,000       b: 5,000-20,000         Q1.5       Project Name :
construction field:e:>20 yearsQ1.2No. of employees in your companya:<20 c:b:21-50 your companyWith reference to one construction <b>project</b> that you have been (either fully or partly: involved for at least 1 year and provide the following particulars:Q1.3Project 1)Residenti 2)Office/Amenitie naturenaturealsQ1.4Project Sum (\$,000s) (optional)a:<5,000 c:>20,000Q1.5Project Name :
Q1.2       No. of employees in a: <20
your company       c:       51-100       d:       >100         With reference to one construction project that you have been (either fully or partly: involved for at least 1 year and provide the following particulars:       Q1.3 Project 1) Residenti 2) Office/Amenitie nature al s         Q1.4       Project Sum (\$,000s) a:       <5,000 b:
your company       c:       51-100       d:       >100         With reference to one construction project that you have been (either fully or partly: involved for at least 1 year and provide the following particulars:       Q1.3 Project 1) Residenti 2) Office/Amenitie nature al s         Q1.4       Project Sum (\$,000s) a:       <5,000 b:
With reference to one construction project that you have been (either fully or partly: involved for at least 1 year and provide the following particulars:         Q1.3 Project 1) Residenti 2) Office/Amenitie nature al       s         Q1.4 Project Sum (\$,000s) a: <5,000 b: 5,000-20,000 (optional) c: >20,000         Q1.5 Project Name :         Part 2- Carbon reduction drivers         During the project as stated in Q1.5, the following drive your company to reduce cart emission:         (1 = Disagree strongly, 7= Agree strongly)         Q2.1 ) Refer to the operational statements as shown       1       2       3       4       5       6       7
for at least 1 year and provide the following particulars: Q1.3 Project 1) Residenti 2) Office/Amenitie nature al s Q1.4 Project Sum (\$,000s) a: <5,000 b: 5,000-20,000 (optional) c: >20,000 Q1.5 Project Name : Part 2- Carbon reduction drivers During the project as stated in Q1.5, the following drive your company to reduce carb emission: (1 = Disagree strongly, 7= Agree strongly) Q2.1 ) Refer to the operational statements as shown 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
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nature       al       s         Q1.4       Project Sum (\$,000s)       a:       <5,000
Q1.4       Project Sum (\$,000s) (optional)       a: <5,000 c: >20,000       b: 5,000-20,000         Q1.5       Project Name :
(optional)c: >20,000Q1.5Project Name :Part 2- Carbon reduction driversDuring the project as stated in Q1.5, the following drive your company to reduce carbon:(1 = Disagree strongly, 7= Agree strongly)Q2.1) Refer to the operational statements as shown1234567
Q1.5       Project Name :         Part 2- Carbon reduction drivers         During the project as stated in Q1.5, the following drive your company to reduce carbon:         (1 = Disagree strongly, 7= Agree strongly)         Q2.1       ) Refer to the operational statements as shown         1       2       3       4       5       6       7
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(1 = Disagree strongly, 7= Agree strongly) Q2.1 ) <i>Refer to the operational statements as shown</i> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Q2.1 ) Refer to the operational statements as shown 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Q2.2 in Table 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Part 3- Adoption of carbon reduction strategies
During the <i>project</i> as stated in Q1.5, your company adopted the following strategies to reduce the following strategies the following strategies to reduce
carbon emissions
(1 = Disagree strongly, 7= Agree strongly)
$ \begin{array}{c} (0.1) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) \\ (0.2) $
: )Refer to the operational statements as shown :
in Table 1
Q3.12) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Part 4- Measure of organizational culture
During the project stated in Q1.5, the following statements represent the organizational cult
of your company:
(1 = Disagree strongly, 7 = Agree strongly)
$ \begin{array}{c} (24.1 \ ) \\ (04.2 \ ) \\ \end{array} \qquad \qquad$
)Refer to the operational statements as shown
in Table 1
Q4.26) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Figure 2: The sample questionnaire

