

buildingSMART CANADA NEWSLETTER



**SUMMER
2023**

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buildingSMART International Updates

Rome Spring Summit Overview

The buildingSMART International Standards Summit held in Rome was a major event that attracted 725 attendees from 42 countries. The top three countries in terms of attendance were Italy, Japan, and the Netherlands. Co-hosted by the Italian Chapter of buildingSMART, along with 19 sponsors and partners, the summit focused on the theme of "Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Future with openBIM."

The opening session featured impulse talks that discussed the value and benefits of openBIM, IFC 4.3 and IFC 5. Several companies, including ACCA, SierraSoft, and Autodesk, showcased exciting innovations and case studies related to their technologies. The second session, titled "Industry Pioneers Shaping the Future with openBIM," involved a panel of experts in openBIM and digital construction, who explored the impact of digitalization on the asset lifecycle information management process. The third session focused on "Digital Twins: The Three Horizons," with speakers highlighting the significance of standards for digital twins. The final session, titled "A Strategic View from Asset Owners," emphasized the importance of open standards, data governance, and openBIM in the industry. During the following two days, the summit featured the Italian National Conference in the main auditorium, as well as various individual Room sessions, shared sessions, masterclasses, workshops, and roundtables.





The Italian Conference specifically outlined the core objectives of the Chapter and discussed future opportunities, such as Professional Certification and International Affairs. The Rooms covered a wide range of topics, including Airport, Building, Construction, Electrical, Infrastructure, Product, Railway, Regulatory, and Technical. Although each Domain had its own program and agenda, a common theme among them was the increasing demand for supporting services for the standards being developed. The masterclasses and workshops offered sessions on IDS, workshops on Law@BIM, hands-on activities where attendees built a bSDD, and practical demonstrations of bSDD through real-world examples.



On the final day of the summit, leaders from each Room session provided summaries, updates, reflections, and future plans. The bSDD remained a central topic of discussion, with conversations revolving around its use cases and ongoing and future developments. To watch videos of the sessions and access presentation materials, [visit the conference page here.](#)



The summit concluded with a sign-off and handover to the Norwegian Chapter, who will be hosting the next summit from September 18 - 21, 2023! The next edition of the buildingSMART International Standards Summit will be held in Lillestrøm, Norway with specific focuses on digital products and the openBIM workflows. This summit will explore critical aspects that are shaping the industry today, emphasizing the importance of digitization, data analysis, and taking action to create a sustainable future. [Learn more about the Norway Summit here.](#)

International Council Chapter Conference Highlights



Claudia Cozzitorto and Bill Moore joined delegates from 30 countries in a recently concluded two-day buildingSMART International Council Chapter Conference which brought together industry leaders, delegates, and representatives from 30 countries in Brdo, Slovenia. This annual general meeting served as a platform for Chapters to share successes, address challenges, and shape the future of buildingSMART. Over the course of two days, attendees engaged in a series of informative sessions, updates, and collaborative discussions. Here are some highlights:



Day 1 of the conference commenced with strategic updates from the bSI CEO and directors, covering the annual report, financials, and the revised mission, vision, and purpose which will be available on the bSC website soon. In the meantime, you can access the [buildingSMART International Annual Report 2022 here](#). Notably, it was announced that the buildingSMART Information Delivery Standard (IDS) had been submitted to ISO as a draft candidate standard, reflecting a significant milestone in advancing international open standards.

The addition of two new Chapters, Brazil and India further highlighted the global expansion of buildingSMART International (bSI). bSI also introduced the Accelerator Programme pilot, offering customizable workflows and services to enhance organizations' digital processes. bSI is offering Proof of Concept (PoC) workflows for the buildingSMART Data Dictionary (bSDD) domain, Validation Service, Information Delivery Specification (IDS), and other workflows connected to Industry Foundation Classes (IFC) as services offered. The standards and services can be customised by clients to meet their needs, and a long-term strategy is in place for this programme to be made accessible through the Chapter network.

Day 1 came to a close with the conclusion of board elections, which brought about some changes. Patrick MacLeamy announced his retirement, making way for Ian Howell from buildingSMART USA to assume the position of the new Chair. Additionally, Jugal Makwana was reappointed, and Christina Hvid was welcomed as a new member to the board. Later in the evening, the International Council Dinner commenced with a remarkable cello tribute to MacLeamy, performed by Rasso Steinman from bS Germany. This was followed by a series of heartfelt tributes acknowledging MacLeamy's significant contributions.



