TOP TIPS FOR EMBEDDING CIRCULAR ECONOMY PRINCIPLES IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY
01. Advise your client

Proactively identify where the project could benefit from circular economy construction approaches and advise your client. For example, greater use of reused and recycled products (providing it does not increase environmental impact), modular construction that can be dissembled, use of different business models etc. This is a way of providing added value to your client.
02. Procure from suppliers offering circular economy benefits

The procurement team has a key role to identify suppliers who deliver circular economy benefits, i.e. those offering reused or reconditioned components which will meet the design life, products with a high recycled content, take-back schemes, or suppliers offering products as a service. Or you may be able to find pre-used materials yourself or in cooperation with demolition companies, reclamation yards or recycling centres.
03. Eliminate waste

Seek to eliminate waste during construction, use, maintenance and end of life by engaging with the design team, client and suppliers/ manufacturers. Could the building/asset become a pre-fabricated kit of parts with no waste? During construction, set waste reduction and reuse and recycling targets, and work with the supply chain to achieve these.
Review the business case for procuring reused or recycled components

Regularly assess the business case for procuring reused and recycled components - changes over time in the economics (e.g. due to changes in virgin material prices and availability), and logistics, can increase deliverability of this circular economy approach. Have a dialogue with your client about the pros and cons of using reused or recycled products.
Use digitalisation and BIM to support the circular economy

The benefits of using BIM to reduce waste during construction are well known. BIM can also be used to hold an inventory of design, materials and component information over the life of the buildings/asset. This will support future maintenance and reuse or take-back. BIM also has the potential to show how the building/asset could be reconfigured or deconstructed in the future.
Top Tips for Embedding Circular Economy Principles in the Construction Industry

This resource is intended to help the construction industry start its journey towards the circular economy. It offers a series of practical tips - for Clients, the Design Team, Contractors, Material and Product Manufacturers, and Demolition Contractors. Those who have already developed and are practicing a sophisticated approach to circular economy may find these tips useful as a checklist.

Read more about it on the website: www.cetoptips.com

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