TABLES
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Carbon Reduction	Respective Operational Statements		Refe	eren	ices	5
Drivers		Α	В	С	D	E
Carbon tax [D1]	The introduction of carbon tax or similar policy that induce cost for carbon emission	*				*
Tightening regulations [ <b>D2</b> ]	The more stringent building regulations disapprove works that cannot attain the energy efficiency rating / standards	*	*	*	*	*

*References:* (A)(Sathre et al., 2007); (B)(Schleich et al., 2009); (C)(Acquaye et al., 2010); (D)(HMGovernment, 2009); (E) (UNEPSBCI, 2009)

Table 1: Drivers of carbon reduction

Carbon Reduction Strategies	Respective Operational Statements
Reducing fuel (project) [S1]	Reduce fuel for plants and machinery in use on site
Reducing fuel (premises) [S2]	Reduce fuel for use in premises which support the company's activities (i.e. offices and godowns)
Reducing process emissions [S3]	Reduce carbon emissions from physical and chemical processing involved in the production of mineral products (such and cements) and metal products (such as steel)
Reducing electricity (project) [S4]	Reduce electricity for plants and machinery in use on site
Reducing electricity (premises)	Reduce electricity for use in premises which support the company's
[85]	activities (i.e. offices and godowns)
Reducing imported heat [S6]	Reduce heat purchased by the company for use at the company's project and premises
Reducing vehicle fuel [S7]	Reduce the use of vehicles travelling on public highways
Reducing the use of public transport [S8]	Reduce the use of public transports by the employees
Monitoring sub-contractors [S9]	Coordinate with sub-contractors at project level to achieve items 1 to 8
Reducing wastes [S10]	Reduce construction wastes and the associated transportation for disposal
Reducing high embodied CO <sub>2</sub>	Reduce the use of materials with high embodies CO <sub>2</sub> like structural steel
materials [S11]	concrete, reinforcement, cladding, aggregates and bituminous products
Reducing emissions from the	Reduce carbon emissions resulting from the built object through better
facility [S12]	design

Table 2: Carbon reduction strategies proposed by the ENCORD (modified from (ENCORD, 2010)

Dimensions of Organizational Culture (OC)       A C D E F         Goal Clarity (GC)       How well the employees know what they need to do to succeed in the long run (GC1) The extent to which organization's goals is reasonably and clearly set with regular reviews (GC2) The extent to which organization's goal (GC3)       * * *         Coordination and Integration (CI)       The effectiveness of resolving problems between departments accomplish the organization's goal (GC3)       * * * *         Conflict Resolution (CR)       The extent to which sharing of information between departments is encouraged (CI3)       * * * *         Conflict Resolution (CR)       The extent to which the employees accept criticism or negative feedback without becoming defensive (CR1)       * * * *         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to have some input on decisions that affect their work (EP1)       * *         The extent to which employees are consultation in respect of decisions regarding what the organization plans to do (EP3)       * *         Innovation Orientation (IO)       The extent to which the employees are encouraged to search for better ways of getting the job done (IO2)       * * *         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to be creative and innovative (IO3)       * * * *         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to be creative and innovative (IO3)       * * * *         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to be creative and innovative (IO3)       * * * *         The extent to which the employees are encoura	GHJ * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	*
(GC)       succeed in the long run (GC1)         The extent to which organization's goals is reasonably and clearly set with regular reviews (GC2)       ****         The extent to which employees' effort is directed to accomplish the organizations' goal (GC3)       ****         The extent to which sharing of information between departments is encouraged (C12)       *****         The extent to which cooperation and assistance across departments is encouraged (C13)       *****         Conflict Resolution (CR)       The extent to which the employees accept criticism or negative feedback without becoming defensive (CR1)         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to share the responsibility of things that go wrong in their work group (CR2)       ******         Employee Participation (EP)       The extent to which the employees are encouraged to have some input on decisions that affect their work (EP1)       **         The extent to which the organization allow employees to participate in the decision-making process (EP2)       **         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to be creative and innovative (IO3)       **         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to be creative and innovative (IO3)       **         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to be creative and innovative (IO3)       **         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to be creative and innovative (IO3)       **         The extent to which the employees are encouraged to be creative and innovative (	* * *	* * * * *
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Team and rewarded (RO4) The extent to which the organization emphasizes on team * *	* *	*
Orientationcontributions rather then individual contributions (TO1)(TO)The extent to which the organizations emphasizing on* *	*	*
building cohesive, committed teams of people ( <b>TO2</b> ) The extent to which members work as a team and exchange opinions and ideas ( <b>TO3</b> )		*

