Alexander Foege

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FORENSIC ENGINEER | BUILDING DAMAGE EXPERT | EXPERT WITNESS

Dipl.-Ing. Arch. FH SIA
Practising Full Member - The Academy of Experts (London)
Member - American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
Gutachter SIA / Swiss Experts

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Independent forensic engineer, court expert and building damage specialist with more than 25 years of professional experience across architecture, construction, building diagnostics, damage investigation, construction risk and technical consultancy. Since 2015, principal of bsb management - forensic engineering in Cham, Switzerland. His practice includes court-appointed expert assignments, privately commissioned forensic investigations, technical dispute support, evidence preservation and independent assessment of construction defects, building-envelope and waterproofing failures, moisture damage, underground structures, durability issues and remediation strategies. He is a Practising Full Member of The Academy of Experts (London).

CORE AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Forensic engineering and building damage investigation
- Construction defects, building pathology and root-cause analysis
- Evidence preservation, condition surveys and crack documentation
- Construction risk analysis, construction monitoring and damage management
- Technical due diligence and technical property assessment
- Water ingress, moisture damage, waterproofing and building-envelope issues
- Concrete, façade, roof and construction-quality defects
- Assessment of remedial measures, repair strategies and damage-related costs
- Court and dispute-related technical opinions, expert reports and expert evidence
- Building handover, warranty inspections and owner representation

EXPERT WITNESS & FORENSIC PRACTICE

2015 - present | bsb management - forensic engineering, Cham, Switzerland

Founder and independent expert practice. Services include evidence preservation and construction-related condition documentation, building damage and defect investigations, construction risk analysis, damage management and construction control, building and warranty inspections, owner advisory/representation, and preparation of technical expert reports and opinions.

- Independent investigations of defects and damage affecting existing and newly constructed buildings.
- Assessment of probable causes, contributing factors, technical consequences and appropriate remedial measures.
- Preparation of expert reports and technical opinions for courts, legal professionals, property owners, developers, insurers, companies and other parties to construction and property disputes.
- Evidence preservation and condition surveys before, during and after construction activities, including documentation of cracking and other visible damage.
- Technical review of complex construction and property claims and support in dispute-related inspections and technical meetings.
- Seminars and workshops relating to evidence preservation and damage management.

SELECTED EXPERT WITNESS & FORENSIC ASSIGNMENTS

Court-Appointed Cross-Border Cost Assessment - Regional Court of Verden, Germany

Court-appointed technical and commercial assessment of the plausibility of cross-border service-related costs in a construction dispute involving works performed in Switzerland. The review covered travel and accommodation expenses, mileage compensation, Swiss labour-related surcharge structures, subsistence expenses and project-related ancillary costs, including analysis of invoices, service records, travel routes, time calculations and cost-allocation methodology.

Court-Appointed Underground Parking Investigation - Switzerland

Large-scale forensic engineering investigation of a multi-building underground parking structure extending approximately 330 metres beneath a residential development. The investigation addressed water ingress, drainage capacity, hydraulic behaviour during rainfall, structural cracking, reinforcement-cover deficiencies, moisture-related deterioration, chloride exposure and long-term durability. Work included repeated inspections, investigations during heavy rainfall, moisture and slope measurements, structural and material investigations, photographic/video evidence preservation and evaluation against Swiss SIA standards.

Court-Appointed Residential Construction Dispute - Liechtenstein

Court-appointed forensic investigation of alleged construction defects, waterproofing deficiencies and corrosion-related durability risks. The dispute concerned terrace waterproofing, drainage concepts, corrosion-sensitive railing components, natural-stone terrace construction and compliance with recognised engineering standards. Work included court-related questions and answers, review of previous expert reports, technical inspections, evaluation of remediation measures and costs, and preparation of formal expert statements.

