

## PRESS RELEASE

*The 5D Initiative and the BIMForum have entered into a strategic and mutually rewarding dialogue that bridges the Atlantic gap between Europe and the USA. In an effort to strengthen their respective positions as leading initiatives for accelerating the development and adoption of BIM/VDC/5D-solutions, a common understanding of what BIM/VCD/5D ought be and what extant developments can help overcome current industry challenges, has been created.*

**Constance, Germany. May 21<sup>st</sup> of 2012** – Trans-Atlantic relations have ever been an important connection for economical, scientific and technological advancements. Hence the current dialogue between the 5D Initiative (5Di) and the BIMForum is an inevitable corollary of the growing need for change and model-based construction processes that can support the increasing complexity and demands of the industry. Seeing model-based methods as the foundation upon which prospective solutions for truly lean-principles, sustainable approaches and integrated processes can be built, both initiatives strive to propel the adoption and development of these model-based methods in the industry.

The 5D Initiative is an independent task-force within the ENCORD the European network of construction companies for research and development. The 5D Initiative pro-actively aims at accelerating and coordinating the development of tailor-made software solutions that comply with specific contextual process requirements of general contractors. This construction industry-driven approach is steadily gaining momentum; one by one software vendors are starting to partner up with the 5D Initiative to intensively discuss and debate industry challenges and software solutions, seeing the value of what they called “the most in-depth and concise documentation on construction processes currently available”.

The BIMForum realises this goal by facilitating and accelerating the adoption of building information modelling through joint best practice development, synchronisation with counterparts in all sectors of the industry, leading by example and sharing experiences. With 10 sub-forums addressing each relevant industry sector and topic, approximately three conferences a year and over 50 core members, the BIMForum constitutes by far the largest American platform for voicing the needs and interests of general contractors and sharing lessons learned from practical experience.

“Although our approaches are different, the aims we have and the future we envision for the construction industry are the same. This common understanding combined with the difference in approach constitutes the advantage of working together”, stated Konstantinos Kessoudis, Chair of the 5D Initiative. “The BIMForum, by increasing industry awareness of currently applicable solutions through open forums and best practices, can help the 5D Initiative in identifying new areas where software solutions can alleviate workload. The 5D Initiative’s formulation of industry requirements, on the other hand, helps software vendors develop 5Di solutions for industry challenges, which consequentially creates opportunities for new best practice examples that help the BIMForum accelerate the adoption of VDC-methods.”

“The BIMForum is excited to establish this relationship with 5Di. Our organisations share a common passion for dramatic process improvement through advanced Building Information Modelling (BIM) and collaborative project delivery. We are extremely impressed with the technological horsepower and thoughtfulness of 5Di’s members. The careful fusing of our separate initiatives combined with active and open exchange of research & development assets will drive adoption across both hemispheres. And combining our joint networks will deliver huge improvements in building quality, construction efficiency, and sustainability. And this is, quite simply, long overdue.”, John Tocci Sr.

Given the common understanding and a shared vision on objectives and goals, the 5D Initiative and the BIMForum have concurred that establishing a sustainable and foremost pro-active dialogue, will benefit both initiatives in achieving their goals. This new found opportunity for collaboration will strengthen and hopefully inspire further growth and cooperation of trans-Atlantic initiatives unifying and synchronising initiatives to propel the adoption and development of model-based processes on a global level.