Special Issue

Beyond Compliance: Safety, Productivity and Innovation in Diverse Construction Contexts

Message from the Guest Editors

Safety and productivity in construction are often framed as competing priorities. This Special Issue aims to challenge that narrative by exploring how strategic planning, organisational culture, and emergent site practices can enable both safe and productive outcomes. In many contexts, particularly among small firms or in resource-constrained environments, construction safety becomes adaptive and highly contextual. We invite contributions that examine how safety is understood, negotiated, and maintained in such settings. Topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Informal or undocumented safety practices;
- Safety management in small and micro construction firms;
- Subcontractor and multi-tier supply chain challenges;
- Site-level innovation and safety-informed technologies;
- Productivity pressures and their influence on safety behaviours;
- National and organisational cultures and their impact on safety norms;
- Balancing global standards with local risk contexts.

We welcome original research articles, conceptual papers, and case studies that engage with these themes from any geographical or methodological perspective.

Guest Editors

Dr. Emmanuel Aboagye-Nimo
Dr. Poorang Piroozfar
Prof. Dr. Colin Booth

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 January 2026)

Buildings

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.1
CiteScore 4.4

mdpi.com/si/246750

Buildings
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
buildings@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/buildings

Buildings

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.1
CiteScore 4.4

mdpi.com/journal/buildings

About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Current urban environments are home to multi-modal transit systems, extensive energy grids, a building stock, and integrated services. Sprawling neighborhoods are composed of buildings that accommodate living and working quarters. However, it is expected that the cities and communities of the future will face complex and enormous challenges, including maintenance, interconnectivity, resilience, energy efficiency, and sustainability issues, to name but a few. A smart city uses advanced technologies and a digital infrastructure to improve the outcomes in every aspect of a city's operations. A smart building optimizes the experience of occupants, staff, and management by using a modern and connected environment. Innovations in technology that can bring dramatic improvements to design, planning, and policy are critical in developing the cities and buildings of the future.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. David Arditi
Construction Engineering and Management Program, Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering, Illinois Institute of Technology, 3201 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60616, USA

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within SCIE (Web of Science), Scopus, Ei Compendex, Inspec, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Construction and Building Technology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Architecture)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).