Day 2 of the conference featured engaging presentations from Chapters worldwide such as Slovenia, Finland, Singapore, and China, who shared updates on their countries' activities, including new BIM mandates and innovative projects. The importance of effective collaboration between buildingSMART International and its Chapters was emphasized, with Chapters providing feedback on enhancing connectivity within the Chapter community. A workshop led by the CEO, Clive Billiald, generated valuable suggestions to strengthen collaboration and improve networking. Additionally, Leon van Berlo delivered a compelling session on the buildingSMART openBIM ecosystem, demonstrating how various components work together to support open and interoperable processes. This presentation will be repeated at the bSC conference in November. The day concluded with roundtable discussions focused on the major challenges facing Chapters today, fostering collaborative problem-solving and knowledge sharing.



The International Council Chapter Conference was a resounding success, empowering Chapter delegates to stay informed about the latest developments within buildingSMART International. Through updates, elections, and collaborative discussions, attendees actively shaped the future of buildingSMART, reinforcing the organization's commitment to advancing open standards and promoting digital transformation across the international architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) industry.

Strategic Member Round Up

buildingSMART Canada Strategic Members are organizations interested in supporting and advocating the goals and objectives of bSC in driving the adoption of BIM and openBIM standards in the digitalization of the built asset industry in Canada of bSC and connected to achieve bSC goals. Learn more about Strategic Memberships [here](#).

RESCON

RESCON, the Residential Construction Council of Ontario, is playing a crucial role in driving significant change within the development approvals process. As a sponsor of the bSC research project titled "Streamlining Development Approvals: A review of processes, requirements, metrics, and opportunities," RESCON is actively working towards reducing the time it takes to initiate construction projects.

Led by David Amborski, a professor in the School of Urban and Regional Planning at Toronto Metropolitan University, the project aims to gain a better understanding of the processes, key metrics, and their impact on land use. By identifying and measuring these metrics, authorities can make adjustments to streamline the development approvals process. The project will also explore the intrinsic link between land use policy, development, real estate trends, and demographics. With their expertise in residential construction and a strong commitment to driving meaningful change, RESCON is enthusiastic about transforming the development approvals process to expedite the construction of much-needed housing.



Richard Lyall,
RESCON President



David Amborski,
Professor



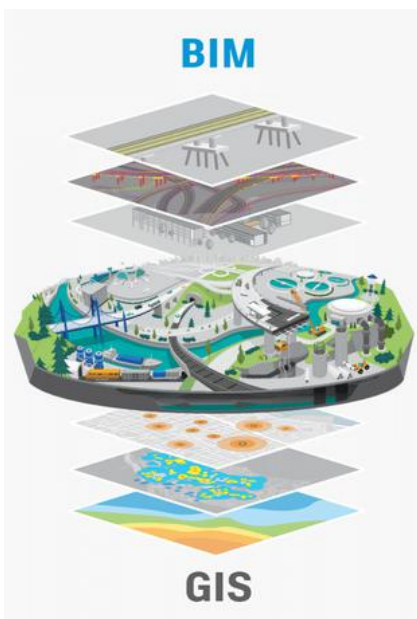
NOTARIUS

With over a quarter-century of experience, Notarius has made providing professional digital signatures its mission. Committed to compliance, reliability, and data integrity, Notarius has joined forces with the Portage CyberTech family to enhance their digital solutions for public and private sector partners. By integrating their professional digital signatures into a comprehensive portfolio of digital tools built with privacy by design principles, Notarius aims to facilitate the responsible acceleration of Building Information Modeling (BIM) research. They firmly believe that BIM presents a unique opportunity to improve infrastructure, protect data integrity, and establish proper use of digital identities, ensuring the public's protection. Notarius is proud to strengthen their commitment to building responsible standards for data integrity and professional compliance alongside their partners at buildingSMART Canada.



Patrick Drolet,
CEO of Notarius

AECO



AECO Innovation Lab is actively engaged in various bSC research projects, including BIM+GIS Interoperability, Digital Twin Readiness Index (DTRI), and Digital Twin Use Cases. The BIM+GIS Interoperability project explores the integration of BIM and GIS data structures, emphasizing the importance of mixing these data silos for City Information Models and Digital Twins, while relying on openBIM and openGIS. The Digital Twin Readiness Index (DTRI) tool aims to bridge digital infrastructure gaps for owners by providing guidance and preparation strategies for the planning, procurement, delivery, and utilization of digital twins. Lastly, The Digital Twin Use Cases project investigates how BIM and digital twins can effectively impact the entire building lifecycle, from planning and development approvals to the efficient management of built assets.

