

## COMPANY

**JE Dunn Construction**  
<http://jedunn.com>

## LOCATION

**Kansas City, Missouri**

## SOFTWARE

**Autodesk® BIM 360™ Glue**  
**Autodesk® BIM 360™**

## SERVICES

**Autodesk® Consulting BIM Transformation Services**

Our strategic relationship with Autodesk has helped us to extend BIM access across the enterprise and improve both collaboration and transparency.

—**John Jacobs**  
 Chief Information Officer  
 JE Dunn Construction

# Redefine collaboration

## Autodesk Consulting helps large construction firm extend the value of BIM enterprise-wide



Image courtesy of JE Dunn Construction.

### Introduction

Established in 1924 in Kansas City, Missouri, JE Dunn® Construction has grown from a small, family-run residential contractor to the twelfth largest general construction company in the United States based on Engineering News Record rankings. With offices in 20 locations across the country and more than \$2.6 billion in annual revenue, the company specializes in large commercial projects in a variety of industries, including healthcare, mission critical, corporate buildings, and science/technology.

In today's hyper-competitive market, JE Dunn has learned to stand out. "We are self-performing builders who believe that leveraging technology to control quality and schedule is paramount to success," says John Jacobs, chief information officer for JE Dunn. That's why the company recently pioneered the development of Dunn Dashboard, a powerful new solution that serves as a single source of project data and helps all stakeholders—from end users in the field to owners and external consultants—deliver high-quality projects faster and more safely.

### The challenge

The impetus behind developing the Dunn Dashboard was a desire to proactively mitigate construction risks—such as cost and schedule overruns or technology failure—and deliver projects that exceed owner expectations. "To achieve these goals, we needed to provide more information during the planning process so that the owners—as well as everyone else on the project team—could collaborate and make more informed decisions about design and budget when they would have the greatest impact," says Jacobs.

To create the Dunn Dashboard, developers at JE Dunn sought to integrate systems and software from three major technology providers—one of which was Autodesk—without end-users being aware that they were using data from disparate systems. Working internally, they were able to facilitate browser-based collaboration on all project document types except those used in Building Information Modeling (BIM), which were typically too massive for easy sharing. "To attain true interoperability, we needed to add cloud-based BIM functionality," says Jacobs.

# Autodesk Consulting integrated BIM 360 with the Dunn Dashboard to enable access to all project data anywhere, anytime

## The solution

For help with that final piece, JE Dunn turned to Autodesk® Consulting BIM Transformation Services. In the past, JE Dunn regularly licensed software from Autodesk in a traditional vendor-customer transactional relationship. With the need to better integrate cloud-based BIM applications and processes, however, JE Dunn developed a strategic relationship with Autodesk, which culminated in one of the first ever cloud-focused Autodesk® Enterprise Business Agreements (EBA) in early 2013.

The EBA included a Multi-Flex licensing program that provided JE Dunn with access to a portfolio of Autodesk software products on an as-needed basis during the contract term and a license for cloud-based Autodesk® BIM 360. “Under Multi-Flex, we are taking advantage of products that we never would have used under the old licensing agreement,” says Jacobs. The EBA also gave JE Dunn access to Autodesk BIM Transformation Services via the contract’s Production Assurance Credits, which provide companies with Autodesk Consulting Services in support of successful technology implementation.

Autodesk Consulting played a critical role in the implementation of Autodesk® BIM 360 Glue and its integration with Dunn Dashboard. BIM 360 Glue is an online BIM coordination and management service that provides anytime, anywhere access\* to the connected project information by any number of external users.

During the implementation process, JE Dunn worked directly with a dedicated technical resource from Autodesk Consulting. “He grasped our vision right away and was able to help us solve our problems—or quickly find other people in the Autodesk community who could,” says Jacobs.

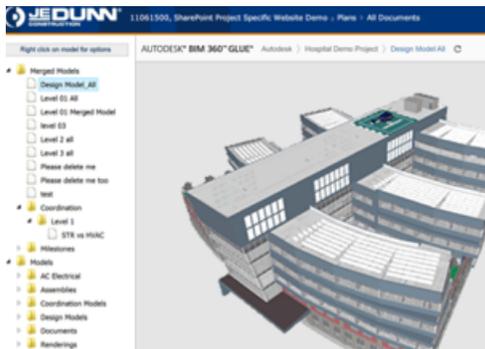


Image courtesy of JE Dunn Construction.

## The result

Today, the Dunn Dashboard provides integrated web services for user permissions, projects, and data, as well as direct access to models, views, markups, clash reports, and more. Currently, JE Dunn has 530 active projects using the Dunn Dashboard, with 40 of those using the BIM 360 Glue integration. There are 16,000 active external users accessing project data, and 250 of those are collaborating in BIM 360 Glue via the Dunn Dashboard from anywhere—without the need to access multiple systems or install heavy software.

“Our internal team did most of the heavy lifting, but Autodesk Consulting helped us complete the circle with their skillful integration of BIM 360 Glue with the Dunn Dashboard,” says Jacobs. Autodesk Consulting helped JE Dunn become one of the first general contractors to utilize the new Autodesk cloud-based model-viewing engine and integrate it into their ecosystem.

“Our strategic relationship with Autodesk has helped us to extend BIM access across the enterprise and improve both collaboration and transparency,” says Jacobs. Traditionally the domain of highly technical users, BIM can now be used by virtually everyone on JE Dunn projects—from field and office workers to project owners.

JE Dunn plans on expanding access to BIM moving forward—and deepening their relationship with Autodesk—with the planned release of a groundbreaking, proprietary model-centric cost-estimating platform in early 2014. “This new JE Dunn solution will redefine project collaboration to extend into preconstruction and planning,” says Jacobs. “We believe that will increase our ability to deliver value in ways that we can’t even anticipate yet.”

For more information, please visit [www.autodesk.com/consulting](http://www.autodesk.com/consulting).

\*Access to services requires an Internet connection and is subject to any geographical restrictions set forth in the Terms of Service.

Autodesk Consulting was a great resource for us in developing innovative BIM technology, especially around project planning and estimating early in the project.

— **John Jacobs**  
Chief Information Officer  
JE Dunn Construction