Independent Technical Investigation - High-Alpine Residential Construction, Switzerland

Independent forensic investigation of a newly constructed high-alpine residential building involving structural timber cracking, building-envelope deficiencies, workmanship and execution deviations, moisture-related durability risks and unresolved structural verification issues. Scope included forensic site inspections, structured evidence preservation, review of structural calculations, snow-load assumptions, execution quality and evaluation against Swiss engineering standards. The assignment included interdisciplinary collaboration with Prof. Felix Wenk, Dipl. Bauing. ETH SIA, OST - Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences.

Forensic Investigation of Ceiling Collapse – Public School, Switzerland (2026)

Forensic investigation commissioned in connection with criminal proceedings following a ceiling collapse in a school building. Scope included on-site examination, review of available construction documentation, preservation and technical assessment of evidence, evaluation of possible failure mechanisms and preparation of an independent expert report for the prosecuting authority.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021 - present | URETEK Schweiz AG, Hergiswil, Switzerland

Technical editorial collaboration.

2021 - 2026 | feusuisse, Wisen, Solothurn, Switzerland

Lecturer in construction law, standards and regulations.

2020 - 2026 | IBZ Schulen AG, Aarau / Zug, Switzerland

Lecturer in construction law for higher professional education programmes in construction management, site management and building/civil engineering.

2017 - 2019 | Competence Centre for Plastics in Construction, HSR University of Applied Sciences, Rapperswil, Switzerland

Managing Director. Industry consulting, testing concepts, knowledge transfer, interdisciplinary applied research and development projects, lectures and professional presentations.

2014 - 2015 | Terradata AG, Zurich, Switzerland

Management of the specialist division for precautionary evidence preservation and condition surveys, cost analyses, damage management, court expert assessments, technical reports and construction monitoring using geodetic and geotechnical measurement methods; management responsibilities.

2010 - 2014 | Steiger Baucontrol AG, Lucerne, Switzerland

Head of Evidence Preservation / Condition Surveys and member of management. Damage management, crack documentation, cost analyses and expert reports/opinions.

2005 - 2009 | Planungsgruppe Industriebau, Dipl.-Ing. Bernhard Tammer, Schopfheim, Germany

Architect across the full range of architectural service phases; project management, project coordination and site management.

2003 | Wohnbau GmbH Bonn / Wohnbau Service Bonn GmbH, Bonn, Germany

Software quality assurance, technical editing and client support.

2000 - 2003 | m2K Informationsmanagement GmbH, Kaiserslautern, Germany

Project and product management for mobile building inventory/data maintenance systems; software quality assurance, technical editing, customer support, sales support and marketing.

1999 | Joest, Walther u. Partner, Architects, Heidelberg, Germany

Architectural briefing, preliminary design, design development, approval and execution planning.

1997 - 1998 | Freuschle + Bühler, Architects BDA, Lörrach, Germany

Approval planning, execution planning, detailing and architectural competitions.

EDUCATION

1994 - 2000 | Architecture, University of Applied Sciences Kaiserslautern, Germany

1992 - 1994 | Geophysics, Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Germany

1992 | Abitur, Germany

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Gutachter SIA - Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects (SIA), Zurich
- Member of Swiss Experts - Swiss Chamber of Technical and Scientific Court Experts, Bern
- University Certificate: Expert for Damage to Buildings - HTWG Konstanz / IFBau, Germany
- Professional Qualification Programme: Expert in Construction - IFBau, Stuttgart, Germany
- Certified Passive House Designer - Passive House Institute, Darmstadt, Germany

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Practising Full Member - The Academy of Experts (London)
- Member - American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE, USA)
- Consultant Member - International Institute of Building Enclosure Consultants (IIBEC, USA)
- SIA - Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects
- Swiss Experts - Swiss Chamber of Technical and Scientific Court Experts
- WTA Switzerland - Scientific-Technical Association for Building Conservation and Monument Preservation
- BDSF - German Association of Experts and Professional Appraisers

LANGUAGES

German: native | English: very good | French: good | Russian, Polish and Spanish: basic knowledge

PROFESSIONAL FOCUS

Expert Witness | Forensic Engineering | Building Damage Investigation | Construction Risk Analysis | Technical Due Diligence | Construction Claims & Disputes | Evidence Preservation | Property Damage