

Bamco Architects Implement Autodesk® Revit® Building



Acuity Technology Center Addition -
The University of Wisconsin-Sheboygan

→ THE CLIENT

Bamco Architects is an award-winning architectural firm based in Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

→ THE SOLUTION

Their goal was to improve internal methods and provide their clients with an exceptional level of communication and interaction during the design process. The question was whether or not switching to Autodesk Revit Building was truly going to be the best way to achieve their objectives.

→ DESIRED OUTCOME

Bamco was in the process of trying to land a high-profile contract that would be their largest and most prestigious to date—the sophisticated new Acuity Technology Center addition for UW Sheboygan. Bamco's personnel assured their clients that they would provide an interactive design process that included web-based access to design development, frequent 3D walk-throughs, and high quality renderings as the design evolved. These factors were later given as key reasons they were selected as the architectural firm for the project.

→ THE SOLUTION

With little time to waste, Bamco and IMAGINiT placed a high priority on getting the new software installed and implemented. Randy Froehling, one of IMAGINiT's Architectural Industry Specialists, worked closely with Bamco to develop an aggressive in-house implementation and training schedule.

→ ACTUAL RESULTS

Throughout the design process, Bamco was pleased to exceed the customer's expectations by showing them 3D walk-throughs, making changes on-the-fly "in plan", and immediately reflecting those changes back to them in a medium that was visually powerful and easy to understand.

Due to the capabilities of Revit 3D, design conflicts were uncovered allowing them to make some easy design changes that immediately resolved those challenges. Project Manager, Dan Bayer stated, "If these issues hadn't been caught early on, the project would have required some major re-design work, resulting in additional fees for re-engineering and increased building construction costs adding up to nearly \$20,000." Another big potential cost overrun was avoided for similar reasons. As a result of utilizing the area tool in Revit to double check the square footage of the layout, which Bamco was given to follow, a discovery was made. The proposed layout was actually 8,000 square feet more than the amount used to estimate the building's cost. With a facility that cost over \$100 per square foot, this could easily have caused an over-budget situation, in excess of \$100,000. "Using our previous software technology and processes, it's unlikely we would have caught the problem until we got to the construction document stage, meaning it would have had a significant impact on nearly all the other sub-trades on the job," admitted John.

"From a technical standpoint, we could see the advantage and value of Revit; but the question was, 'how could the client, from their perspective, comprehend the value of this technology? We asked ourselves how the investment and change we were making could create clear value for our clients. If we had to tell the client we were making changes and it wasn't apparent to them why, there wasn't any value. All of this is not about technology; it's about developing and providing exceptional value to our clients," concluded Bamco's CEO, Bob Jagermann.