

ALERT

VA ADOPTION OF BUILDING INFORMATION MODELING (BIM)

A. ISSUE: Use of BIM on VA Capital Projects

B. BACKGROUND: The use of BIM is being rapidly adopted by design, construction, and facility management organizations nationwide. VA will take advantage of the numerous benefits BIM can provide and promote its use throughout VA.

C. DISCUSSION: BIM software uses a relational database to create intelligent building objects which can provide information interchange and 2D, 3D, 4D, & 5D project views. The use of this innovative technology will foster much improved visualization of the design and construction process, improve program tracking, building systems coordination, better manage risk, and ultimately reduce cost, as well as provide data for operation and maintenance during the life cycle of these buildings. The ability to transfer data among software systems using Industry Foundation Class (IFC) protocol means design information can transfer directly for construction and facility management purposes reducing time, money, and errors.

D. NEW STANDARD: VA requires the use of IFC compliant parametric Building Information Modeling (BIM) as the architectural / engineering software for all new major construction and renovation projects starting design in FY 2009. Major construction projects that start design in FY 2008 are also encouraged to use IFC compliant BIM. Major construction includes capital projects appropriated at over \$10M.

E. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact Lloyd H. Siegel (202-565-5900), lloyd.siegel@va.gov, Kurt Knight (202-565-4980), kurt.knight@va.gov, and Renée Tietjen (202-565-8762), renee.tietjen@va.gov.