



Appendix C – Understanding the Evaluation Matrices



Understanding the Evaluation Matrices

The evaluation matrices list a variety of indicators that are important considerations when evaluating design options. The Project Team used circles – in one case, solid circles of varying sized, in others, solid, half filled in, or empty – to rate the various options under each indicator.

This assisted the Project Team in their evaluation of various options, but the matrix should not be viewed as a scoring system. In other words, the option with the most solid circles is not necessarily the “winner”. The reason is that some indicators are seen as more important than others. The relative importance placed upon the various indicators is often a difficult task , particularly on those matrices with a high number of different indicators, and subject to considerable discussion. In addition, while one option may be preferred to another within a specific indicator, the actual difference may not be that significant.

As a result, the text of the report typically makes note of those indicators that were, in the judgment of the Project Team, the key determinant in the final decision.