



ENSURING ACCURATE DATA FOR BIM PROJECTS

The use of BIM is increasing rapidly across the construction sector. By 2016 it will be compulsory for fully collaborative BIM processes to be used on all government projects greater than £5 million in value. The wider industry is adopting BIM as a way to more accurately predict and ensure performance throughout the life of the building; from initial design to operation and even deconstruction. It is suggested that by 2016 over half of UK projects will use the method*. In order to get the best out of BIM, accuracy of product and system objects is essential.

A working group called BIM for Manufacturers and Manufacturing (or BIM4M2), has been created to represent the needs of manufacturers as the industry moves towards the 2016 deadline. The group contains a mix of manufacturers (SMEs and multi-nationals), consultants and content providers, and aims to develop a consistent approach to structuring BIM data across organisations to improve information exchange and asset management. British Gypsum strongly supports the aims of this group as it recognises the importance to the construction industry of having a consistent approach to data structure.

Critical to the realisation of the benefits BIM can bring to the construction industry is the use of BIM objects that are current and updated in real time. To support this, British Gypsum launched the White Book System Selector, which is an online tool designed to help streamline the specification process for construction professionals. It allows specifiers to search and filter through tested British Gypsum plaster, partition, wall lining, encasement and ceiling system solutions to select the right specifications for the job. Building Information Modelling objects (.rvt), CAD (.dwg) drawings, National Building Specification (NBS) Clauses and product and system datasheets (.pdf) are then available to download for the chosen solutions. This



allows specifiers to retrieve important information in a few easy steps. Featuring simple and easy to follow search criteria, familiar to users of the White Book, this tool enables specifiers to filter by a variety of performance requirements, such as fire and acoustics, and be presented with a relevant solution for the job.

The holistic efficiency benefits that the use of BIM can bring to a construction project throughout its entire life can only be realised if accurate data is used, therefore it's vital to include high-quality product information, and where better to get this than direct from the product manufacturer?

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*Competitive Advantage, Adoption of BIM 2013

