

SIMON BARROWS, CEng FCIBSE MSLI MAE MEWI MCI Arb
DIRECTOR OF SERENDIPITY CHARTERED ENGINEERS
CHARTERED ELECTRICAL ENGINEER AND EXPERT WITNESS

Practicing Chartered Electrical Engineer, Expert Witness and trouble shooter focused on working with independence, with high integrity and impartiality, an articulate mediator with over forty years' experience, highly developed proactive interpersonal skills, very experienced at obtaining and disseminating information, extensive knowledge of all aspects of electrical building services engineering, numerate and financially astute



Contact Details

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Expertise

- Working on all aspects of electrical and lighting services within the Construction industry
- Assistance to Clients on breach of warranties and policy conditions, plus recovery
- Inspection of 'fit for purpose' installations
- Investigation and compilation of breach of policy and warranty conditions
- Compilation of bankable studies and Scott Schedules
- Identification of causation, establishment of liability, production of remedial work strategy
- Witnessing testing and commissioning, review of O & M manuals and working drawings
- Quantum and commercial analysis of cost claims and losses
- Due diligence and dilapidation surveys, visual and forensic detailed investigations
- Investigation and compilation of professional negligence reports
- Mediation, arbitration, litigation, technical and contractual assistance to legal profession
- Contractual dispute, liquidated and ascertained damages resolution
- Direct liaison with Claimant and Defendants plus Advocates, Solicitors and Insurers
- Trouble shooting and professional negligence investigations
- Legislative compliance to national and international standards
- Single and Joint Expert Witness in accordance with Part 35 of the Civil Procedure Rules
- Investigation and compilation of expert witness and trouble shooting reports

Accreditations

- Chartered Engineer, Engineering Council, Membership Number 336421
- Fellow of Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers, Membership Number 002173
- Member of The Academy of Experts, Membership Number 2664
- Member of the Expert Witness Institute, Membership Number 8474
- Member of the Society of Light and Lighting, Membership Number 002173
- Member of The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Membership Number 33541
- Construction Skills Certification Scheme Operative Card, Registration Number 01958889/1
- Worshipful Company of Lightmongers Liveryman, Freedom of the City of London
- Board Member of Jersey Construction Council
- Secretary of the Channel Islands Branch of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

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Recent Case Snapshot

Pulsant v John Heaney Electrical

Quantum of cost Expert Witness Report produced to ascertain if the cost of remedial work undertaken on a data centre's critical electrical infrastructure was reasonable and were not enhanced (Betterment).

Microlights v AV Lichtplanners BV

Microlights UK had entered into a formal agreement to provide luminaires to Lichtplanners BV Holland. In contravention of the formal agreement, the lighting designer/installer sold similar alternative luminaires. A technical and physical comparison Expert Witness Report was produced.

The Extra Care Charitable Trust v Willmott Dixon

Willmott Dixon had installed recessed downlighters into a 350 apartment care village. Downlighter lamps were continually failing and had a very short life. Extensive laboratory testing was undertaken in accordance to relevant British Standards, which confirmed that the lamps were overheating and failing due to poor downlighter design and inadequate false ceiling void ventilation. An Expert Witness Report was produced. Willmott Dixon capitulated and initiated an extensive remedial downlighter retrofit program of work.

Beesley Builders v Scottish and Southern Energy

Scottish and Southern Energy incorrectly insisted that a substation be constructed specifically on site to serve a small residential apartment development. The substation was subsequently removed by Scottish and Southern Energy, resulting in Beesley Builders accruing substantial increased cost and programme delays. Beesley Builders, the Solicitor and I discussed the issue and quantum of cost at a pre-action meeting, which was resolved in Beesley Builders favour.

Uninterruptible Power Supplies Ltd v Shield Batteries

Uninterruptible Power supplies Ltd, had issued proceedings against Shield Batteries stating that he had manufactured defective batteries which resulted in several UPS's suffering thermal runaway and catastrophically failing. Site inspection of UPS's ascertained that UPS batteries were over heating due to poor battery cabinet ventilation. An Expert Witness Report has been produced.

Anchor Trust v Galliford Try

Extensive electrical inspections and production of an Expert Witness Report demonstrated widespread defective electrical services installations within a 65 - apartment assisted living development. Attempts were made to mediate a solution with Galliford Try, which failed. Due to Health and Safety concerns, Anchor undertook remedial work at their cost. This is a lengthy case that may go to litigation, a Barrister's Conference has been held.

The Extra Care Charitable Trust v Galliford Try

Expert Witness survey and report to ascertain why the warden call system installed within a 327-apartment care village intermittently initiated an alarm when triggered (Life safety issue). Intensive laboratory testing was undertaken, which demonstrated that the actuating mechanism of the ceiling mounted pull cord switches were not fit for purpose. An Expert Witness Report was produced. Galliford Try admitted liability and replaced several thousand defective ceiling mounted pull cord switches.

Medway Maritime Hospital NHS Trust v Crown House Engineering

The Hospital claimed that their life critical support electrical infrastructure had failed several times in the event of power failures. I reviewed an Expert Witness Report commissioned by the Hospital and attended site to inspect the electrical installation, plus produce an alternative Expert Witness Report. My report concluded that the Hospital had detrimentally modified the electrical switchgear. A mediation meeting quashed claims made by the Hospital's Expert Witness and the case was immediately dropped.