Building Information Modeling (PocketArchitecture)

By Karen M. Kensek

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This is a design guide for architects, engineers, and contractors concerning the principles and specific applications of building information modeling (BIM). BIM has the potential to revolutionize the building industry, and yet not all architects and construction professionals fully understand what the benefits of BIM are or even the fundamental concepts behind it.

As part of the PocketArchitecture Series it includes two parts: fundamentals and applications, which provide a comprehensive overview of all the necessary and essential issues. It also includes case studies from a range of project sizes that illustrate the key concepts clearly and use a wide range of visual aids.

Building Information Modeling addresses the key role that BIM is playing in shaping the software tools and office processes in the architecture, engineering, and construction professions. Primarily aimed at professionals, it is also useful for faculty who wish to incorporate this information into their courses on digital design, BIM, and professional practice. As a compact summary of key ideas it is ideal for anyone implementing BIM.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This book offers something new to the market. Its format and content make it unique and hence appealing to potential purchasers."

?Stephen Emmitt, University of Bath

From the Author
Author's description of the book:

The growing acceptance of building information modeling (BIM) is an acknowledgment that the building industry has fundamentally changed. The information contained in a BIM can be used for other purposes such as predicting energy consumption, cost, scheduling, clashes between systems, and can even be leveraged for facilities management uses. Entire suites of software theoretically can hook into the virtual building description for specialized uses.

This book addresses many key roles that BIM is playing in shaping professional offices and project delivery processes. It is a professional design guide for architects, engineers, and contractors (and students!) concerning the principles and specific applications of BIM. Those wishing to understand how to make the transition from CAD to BIM will benefit as well those looking to push the boundaries of digital technologies. The book is divided into two parts: *Fundamentals* and *Application*.

Fundamentals defines terms, explores issues, and predicts future opportunities that BIM offers. Many key ideas are introduced including parametrics, the roles of BIM for different stakeholders, the single model versus federated models, the BIM Execution Plan, and what is on the computing horizon. It is subdivided into five chapters: BIM Overview, Stakeholders and BIM's Many Roles, Data Exchange and Interoperability, BIM Implementation, and Beyond Basic BIM.

Application: project case studies, focuses on specific examples of how BIM is actually being implemented and successfully integrated into four offices. These firms provide vignettes on specific buildings that show successes and missed opportunities and give advice to other professionals. The architecture and construction firms were asked to describe a project, explain their experiences with BIM, discuss successes and opportunities to improve, and give advice about what they might have done differently. The four case studies are

1. designLAB Architects: Small BIM tames big Brutalism
2. ZGF: BIM in transition - making the leap at a large firm
3. CASE: Building information coordinators
4. Mortenson Construction: Outstanding project success through collaboration

From the neophyte to the BIM-savvy, this book, from defining fundamental concepts and exploring new innovations, encourages everyone to learn more about building information modeling.

About the Author

Karen Kensek teaches at the University of Southern California, School of Architecture. For over 25 years, her teaching and research have concentrated on the evolving role of digital design and its applications to the building profession. Her current research focuses on BIM analytics. She has organized seven building information modeling symposia at USC (2007–2013) with themes on education; sustainable design; construction and fabrication; analytical modeling and evidenced-based design; BIM management, implementation, coordination, and evaluation; and the future of BIM. Under her leadership, the School received the Autodesk Revit BIM Experience Award in 2008 and a BIM award from the AIA Technology in Architectural Practice knowledge community in 2010. She is a past president of the Association of Computer Aided Design in Architecture (ACADIA).

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