

autodesk®

## Autodesk Revit Gives JBHM the Edge

### Architecture Firm Upgrades Design Software and Sees Results Fast

Johnson Bailey Henderson McNeel (JBHM) Architects is a full-service architectural firm with five offices throughout Mississippi. Serving the educational, hospitality, retail, and healthcare markets, the firm has 62 architects, designers, and technical personnel on staff. Previously using another design and documentation software, JBHM decided to upgrade their design software to the **Autodesk® Revit®** building information modeler. The firm now has 27 stand-alone licenses of the software and, after a successful trial with the building information modeling approach, is now standardizing on Revit. JBHM has used Revit for about 15 projects, ranging in size from 5,000 square feet to 140,000 square feet, most of which are now in or nearing construction.



*"Since integrating Autodesk Revit into our document production, we've been able to cut on average one entire week of the coordination of the construction documentation. This increases our productivity by 30 percent."*

—Richard McNeel, Partner,  
Johnson Bailey Henderson  
McNeel Architects

#### Eliminating Cross-Referencing and Coordinating Details

After reviewing other building design solutions, JBHM chose Autodesk Revit because of its intuitive interface and the fact that it included modeling and rendering in a single package. "Since integrating Autodesk Revit into our document production, we've been able to cut on average one entire week of the coordination of the construction documentation," says Richard McNeel, Partner with JBHM. "This increases our productivity by 30 percent, which would have been spent cross-checking and coordinating detail and section tags. Another key benefit is that with DWG compatibility, we can easily collaborate with partners and team members."

#### Change It Once

Autodesk Revit helps reduce the pain of last-minute changes and ensure that documents are always coordinated. The software's parametric technology enables JBHM designers to make a change anywhere, anytime. "Using Autodesk Revit, our drawings are more accurate, and it's much, much faster to make changes," says McNeel. Because every drawing sheet, view, and schedule is a direct representation of the same underlying building information, JBHM designers can make a change in one place, and Revit updates the rest of the model accordingly. The result, says McNeel, is better quality work.

# Johnson Bailey Henderson McNeel Architects

## Rendering Helps Answer Questions Before They Become Problems

For a 10-story renovation of a 1930s era building with no existing electronic files, JBHM put everything in Autodesk Revit as as-builts. "It helped us tremendously to look at the building three dimensionally," says McNeel. "We were able to resolve a lot of problems early on." In addition, "The rendering has been great for us in terms of turning corners and resolving details on buildings. Our work is more accurate because of that."

## Nothing Is Lost

An important benefit for JBHM is that the effort put into visualization for successive phases of a project is not lost. All information used for visualization is also used in design and construction documents, reducing errors and saving the firm time and money. "We were able to run several scenarios and then actually have that work be part of our growing document set," says McNeel. "Instead of solving problems in another program and then having to redraw everything, in Revit, nothing is lost."

## Colony Crossing

One of the largest projects that JBHM has designed in Autodesk Revit is the 140,000-square-foot Colony Crossing retail project,

currently under construction in Madison, Mississippi. The development also includes out-parcel buildings, which were designed in Revit as well.

A big plus for the Colony Crossing project was the software's workset capability, says McNeel. With branches in five cities, JBHM designers in different offices needed to work on the building model simultaneously. With worksets, team members were able to work together on the shared, central model, while the software automatically coordinated all changes.

The benefits for project workflow and the client relationship are also clear. "We were able to use 3D views and the rendering tools to show our client more about what the buildings were going to look like, and able to resolve a number of details three dimensionally. We were also able to organize our drawings better. We were very, very pleased with Revit," says McNeel.

## Implementation Services and Training

Because time was of the essence for JBHM, Autodesk Consulting worked closely with the company to develop and fast-track an Autodesk Revit software training deployment methodology for users in five offices

simultaneously. Autodesk Consulting guided JBHM to determine project staffing and helped to target key pilot projects that would result in early wins for their design teams. A customized and comprehensive on-site training program was created that not only addressed JBHM's unique time constraints, but also left time for follow-up support and project implementation. Just two months into deployment and implementation, JBHM was using Revit on three new projects.

## Autodesk Revit Gives JBHM the Competitive Advantage with Clients

Specifically designed for building information modeling, Autodesk Revit gives JBHM improved coordination and quality and more time to focus on design. And their clients like the results. Autodesk Revit is contributing to JBHM's success in turning existing clients into repeat clients. And with repeat business clocking in at 75 percent, the results are quantifiable. The increase in quality and productivity "puts us head and shoulders above our competitors," says Tom Taylor, JBHM designer.

To learn more, visit [www.autodesk.com/revit](http://www.autodesk.com/revit).

**autodesk**<sup>®</sup>

**Autodesk, Inc.**  
111 McInnis Parkway  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
USA

Autodesk and Revit are registered trademarks of Autodesk, Inc., in the USA and/or other countries. All other brand names, product names, or trademarks belong to their respective holders.

© 2004 Autodesk, Inc. All rights reserved.

00000000000114385