ABSTRACT

The Application Service Provider (ASP) is the newest concept emerging from the foundation established in the outsourcing market. The ASP remotely hosts and delivers a packaged application to the client from an off-site, centralised location. Application services are now available as a managed service ranging from simple web site design packages, passing through hosted email and messaging, right up to high-end Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) applications.

The ASP performs the initial application implementation and integration, control data center management and provide continuous, uninterrupted connectivity and support. In other words, expertise will be employed by the ASP, infrastructure set up and an economical solution is provided to its end-user.

The aim of this dissertation is to discuss and explore the applicability of ASP in the construction industry. Various computerisation systems had been recommended to the construction industry but the industry is still being deemed an Information Technology laggard. Common problems identified are the lack of infrastructure, capital, expertise, etc. Hence, the ASP could be a feasible solution to these problems.