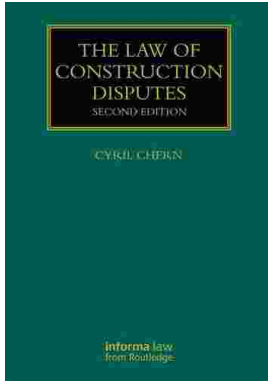


# The Law of Construction Disputes (Construction Practice Series)



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Cyril Chern

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ON CONTRACTS AND CONSTRUCTION LAW PRINCIPLES  
An appreciation by Phillip Taylor MBE and Elizabeth Taylor of Richmond Green Chambers  
There is no question that Cyril Chern is expert Counsel in many aspects of both academic law and what we loosely call 'Construction' at least as far as the Bar is concerned when handling disputes. Even the Preface to 'The Law of Construction Disputes' in Informa's 'Construction Practice Series' gives the reader a flavour of what is to come with the anecdote from a former Commonwealth colony court (no names!) which sets out the genesis of the book- not just the 'rule' but the reasons for the rule when queried by a testy judge which we have all been in front of... and was even prominent in a film 60 years ago - 'Brothers-in-Law' - as the old judge does actually help out a new barrister in the formidable Official Referee's Court dealing with a 'Scott Schedule' which Counsel (Ian Carmichael) appeared to have never heard of! Cyril Chern is well known to Informa readers for his expertise and this work handsomely creates in just 600 pages an analysis of the most recurring questions and points of law arising in construction disputes. It's a book which one would often like to have had when a particular point is disputed at the last moment in court. Now we have something which covers the entire spectrum of this area of law mixing the theory and the practice neatly in one volume. One aspect of dispute work at the Construction Bar is often the short point which requires a quick reason. To fulfil that requirement, Chern has detailed research of a very high standard which is explained with ease for the harassed barrister. There are 15 chapters and 16 Appendices in this book which is seriously needed by the Construction Bar together with its colleague title 'Remedies' recently written by the "ter Haas" team. Chern's statement of practice, with an excellent bit of history at the beginning, contains the practical elements of what we need to tell the clients in a construction dispute- what can I get from this case and is it strong enough? It's especially relevant when negotiating a settlement which can occur quite frequently in this specialist area of law, sometimes when the case is part heard because of the way the evidence has gone. For the newly initiated, start the book with the excellent glossary at Appendix 1 which is worth turning to first, then take a look at the detailed index for what you are looking for. The sparkling commentary throughout is a great