Currently, the BIM+GIS Interoperability and Digital Twin Use Cases projects are nearing completion, with their research reports in the final stages of preparation. AECO is eagerly anticipating the release of these reports, which will provide valuable insights to help advance digital transformation across Canada.

buildingSMART Canada National Summit

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the Canadian chapter of / le chapitre Canadien de buildingSMART International



THE BUILDINGS SHOW

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NOV 29 - DEC 1 2023
METRO TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE



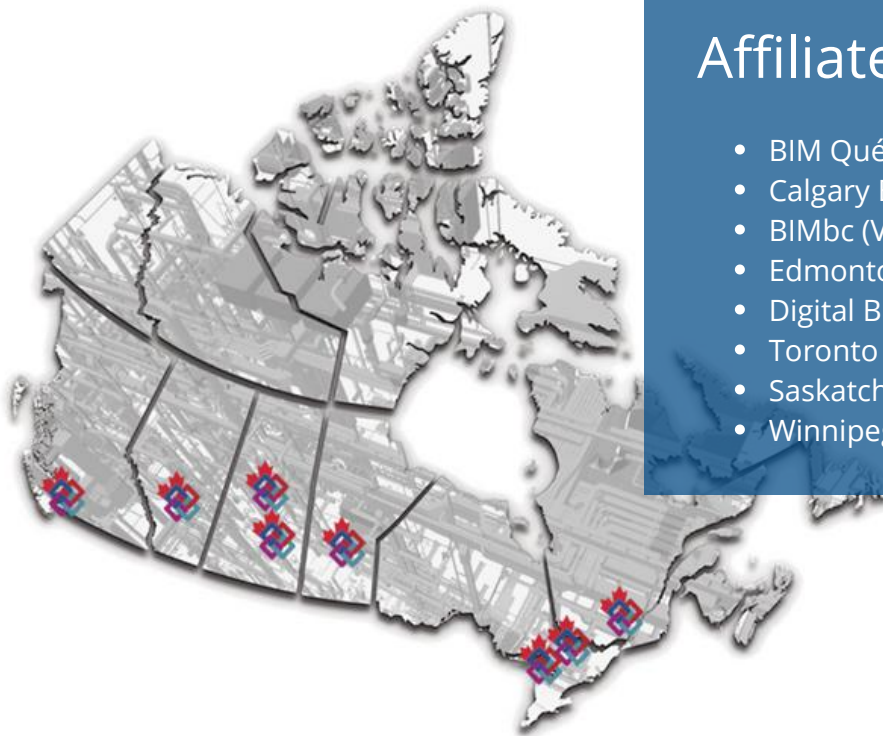
We're happy to announce that the buildingSMART National Summit will be held in Toronto, Ontario on November 28 - December 1 at The Buildings Show!

For 35 years, The Buildings Show has united the Canadian building industry, delivering cutting-edge content, expert-led seminars, and innovative building solutions. That's why buildingSMART Canada has partnered with The Buildings Show to jointly drive Canada's built environment forward towards digital advancement. [Subscribe to the bSC mailing list](#) for exciting updates and registration details as we get closer to the event!



Affiliate Updates

buildingSMART Canada's affiliate program connects local and regional BIM communities from across the country. United by their goal to build and strengthen the Canadian community for a better built environment, the affiliates help support innovative project delivery practices based on openBIM standards.



Affiliates across Canada

- BIM Québec
- Calgary BIM Community (cBIMc)
- BIMbc (Vancouver/Victoria)
- Edmonton BIM Community
- Digital Built National Capitol Region (Ottawa)
- Toronto BIM Community
- Saskatchewan BIM Community
- Winnipeg BIM Community

The affiliates are actively preparing for upcoming summer and fall events, including the tBIMc Networking Event in August, BIMQuebec's Social and Economic Impact event in June, and the BIMQuebec Back to School Event in September.

Recently, the Winnipeg BIM Community organized a successful Hybrid event on June 7th. The event focused on a round-table discussion centered around the role of AEC Technicians in the modern design process. This topic was also presented at BILT in Dallas by one of the committee members, Jason Peters. Additionally, there are plans for an OpenBIM presentation in September, aiming to raise awareness about OpenBIM workflows and the ISO 19650 Process at a broader level.

In the background, the Affiliates committee is actively engaged in reviewing the various BIM positions and titles across Canada. They are exploring the differences between regions and the diverse roles within the AEC industry. The affiliates are eagerly looking forward to updating everyone on the exciting developments and insights gained from these upcoming events and committee activities!

