

## Facilities Management from A to Z



Based on The FM Lexicon by Martin Pickard  
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The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) is an independent, representative professional body which regulates and represents surveyors and a range of other property professionals. RICS provides education and training standards, protects consumers with strict codes of practice and advises governments and business.

The institution was founded in London as the "Institution of Surveyors" on 15 June 1868. It has occupied headquarters on the corner of Great George Street and Parliament Square since then. The institution received its Royal Charter in 1881 and in 1921 was granted Royal Patronage by George V.

The Institution of Surveyors became the "Institution of Chartered Surveyors" in 1930. In 1946 the institution became a royal institution entitled to add "Royal" to its name and, thereby, achieved its present name. Qualified RICS members are recognised by designatory letters: FRICS (Fellow), MRICS (Member) and AssocRICS (Associate).

RICS has affiliates in more than 146 countries and in 2009 membership stood at 159,000. The majority of members are still based in the United Kingdom but there is a strong international membership in Commonwealth countries and membership is growing rapidly in the United States and across Europe, Asia, Middle East and North Africa and India.

Entry to membership of the RICS is via four main routes: academic; graduate; technical; and senior professional. The RICS has links with universities worldwide, with whom they have accredited approved courses which satisfy part of the qualification requirements to become trainee surveyors.

Professional Members and Fellows of the RICS are entitled to use the designation Chartered Surveyor and variations such as Chartered Building Surveyor, Chartered Quantity Surveyor or Chartered Facilities Management Surveyor - depending on their chosen specialist qualifications and field of expertise. For example, not all RICS members who undertake building surveys are actually Chartered Building Surveyors (less than 10% of RICS members are Chartered Building Surveyors).

The RICS Facilities Management Professional Group is the home within RICS for approximately 12,000 members who are involved in facilities management and business support, performance-oriented procurement, life cycle costing and service management. Members of the group may call themselves Chartered Facilities Management Surveyors if they are practising Facilities Managers and have passed the appropriate assessments of competency. As at September 2011 this was the only route to Chartered status for professional facilities managers.

*For more information about the RICS and the RICS Facilities Management Professional Group visit [www.rics.org/facilitiesmanagementpg](http://www.rics.org/facilitiesmanagementpg)*