

# Practice Areas

## Builders Risk & Soft Costs

Matson, Driscoll & Damico's professional forensic accounting teams provide expert consulting and fact witness testimony, and are qualified as experts in provincial, federal and international courts.

MD&D will:

- Examine the builder's proposed business plans and budgets
- Check all contracts and amendments to these contracts for additional, missed or mitigating information
- Conduct checks of critical path charts, information and revisions to information
- Explore all construction status reports and change orders leading up to the time of the loss
- Examine and compare start-up operations for similar construction projects
- Assess budget and actual expenses for the affected location

When a builder is forced to delay or cease operations for any reason, claims for damages are an inevitable by-product of such an event. For instance, claims can result for damages caused by contractor negligence, human error, contract disputes, floods, fires or other natural disasters, as well as industrial accidents.

The forensic and investigative accounting experts at Matson, Driscoll & Damico have an extensive understanding of the construction industry and its workings and processes.

In addition, they have the analytical skills and the experience necessary to conduct a thorough review of all hard costs such as direct and indirect labor including: fringes, materials, sub-contractor costs, and, reasonable and customary contractor overhead and profit rates.

MD&D experts will also audit and provide detailed descriptions of all tasks performed by the labor crew, and verify all claimed hours. Additionally, MD&D will confirm that all pay rates, direct and indirect costs, overhead charges and profit rates are in accordance with the construction contract.

As with hard cost analysis, MD&D will also confirm all actual soft costs



and provide a comprehensive report to determine the accuracy of all claimed costs covered under the insurance policy at the time of loss.

Covered soft costs resulting from a delay in start-up may consist of business interruption losses due to delayed opening, interest, taxes, advertising, architect fees and legal and accounting fees.

If subrogation cases arise as a result of builders' risk and soft claims, MD&D is also able to provide expert witness testimony.

For help in determining a fair settlement, call the MD&D professionals who will work closely with you to ensure all claims and awards are consistent with the damages suffered.



*Across Canada and around the world*

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