



BIM Update

June 2014

The BWF is developing a clear strategy to ensure that our membership is at the front of the race in providing accurate BIM data available for specifiers to access easily.

Some of our members have already received enquiries to supply BIM data and information and there is an increase in understanding of the format that information will be presented and the associated benefits, drawbacks and costs of adopting BIM.

Please contact Hannah.Mansell@bwf.org.uk as we would like to compile case studies of how the Manufacturing and Construction Industry as adopting and adapting to the introduction of BIM.

Within the BWF and at related technical meetings there has been much discussion regarding the benefits of BIM and also the longevity of the scheme. Is BIM just going to be another flash in the pan, or as presented by the BIM Taskgroup, something that is going to represent one of the biggest changes to the construction industry in recent times?

The BWF BIM Strategy

"Give me 6 hours to cut down a tree and I will spend 4 hours sharpening the axe"

Abraham Lincoln

Preparation is everything, and the initial stage of the BWF/BIM strategy was to research existing information on BIM and the tools currently available to manufacturers. This research, coupled with discussion from our members and peers has highlighted some challenges that we are facing in preparing for BIM.

BIM has been used in different industry sectors such as the military; however the templates that were adopted by the UK BIM taskgroup, <http://www.bimtaskgroup.org/cobie-uk-2012/> were identified as requiring further development and amendment to capture information relevant to the UK construction industry and process. COBie is a formal schema that helps organise information about new or existing facilities and is used to document Building and infrastructure assets. It is transmitted using an excel spreadsheet and is the means for sharing structured information across all of the different stakeholders involved in a construction project. For examples of the currently available COBie templates: <http://www.bimtaskgroup.org/cobie/A-Z.html>

BIM experience and resource availability varies widely throughout our membership and the BWF is committed to producing guidance that suits and is useful to all of our members, whatever product they manufacture and for every size of business. There is still a lack of clear understanding of the type of information required and as a result the BWF has developed the BWF/BIM strategy to attack this subject from all directions.

From the political perspective, a meeting was set up between David Philps, Head of BIM Implementation at the Cabinet Office <http://www.bimtaskgroup.org/introduction-david-philp/> and Hannah Mansell (BWF Technical Liaison Manager) with the support of Quantum Systems and Teknos paint finishes.

The objectives of this meeting:

- 1: Ensure that the templates that are developed for use by our members are workable documents that are really presenting information that is useful to the BIM process.
- 2: Gauge the real point that the BIM journey has reached in the UK to ensure that BWF members are committing their energies towards initiatives that will be relevant and accurate for presenting BIM data.
- 3: Gain any recent information that has not been made public yet to ensure that we are advising our members as the current resources and tools that are available.
- 4: Optimise any marketing resource and budget that is available and use this to promote the BWF, the BWF schemes and our members products and services.
- 5: Discuss the proposal of a specific TIMBER subgroup of the BIM Task group to use as a platform to promote our members products and timber as a sustainable high performing material for use in construction.
- 6: Understand the different platforms that are hosting BIM data and advise our members which option would be the most efficient use of resource should they decide to make their BIM data publicly available.

Hannah Mansell represents the BWF on the BIM 4 Manufacturers and Manufacturing (BIM4M2) sub group <http://www.bimtaskgroup.org/bim-4-manufacturers-manufacturing/> that has been tasked with developing the BIM data templates further into usable documents, specifically relevant to the manufacturers of products that are used in the construction industry.

This sub group has a direct line of communication with the BIM Taskgroup and met on Friday the 6th of June. The objective of this meeting from the perspective of the BWF was to tap into the pool of knowledge that is coming from other manufacturing sectors, whilst developing templates that are fully workable for the timber joinery sector. In addition, taking part in this group is a firm platform to use to promote the use of timber joinery products, through their marketing channels.

The key objective of this group is that the work should focus on supporting all product manufacturers, especially those who are yet to begin the journey and certainly not just early

adopters and large manufacturers. Any tools and resources that the group develop need to be accessible to all.

The main themes of the meeting were:

- Agreeing the relevant standards that the development of templates will follow. (E.g. BS 1192-4:2014 Collaborative production of architectural, engineering and construction information – Client information requirements.

Links to BSI, BIM information:

<http://shop.bsigroup.com/Browse-by-Sector/Building--Construction/Building-Information-Modelling-BIM/>

PAS 1192-2

<http://shop.bsigroup.com/en/ProductDetail/?pid=00000000030281435>

PAS 1192-3

<http://shop.bsigroup.com/forms/PASs/PAS-1192-3/>

- Review of the current Product Data Templates (PDT's) and the agreement that this template provided a starting point for development and improvement.
- Current status: First draft of BIM template has been circulated with the group, each member will review in line with the specific product and industry and report back as to whether they are suitable as a base level for development.
- Agree the focus of the working group and the plan of action for short / medium and long term development. The group discussed whether our focus should be on providing the baseline information required for Level 2 compliance, or whether we should go further. The group agreed that the initial focus should be on making the minimum requirements clearer (separating product information from project information and models), and then look at how we support manufacturers who wish to go further.
- Review the proposal that BIM4M2 may collaborate with BuildingSMART to develop a data dictionary and use a platform for hosting manufacturers BIM data. This has currently been stopped however discussion will continue as to the most efficient use of resource and best platform to use. <http://www.buildingsmart.org/openbim>

Current status:

The initial PDT has been circulated and at the next meeting in 4-6 weeks, members will report back as to challenges that the template presents for their specific industry. The templates will be peer reviewed by the working group and the next steps will be confirmed.

The next steps for the BWF and our members:

The BWF is seeking feedback from our members to understand; (see attached email questionnaire)

- Have they been approached for BIM data by suppliers and if so what data are they actually being asked for and what type of project is it for. (Value of whole project/ public / private dwelling).
- Are our Members in support of the BWF hosting their BIM data and models on the BWF website and using it as a platform to promote their products?
- What are the current concerns for our members regarding the development of BIM?
- What else could the BWF do to support their members to ensure that they do not miss out on any BIM related opportunities?

Please contact Hannah.Mansell@bwf.org.uk if you have any feedback

BWF practical steps:

- Canvas our members to understand the level of desired BIM involvement and support.
- Formalise the BWF / BIM task list and allocate time and budget resources where appropriate.
- Circulate the draft template, amended for timber joinery products to our members to gauge feedback on simplicity of use, format and content.
- Template development of a suite of PDT's that will cover all of our member's products, categorized by product type / product styles and combination.
- Make the templates accessible for download on our website for use by our members.
- Proposal to host our Members BIM data on the BWF website for access by architects and specifiers.
- Development of training tools and resources to educate regarding the use of BIM, where BIM may present commercial opportunity, completing PDT's. These will take the form of articles, presentations and toolbox talks and workshops.
- Value for money for our members. The BWF wants to ensure that if our member decide to invest in BIM associated services or software they are accessing the most economically viable option. There are many BIM related services being offered by private companies, if you are thinking of engaging one of them, speak to the BIM Technical team to discuss your requirements, prior to contract.
- The BWF is exploring avenues for developing generic BIM models that will be available for specifiers and architects to download and include within their projects at the first level of construction development. This will look to promote the use of timber construction products and get them specified at the procurement stage.

If you need support or just wanted to have an impartial discussion about BIM and how it may be relevant to and impact upon your business, contact the BWF Technical department.