Learning with bSI:

Enhancing Information Delivery in BIM Projects through IDS and bSDD Implementation

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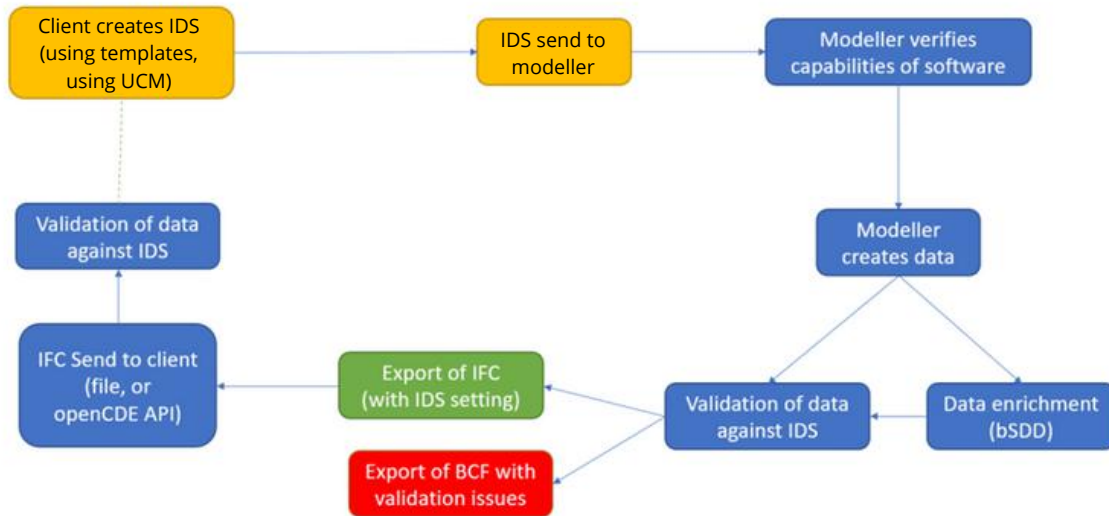
In the previous newsletter, we highlighted the importance of Information Delivery Specification (IDS) within the built asset industry. In this article, we will delve deeper into the significance of IDS, why it should be used in projects, and how to effectively implement IDS using the buildingSMART Data Dictionary (bSDD). IDS, as a buildingSMART standard, simplifies the process of defining Information Requirements (IR) and promotes clarity, collaboration, and standardized exchange within the BIM environment.



With the implementation of ISO 19650, IR and Level of Information Need are receiving more attention in the AEC industry. Traditional methods such as text-based documents and spreadsheets lack the structured approach required for efficient information transmission in the digital age. This is where IDS steps in to provide a machine-readable way to author and validate non-geometrical IR. As previously discussed, IDS provides clear guidelines for organizing, structuring, and exchanging information throughout the project lifecycle. By adhering to IDS, project stakeholders can achieve consistent and reliable information exchange, resulting in improved collaboration and enhanced interoperability among different software tools and systems.

bSDD is an online service that hosts classifications, properties, and their translations, providing standardized terminology for BIM objects. When implementing IDS, referring to bSDD ensures the use of standardized terms and definitions, fostering a common language and understanding among project participants.

During IDS implementation, information requirements are mapped to the appropriate terms in bSDD. This mapping process establishes consistency and clarity in communication by utilizing standardized terminology. Leveraging bSDD also enables easy access and organization of construction data, making it more readily available to project stakeholders.



bSDD uses naming concepts that are defined in different languages. In bSDD, each term or concept is given a unique number, a Globally Unique ID (GUID). bSDD's utilization of GUIDs facilitates cross-language understanding and mitigates the impact of language barriers. Even if objects are named in a foreign language, individuals can comprehend their meaning by referring to the GUIDs. This feature enhances collaboration and ensures effective communication across language boundaries.

Implementation of IDS and the use of bSDD bring numerous benefits to BIM projects. IDS facilitates seamless integration of data from various sources and software tools. IDS also enables machine-readable requirements, promoting automation and interoperability. Leveraging bSDD allows for accurate translation of property names, descriptions, values, and units between different languages, further enhancing communication efficiency.

In conclusion, implementing IDS using bSDD in BIM projects can greatly help in achieving consistent information exchange, standardized terminology, and improved collaboration. While IDS provides the necessary guidelines, bSDD offers standardized terms and definitions, ensuring clarity, interoperability, and accessibility of information throughout the project lifecycle.

Learn more on the buildingSMART International website [here](#).



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