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OPENBIM – THE FUTURE OF ARCHITECTURE

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1. What is Building Information Modelling (BIM)?

Building Information Modeling (BIM) is defined as “a digital representation of physical and functional characteristics of a facility. A BIM is a shared knowledge resource for information about a facility forming a reliable basis for decisions during its life-cycle; defined as existing from earliest conception to demolition.”

2. Name three potential benefits of BIM.

Answers include any three of the following: Reduction in duplication and errors; Reduction in delays; Accurate & streamlined planning; Improved communications; Early identification of scheduling problems; Increased productivity, efficiency & accountability; Improved OHS.

3. Explain the purpose of openBIM.

Using openBIM systems makes it possible for various stakeholders, who are working on the same project but using different BIM systems, to share files, information and ideas with each other.

4. What is Industry Foundation Classes (IFC) and who developed it?

IFC is a CAD data exchange data schema intended for description of architectural, building and construction industry data. It was developed by BuildingSMART.

5. Is the use of Building Information Modelling only suitable for small projects with a small number of stakeholders? Why/Why not?

No, BIM is suitable for all architectural projects, regardless of size. It can be used on everything from small projects involve only one firm, to the largest project with multiple stakeholders. openBIM and IFC make this possible.

6. Name the two best-known BIM systems on the market today.

- Autodesk Revit - a building information modelling software for architects and structural engineers
- ArchiCAD - an architectural BIM CAD software by Graphisoft