OCR
RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

B063PR

B063: ICT in context

Specimen Pre-release Material

INSTRUCTIONS TO TEACHERS

- This pre-release material may be given to candidates at any time after receipt by the centre.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- You **may** make yourself familiar with the pre-release material before you take the examination.
- You may **not** take notes into the examination.
- **A clean copy of this pre-release material will be given to you with the question paper.**
- This document consists of **2** pages.

Research Topic: Ambermill Construction Ltd.

Ambermill Construction Ltd. is a company that designs and builds large buildings. The owner of this company is keen to make as much use of ICT as possible to improve its running and to utilise ICT efficiently on-site and at head office to assist in rectifying design and construction problems.

Ambermill already makes use of specialised hardware and software required for design and large scale construction, however, the owner feels that they could make more use of computer-based 'Expert' systems.

The head office of Ambermill is in London. This operates alongside the many site offices at the company's construction sites.

All project managers on site are equipped with a mobile communication device and a portable computer. Ambermill often works with third party contractors and external companies. Project managers need to maintain effective communication with these contractors and companies across different sites and locations.

The owner is keen to reduce the amount of travelling time and number of face-to-face meetings with project managers and contractors. He wants to consider how ICT can improve communication and promote remote working.

The company has a main central computer system at the head office that each site can access remotely. The owner would like to review the way that shared resources are managed and to think about how 'Web 2.0' technologies can be used to facilitate the creation of shared resources.

As company information can be accessed remotely and from site offices, the owner wants to consider the security implications of gathering, transferring and storing information.

Ambermill is very keen to portray itself as an environmentally friendly company and one that considers people's personal health and safety when using ICT. These considerations are to be taken into account in its construction projects and in the running of its own offices.

The owner would like to use ICT during every aspect of the company's work, from original concept to completed construction. As an environmentally friendly company, it specialises in using the very latest technologies to assist in the design and construction process.

 You may wish to follow one or more of the ideas listed below:

- invite a speaker from a company involved in the construction industry into school to give a talk
- talk to parents involved in companies about the systems they use
- write to companies for information
- collaborate with peers to share ideas
- use the internet to research the topics above.