

13 December 2018

Peak body for Building Information Modelling releases guidelines to drive a consistent approach to improved efficiencies and productivity in the building and construction industry through digitalisation

The Chair of ABAB Dr Michael Green, who is the Executive Director, Employment, Investment and Trade Policy, Victorian Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources said:

“The benefits to governments from using Building Information Modelling (BIM) in will be dramatic, because they are significant players in the construction and operation of assets for public use.”

“Through BIM, transformational innovation across the supply chain in the design, construction and operation of assets is possible.”

The European BIM Taskforce says reports forecast that the wider adoption of BIM will unlock 15–25% savings to the global infrastructure market by 2025. In its 2014 report into public infrastructure, the Productivity Commission recommended the use of BIM on complex infrastructure projects.

By way of an example, \$3.75 billion in savings could be realised from the current Australian Government’s \$75 billion 10-year infrastructure investment program if the wider adoption of BIM delivered a conservative 5% savings. That is enough to cover half of the Western Sydney Airport project, or to provide for another high priority infrastructure project.

Through the Australasian BIM Advisory Board (ABAB), two ground breaking guidelines now available to both the public and private sectors to drive a consistent approach to the adoption of BIM through the design, construction and operation of an asset are.

BIM Process Consistency: Towards a Common Framework for Digital design, Construction and Operation will help governments and industry adopt, implement and align the use of BIM on public projects. This will lead to increased productivity and competitiveness, greater quality control, and support for small and medium enterprises in transitioning to the new BIM environment. It will help governments provide better public services and better value for public expenditure.

Asset Information Requirements Guide – Information required for the operation of an asset will assist clients and their consultants to define their information requirements in order to take advantage of BIM’s capacity to capture and deliver data for the effective long-term management of assets.

These guidance materials are publically available at: www.abab.net.au/projects/.

The BIM Advisory Board was established by the Australasian Procurement and Construction Council (APCC) and the Australian Construction Industry Forum (ACIF), together with the key standard-setting bodies, NATSPEC, buildingSMART and Standards Australia. The Board links industry leaders and expertise from government, industry and academia, promoting best practice and consistent approaches to BIM practices, standards and requirements.

The Australian construction sector is the largest non-services sector of the Australian economy, accounting for 14% of GDP and nearly 10% of total employment. In 2017-2018, the building and construction work activity grew to \$247 billion. The sector employs 1.1 million Australians with a further 100,000 jobs projected to be added by the sector over the next five years.

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Refer to: www.ABAB.net.au