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# Sydney Research Symposium

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Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Construction Innovation



# Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Construction Innovation

- International context of R&D
- Construction Innovation background
  - Current focus
  - Future focus
- Benefits of research in this industry



# International context of R&D



#### **International R&D Performance**





# Gross domestic expenditure on R&D in OECD countries





#### **Construction Innovation Matters**



CRC Construction Innovation

#### **Impact of Construction Productivity Gain**

Growth impact of a one-off productivity improvement in selected sectors (Source: ACIL Tasman, 2005)





### Design, Construction, Property and FM Industry

- Strong multiplier linkages mining and transport
- Macro economic multipliers:
  - a one-off sustained 10% improvement in producivity is assumed in each service sector
  - the construction sector will have the biggest average annual impact on GDP, at 3% over 20 years (2000-2020)
- Construction Sector Contributes 20% of GDP (including FM)
- 1 in 5 dollars generated in the Australian economy is generate by the AEC-FM industry.



#### Design, Construction, Property and FM Industry

- Growing at average rate of 2.6% pa
- Sector income A\$130 billion
- Highly fragmented
  - 230,000 firms employing 730,000 people
  - 94% of businesses employ less than 5 people
- Federal Government Action Agenda clearly supported formation of CRC to service property and construction



# **CRC for Construction Innovation**



#### **Our Vision**



# To lead the Australian property and construction industry in collaboration and innovation



# Participants in the CRC for *Construction Innovation*





#### **CRC Research Space**





#### **Public-Private Partnerships in R&D**

- Build innovative networks of industry, government and research
- Attract and mobilise resources
- Research skills training
- Respond to global challenges with national and international partnerships
- Implementation to make a difference



#### **CRC for Construction Innovation**

- A\$64M in cash and in-kind over 7 years
- Government, industry and research partners
  - 21 participants nationally
  - 400 people involved = 60 EFTS
- Headquartered at QUT in Brisbane
  - 6 centres nationally
- Only one of its kind in construction in Australia
  - Building, Infrastructure and FM



# Creating...a better future through collaboration

**CRC for Construction Innovation** 

International Research Alliance (ICALL)

#### **BuildingSmart IAI**

#### CIB





#### **National Vision**





# **High Impact Benefits**



#### **Relationship Management Course**

**Relationship Management in Project Delivery – 2 day workshop** For those involved in project management and delivery – a practical and applicable approach

#### **Courses rolled out :**

- Oct 06 Qld Dept of Main Roads
- March 07 John Holland Group
- April 07 Qld Dept of Public works

Courses being developed with tailored content

Lang O'Rouke





### Safety - Comparison of fatality incident rates per 100,000 construction industry employees 1998-99 to 2001-01





#### **Safety Statistics - Australia**

- Construction site labour makes up 8% of the Australian workforce but accounts for 15% of all fatalities in the workplace.
- On average one person is killed on a construction site each week in Australia.
- Responsibilities and Core Competencies
- Voluntary Code of Practice
- Training Toolkits
- Performance Assessment Indicators



### **BRITE Project**

- Improve the incidence and quality of innovation in the Australian building, construction and FM companies
- 12 National Case Studies
- National Surveys
- Interviews with 20 of Australia's most innovative contractors
- Over 200 industry publication articles.











# Integrated Digital Modelling (BIM, 3D CAD etc)



# Limitations in Current Industry Practice

- Little support for client requirements/performance or facility briefing
- Lack of integration of facility context for planning, sustainability, code checking compliance, etc
- What are most common design/construction errors?
  - Design errors in construction due to lack of/or poor coordination
- Inadequate support for asset & facility management
  - Where is the asset information for FM?



# Limitations in Current Industry Practice

#### Common grid setting out needed for RJP/FCB/PCS/EPL

Currently, drawings have to be aligned by matching corners of building





# Limitations in Current Industry Practice



**CRC** Construction Innovation

# Information Lifecycle





# Generic Attributes of BIM

- robust geometry objects are described by faithful and accurate geometry, that is measurable
- comprehensive and extensible object properties that expand the meaning of the object - Objects thus can be richly described e.g. a manufacturers' product code, or cost, or date of last service etc.
- semantic richness the model provides for many types of relationships that can be accessed for analysis and simulation e.g. is-contained-in, is-related-to, is-part-of etc.
- integrated information the model holds all information in a single repository ensuring consistency, accuracy and accessibility of data
- life cycle support the model definition supports data over the complete facility life cycle from conception to demolition, extending our current over-emphasis on design and construction phase.



# Strategy for information integration





# **BIM Benefits**

- Faster and more effective processes information is more easily shared, can be value-added and reused
- Better design building proposals can be rigorously analysed, simulations can be performed quickly and performance benchmarked enabling improved and innovative solutions
- Controlled whole life costs and environmental data environmental performance is predictable, life-cycle costs are understood
- Better production quality documentation output is flexible and exploits automation
- Life-cycle data requirements, design, construction and operational information can be utilised in facility management
- Integration of planning and implementation processes government, industry
  and manufacturers have a common data protocol



## **Comfort and Energy simulation**





## **Comfort and Energy simulation**

#### MONTHLY ENERGY CONSUMPTION





# FM Energy Monitoring





# **Construction Over time**

- Progression of construction over time;
- Improves quality of:
  - Simulations
  - Construction Plans
  - Safety
  - Logistics
  - Costs
- Allows professionals to test the design for performance, construction sequences and identify design conflicts.





# Reusing IFC data





# **Business Case for Implementation**

- Allow optimisation of design and construction alternatives
- Project teams are able to produce simulations of different design ideas and schedules quickly and easily
- Delays and changes can be minimised as design work is integrated with construction work
- Eliminates potential problems with constructability, design conflicts, assembly of building components and materials delivered to site.





# **HOW TO IMPLEMENT**

- A new work method/process is required in which more detailed information is supplied early on.
- Allow 3D models to be developed initially instead of having to try to convert 2D data.
- 3D models must allow changes to be made without having to completely reconstruct the model.





# **Future Construction Innovation**



#### **Future Construction Innovation**

Increase in number of participants





#### **Additional Focus of Research**

- Development of a National Standard for Digital Models
- Case Studies of brown field FM sites
- Reducing Disputes
- Safety Performance Indicators
- Collaborations with University of Salford (UK), Stanford University (USA) and Government property owners in Northern Europe and USA.



#### Third International Conference

#### **Clients Driving Innovation: Benefiting from Innovation**

# Demonstrating the benefits of applied research and innovation in the building, infrastructure and FM industry

12 – 14 March 2008

Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort & Spa Gold Coast : Australia

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## Thank You



