

AS196617

YOUR Revit File Is Not MY Revit File

Panel Discussion

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IMAGINiT Technologies

Learning Objectives

- Why do all disciplines use Revit differently?
- Is there a benefit to prepping your model for ease of use by other disciplines?
- Does it really matter what we do with our models if the other disciplines are just going to do it “their way”
- How does YOUR discipline model in Revit?

Description

It’s hard to believe that with Revit being around for nearly 20 years that we still can’t seem to all agree on how to work together with it. This simple fact is the basis for this panel session.

Here in 2018 we have come a long way from the early days of Revit, but we still can’t seem to get out of our silos and really work together. Sure, we can collaborate on projects, but we still don’t really know what our fellow disciplines need in their Revit model, and by extension what we could put in our model to improve theirs. What if we just asked the other disciplines what they needed?

This will be a moderated Panel discussion, with 7 different Revit disciplines represented: Architecture, Structural, Mechanical, Electrical, Construction, FM/Owner/Operator and Software/Revit.

Speaker / Moderator



Carl Storms – Solutions Consultant
IMAGINiT Technologies – Building Solutions Division

Drawing on his 20 years of experience in architecture, engineering, and construction, **Carl Storms** provides a practical and well-rounded understanding of building information modeling (BIM) to clients. He's worked in residential and commercial architecture, as well as construction and has nearly 10 years of teaching experience at the collegiate and industry level. This experience aids him in providing the business case for BIM and how it makes the most of collaboration, coordination and design tools and processes.



Through implementations, instruction, mentoring, seminar presentations, whitepapers and more, Carl assists clients with the adoption of design technology and BIM processes. As someone who truly enjoys the process of building information modeling, Carl spreads his love of all things BIM via Twitter [@theBIMsider](#), on his Blog www.thebimsider.com, or as a co-host on two AEC Industry Podcasts: The [Simply Complex Podcast - Conference Edition](#), as well as [BluePrints](#) a podcast sharing ideas and knowledge about the AEC industry.

Session Handout and Presentation

Get the most current PDF version of this handout and presentation using the Dropbox link below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6u9eb2fvyfwj5x3/AABk2aD2EfQgUHuC0myYdnuQa?dl=0>

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Panelists

Architecture



Melissa Thiessens – BIM Manager **GSBS Architects**

Melissa has been with GSBS Architects in Salt Lake City, Utah since 2005. Early on she helped the firm transition from AutoCAD to Revit and has continued her role there as BIM Manager, continually looking for better ways to do things. She has worked on projects for clients ranging from higher education and commercial to hospitality and justice. In her spare time she has taught classes in both AutoCAD and Revit at Salt Lake Community College, was a co-speaker at RTCna in 2014, participated in Autodesk Inside the Factory events in Boston and Shanghai, and has sat on local college program advisory committees as well as being involved with the local RUG, and is currently on the Building Content Summit Committee

Structural



Kate Morrival – Digital Design Manager **Silman**

Silman is a structural engineering firm with offices in New York, Boston, and Washington, DC. As the Digital Design Manager, **Kate Morrival** is responsible for coordinating procedures and standards for software used in the design process, whether CAD, BIM, or design/analysis programs. Before rejoining Silman in 2012 (where she also worked from 2003 to 2008), Kate was a Technical Marketing Manager for Autodesk, Inc. There, she worked on the AutoCAD software family of products, specifically AutoCAD LT software. She has over 15 years' experience with Autodesk products, currently serves as President of the AUGI Board of Directors, and has presented at numerous technical events, including Revit DC, BILT North America, Midwest University, and several Autodesk University conferences.

Electrical



Don Bokmiller – BIM Specialist
Schneider Electric

20+ years in the AEC industry, primarily with electrical design. Also worked with a general contractor. Co-author of Mastering Autodesk Revit MEP series. Revit user since 2007. BIM Specialist with Schneider Electric, focusing on customer support and improving the use of BIM by electrical designers and contractors

Mechanical



Sean Fruin – Mechanical Engineering & Design Technologist EvolveLAB

Mechanical Engineer with a passion for technology, automation and optimization in the AEC industry. With a demonstrated history of finding and implementing effective ways to streamline process so we can focus on the things that matter.

Construction



Lonnie Cumpston – Virtual Construction Technology Manager **Faith Technologies**

As the Virtual Construction Technology Manager, I lead a team responsible for researching, developing, training, implementing and optimizing technology in Faith Technologies' continued integration of building information modeling (BIM). This includes evaluating new software, hardware, and workflows to expand Faith's virtual construction strategies to support projects at all stages of work, as well as promoting Faith's BIM/3D/virtual construction capabilities to internal and external customers.

Facilities Management / Owner / Operator



Peter Costanzo – Director of Facilities Management **IMAGINiT Technologies**

Peter has worked in IMAGINiT's Facilities Management group for over 14 years and has held progressively larger roles within the division. Peter's unique blend of experience in hardware, software, mobility platforms, building information modeling and facilities management applications allows him to work with clients to craft solutions that meet both current and future facility management needs. Peter is a proponent of technical applications for building information modeling within facilities management.

Software / Revit



Kyle Bernhardt – Preconstruction, Product Line Manager **Autodesk**

Kyle is the Sr. Product Line Manager in the BIM Project Delivery group. He leads product management for investment in collaboration services that augment and enhance the value of the BIM workflows. Find me on both Autodesk forums and RevitForum.org

Moderator Questions for the Panelists

1. **What is the software's role in communication between disciplines?**
 - Should software have more or less of a role in communication?

2. **Was Revit designed with the conventional AIA contract workflow (Owner, Architect, Construction contract) in mind? No, but should it have been?**
 - The original intention of Revit was to have all disciplines work together in one model – which is even further from the conventional AEC contract format. However, because of model size and hardware limitations, linking became more popular and the software was designed to accommodate linking Revit files together. Does this necessity of linking help or hinder the communication process when dealing with multiple models from multiple disciplines?

3. **In theory, IDP (Integrated Project Delivery) is a business model more closely aligned with sharing Revit models and working together in one model. Why hasn't this business model taken off?**
 - Why is it still considered so risky?

4. **What would it take for AEC disciplines to change their way of thinking around 3D modeling and communication?**
 - What would it take for all disciplines to “model the same way” in Revit?
 - What would it take for one discipline to build off of the 3D model given to them by another discipline?

After these questions have been discussed by the panel, the session will be opened to questions from the audience.

Final Thought

I listen to a lot of AEC industry podcasts, and during episode [139](#) of the [ConTechCrew](#) podcast I heard a quote from [DJ Phipps](#) that I believe is a perfect way to end this session as a final thought.

“Coordination is Contractual, Collaboration is Voluntary”