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3D interactive model wins project of the year

A digital, 3D interactive model of Sydney's iconic Opera House, which acts as an integrated management tool for the world-famous facility, has been awarded Project of the Year at the 2007 Association of Consulting Engineers Australia (ACEA) Awards for Excellence.

Consulting engineering firm Arup and project partner, CRC for Construction Innovation, were presented with the award as well as the Gold Award of Special Merit in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Projects category.

ACEA chief executive, Megan Motto, said computer-based technology had become an integral part of today's engineering service delivery and the possibilities for application were boundless.

"This is an example of world's best practice in building data representation and shows that Australian firms are leading the way in the burgeoning ICT engineering field," Ms Motto said.

"The use of Building Information Model (BIM) technology sets a new benchmark in the integration of many diverse elements such as structural, architectural, services, plant, facilities, furnishings and equipment information into a comprehensive 3D digital model."

The BIM technology is a facility management aid for the large and complex Sydney Opera House and can be developed to provide a complete visual representation of the building and all its elements including seven theatres, 37 plant rooms, 12 lifts and over 1000 individual rooms.

In awarding the Project of the Year, the ACEA judging panel said the BIM was an exemplar project which had involved a leading national collaboration of researchers to develop a world class management tool for the landmark facility.

By FM Express editor [Marta Wiacek](#)