

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualifications:-

Grad Dip M.Sc.

ESGC2: The Economic Institutions of the Construction Industry

COURSE CODE : ENVSGC02

DATE : 06-MAY-03

TIME : 14.30

TIME ALLOWED : 2 Hours

ENVS GC02 Economic institutions of construction

May 2003

Candidates should answer any two questions

Time allowed: 2 hours

1] What are the key differences in motivation, decision making, behaviour and change between: (a) an individual self-employed producer; (b) an owner-managed firm; and (c) a modern large corporation?

2] Why is vertical and horizontal fragmentation of the construction industry into large numbers of specialist subcontractors its most commonly found mode of organisation? What problems does this fragmentation create or worsen?

3] How are market- and industry-structure described in general industrial economics? What propositions link observed differences in this structure to predicted differences in performance of firms in different industries and markets? How can similar propositions be developed and tested for construction industries?

4] What difference does it make, for the theory of pricing and output decisions of a construction firm, that such a firm operates in a world of projects?

End of paper