

**BUILDING INFORMATION MODELING: AN INFORMATIONAL TOOL FOR STAKEHOLDERS****Document Information:**

Title: **Building Information Modeling: An Informational Tool for Stakeholders**

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Abstract: The evolving concepts of building information modeling (BIM) can serve as a vehicle for improving building design, as well as operability, maintenance and safety. The aim of BIM is to use computable data to capture and coordinate customer, user and market requirements and to develop cost-effective design and technical requirements. Its adoption, therefore, is contingent on the need for well-defined and widely applicable processes, particularly in the project definition phase, that will improve decision-making, reduce cost, and enhance stakeholders' involvement in building projects. The product definition phase of buildings and building assets determines their quality, cost, and reliability. However, often the definition phase depicted on drawings (pictorial non-aggregatable data) and in text, or verbally is not clear to many stakeholders and changes that they may want are difficult to visualize. With BIM, changes, like in a spreadsheet, can quickly lead to new visual outcomes that can improve and synchronize designers and stakeholders' understanding of the initiative. BIM should also allow for stakeholders ex-ante (before design) and ex-post (after design) virtual evaluations of building initiatives prior to implementation.

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