

Diversity & Inclusion - Marginal or Mandatory?



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ACE represents Consultancy & Engineering Firms



Working in Built and Natural Environment

Promote Best Practice

UK based, with International & Middle Eastern Groups Association for Consultancy & Engineering

Provide Business Support Services

Founded

1913

Address Advocacy Needs





Sector contributes £15bn to the UK economy











Where does our sector stand on diversity?

Women 25% of workforce	47% of UK workforce
Ethnic Minorities 10% of workforce	12% of UK workforce National
Disability 5% of workforce	18% of UK workforce have a disability
Age/Religion/Sexual Orientation least likely to have focus	

2015 Royal Academy Survey



Why do we need to be Diverse?

Address Retention Gap²

Potential cost to companies from £5.2 - £9.5 billion

Financial Performance³

Top Quartile Racial/Ethnic Diversity 30% more likely to have financial returns Improved Creativity

Address Skills Gap¹

~1.82million engineering positions

Diversity & Inclusion Business Case

Higher Customer Satisfaction⁴

1 2 Engtech Now & ACE (2015) The Retention Gap: What it is and how to tackle it. 3 McKinsey (2014) Why Diversity Matters Report. 4 Robinson, M., C., & Buccigrossi, J. (2003) Business Case for Diversity with Inclusion



10 Strategies for a Diverse & Inclusive Workforce

Leadership & Good Management	Recruiting & Promoting Employees
Open About Diversity & Inclusivity Values	Flexible Working
Benchmarking & Targets	Outreach
Build Foundations for Diversity & Inclusivity	Open Dialogue
Communication of Strategies & Initiatives	Utilise Internal & External Resources

Foundation for Diversity AND Inclusion



"We allowed staff to create support groups and resources; this covered ethnicities, gender etc. However we realised we had a problem with this when we got a signature petition to create a support group for normal people."

"Every person is different, and we found that stressing support for only particular types of diversity forgot this, so we stress inclusivity and support for all – which staff are much happier with."

> "We created an award for 'Outstanding Role Model for Women', and got a surprise that awards night, as the women's group uninvited came on stage to give out an 'Outstanding Role Model for Men' award."

Positive Leadership & Management





"Though a company's senior level may endorse diversity & inclusivity in the workplace, without buy in from all levels it will not be achieved."

"The biggest Threat to an Inclusive company culture is Middle Managers who create a wall of disbelief. No matter what senior leaders do – without Middle Managers – the rest of the company will fall behind."



Open Endorsement of Values





"I as CEO wanted diversity in the workplace, my staff believed in it, but we didn't have it until we put a line about being an inclusive and equal opportunity workplace in our job ads."

"As a small company, I don't have finances to provide extra resources to each type of protected group. But we as a company believe in accepting everyone no matter their differences, and we make sure that this is on our website so that clients know as well as potential employees or partners. It makes a difference."