References: (A) Peters and Waterman 1982; (B) Bettinger 1989; (C) Cameron and Quinn 1999; (D) Denison 1990; (E) Hofstede 1983; (F) Coffey 2002; (G) Ankrah and Langford 2005; (H) Zhang and Liu 2006; (J) Cheung et al. 2011; (K) Cheung et al. 2012

Table 3: Identifiers and operational statements of OC

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Sample group	Questionnaires sent (No.)	Questionnaires received (No.)	Response rate (%)	~
<b>Developers and Consultants</b>	300	96	32.0%	
<b>Construction Contractors</b>	300	122	40.7%	
Total	600	218	36.3%	1

Table 4: Questionnaires sent and received

Working experience	No. of respondents	%	
Below 5 years	19	8.7	
5 to 10 years	38	17.4	
11-15 years	56	25.7	
16-20 years	62	28.4	
Over 20 years	43	19.7	
Total	218	100	

 Table 5: Respondents' working experience

	Carbon tax	Tightening
	[D1]	regulations [D2]
Reducing fuel (project) [S1]	.52*	.30
Reducing fuel (premises) [S2]	.52*	.32
Reducing process emissions [S3]	.58*	.31
Reducing electricity (project) [S4]	.56*	.21
Reducing electricity (premises) [S5]	.60*	.24
Reducing imported heat [S6]	.51*	.27
Reducing vehicle fuel [S7]	.48*	.26
Reducing the use of public transport <b>[S8]</b>	.50*	.21
Monitoring sub-contractors [S9]	.48*	.20
Reducing wastes [S10]	.62*	.38*
Reducing high embodied CO <sub>2</sub> materials [S11]	.60*	.30
Reducing emissions from the facility [S12]	.64*	.38*

\* Correlation is significant at 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 6: Correlation between the carbon reduction drivers and the organization's adoption of

