BUILD DUBAI PAPERLESS INITIATIVE STATEMENT

The construction industry in the UAE relies heavily on paper submissions and approvals. Often, suppliers are requested to provide several copies of technical and commercial submittals for the approvals on sites. Such documents are large in volume and can consist of up to a thousand pages of each copy depending on the procurement category.

This paper approval system which is time-consuming and often involves several re-prints due to changes in the project scope is not sustainable for the environment.

In line with ongoing efforts by the UAE Government to promote sustainable communities and business practices (e.g. UAE Pass App, Dubai Paperless Strategy - Dubai Government and DIFC courts 100% paperless since 2021) the member companies of Build Dubai are committing to the Paperless Submittals Initiative.

We would like to encourage all our partners and clients to support this initiative by committing to a more efficient and sustainable project approval process.

As members of Build Dubai, we pledge to:

· Encourage our clients and partners to review and approve technical submittals via digital means such as cloud filing systems, email and recognized e-signature tools
· Limit and gradually eliminate the printing of project documentation (including drafts for internal review)
· Charge a fee for paper submittals and donate the proceeds to e.g. the One Billion Tree Planting Initiative
· Host round table events to raise awareness among our employees and industry players about the impact of printing on the environment

We would like to call upon all private and public organizations in the UAE to join in this initiative and participate in awareness programs within the framework of this initiative.

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