carbon reduction strategies

	Variables o	f the MMR	Analysis	(A)	(B)		(C)	
	Predict	Moderat	Predictor– Moderator		<i>F</i> -value		Std. coefficient	
Depende	or $(D_v)$	or $(OC_z)$	product	$\Delta R^2$	for $\Delta R^2$	Sig.	of variable	Sig.
$nt(S_x)$	of $(D_y)$	$OI(OC_z)$	$(D_v OC_z)$		$101 \Delta K$	-	$D_v OC_z$	
<b>S</b> 1	D1	GC1	$D_y OC_z$	0.04	7.01	**	$\frac{D_{y}OC_{z}}{0.77}$	**
S1	D1	GC1 GC2	$D1 \times GC1$ D1 x GC2	0.04	7.74	**	0.76	**
S1	D1	RO4	$D1 \times CC2$ D1 x RO4	0.05	6.60	*	0.70	*
S1 S2	D1	GC1	D1 x GC1	0.03	5.47	*	0.68	*
S2 S2	D1	GC1 GC2	$D1 \times GC1$ D1 x GC2	0.04	7.21	**	0.08	**
S2 S2	D1	RO4	$D1 \times OC2$ D1 x RO4	0.03	5.80	*	0.75	*
S2 S3	D1	GC2	$D1 \times GC2$	0.04	4.21	*	0.73	*
S3	D1	RO2	$D1 \times CC2$ D1 x RO2	0.03	5.44	*	0.90	*
S3	D1	RO2 RO4	D1 x RO2 D1 x RO4	0.04	6.33	*	0.90	*
								*
S3	D1	CR1	D1 x CR1	0.04	4.62	*	0.77	
S4	D1	GC1	D1 x GC1	0.04	5.40	*	0.68	*
S5	D1	GC1	D1 x GC1	0.03	4.05	*	0.60	*
S5	D1	GC2	D1 x GC2	0.05	5.49	*	0.94	*
<b>S</b> 7	D1	IO3	D1 x IO3	0.04	5.30	*	0.82	*
<b>S</b> 7	D1	GC1	D1 x GC1	0.04	4.78	*	0.72	*
<b>S</b> 7	D1	GC2	D1 x GC2	0.04	5.55	*	0.82	*
<b>S</b> 7	D1	GC3	D1 x GC3	0.05	6.86	**	0.88	**
<b>S</b> 7	D1	IO1	D1 x IO1	0.05	6.16	*	0.85	*
<b>S</b> 7	D1	IO2	D1 x IO2	0.03	3.95	*	0.73	*
<b>Š</b> 7	D1	IO3	D1 x IO3	0.08	10.36	**	1.23	**
<b>Š</b> 7	D1	IO4	D1 x IO4	0.04	4.96	*	0.88	*
<b>Š</b> 8	D1	GC1	D1 x GC1	0.05	5.39	*	0.92	*
<b>S</b> 8	D1	GC2	D1 x GC2	0.07	8.03	**	1.01	**
<b>S</b> 8	D1	GC3	D1 x GC3	0.08	8.96	**	1.10	**
<b>Š</b> 8	D1	IO1	D1 x IO1	0.05	5.41	*	1.16	*
<b>Š</b> 8	D1	IO2	$D1 \times IO2$	0.06	6.47	*	0.96	*
<b>Š</b> 8	D1	IO3	$D1 \times IO3$	0.13	15.76	**	1.56	**
<b>Š</b> 8	D1	TO1	D1 x TO1	0.06	6.89	**	1.07	**
<b>Š</b> 8	D1	RO1	$D1 \times I01$	0.05	5.60	*	0.80	*
S8	D1	RO1	$D1 \times IO1$ D1 x IO2	0.03	4.70	*	0.79	*
S8	D1 D1	RO2	$D1 \times I02$ D1 x I03	0.05	5.56	*	0.82	*
S8	D1	RO4	$D1 \times I03$ D1 x I04	0.09	10.81	**	1.14	**
S9	D1 D1	GC3	$D1 \times GC3$	0.04	3.96	*	1.00	*
S9	D1	RO3	$D1 \times CC3$ $D1 \times RO3$	0.04	5.88	*	0.76	*
S10	D1	GC2	$D1 \times GC2$	0.05	5.25	*	0.68	*
S10	D1	GC2 GC3	$D1 \times GC2$ $D1 \times GC3$	0.03	4.68	*	0.86	*
S10	D1	GC1	D1 x GC1	0.04	4.31	*	0.83	*
S11	D1	IO3	$D1 \times IO3$	0.04	5.34	*	1.15	*
S11 S12	D1	GC3	$D1 \times GC3$	0.05	10.13	**	1.13	**
S12 S12	D1	RO1	$D1 \times CC3$ D1 x RO1	0.09	4.14	*	0.83	*
S12 S10	D1 D2	GC1	$D1 \times RO1$ D3 x GC1	0.04	8.87	**	1.44	**
S10 S10	D2 D2	IO1	$D3 \times OC1$ $D3 \times IO1$	0.08	6.82	*	1.44	*
S10 S10	D2 D2	IO1 IO2	$D3 \times IO1$ $D3 \times IO2$	0.00	4.00	*	0.92	*
S10 S12	D2 D2	RO3		0.04	4.00	*	0.92	*
S12 S12	D2 D2	IO2	D3 x RO3 D3 x IO2	0.04	4.08 3.98	*	1.10	*
512	DZ	102	D3 X 102	0.04	3.90	•	1.10	

Remarks:  $^{*}\rho < .05$  (one-tailed),  $^{**}\rho < .01$ (two-tailed)

Table 7: Results of the MMR Analyses