

Building Information Modelling (BIM)

What is BIM?

BIM embeds key product and asset data and a 3 dimensional computer model that can be used for management of information throughout a project lifecycle. The Government is requiring the use of Building Information Modelling (BIM, with 'Maturity Level 2') by 2016 for centrally procured projects. But the private sector is increasingly demanding it as well.

What does it mean for manufacturers?

All BIM users need product data and many are already demanding it from manufacturers. CIBSE is developing a number of standardised product data templates (PDTs). The aim is have standardised data formats. This data file will accompany the 3D model of your product or of a generic 'storage cylinder'.

A PDT is a standard 'questionnaire' for each equipment type. Each PDT aims to anticipate the information sought by every party – from specification through operations to decommissioning and replacement. The data produced just once for a manufacturer's product will feed many needs - consultant ... contractor ... CoBIE commissioning building operator and will provide a standardised detail that is required to meet the standards set by such things as BS 1192 <http://bimtalk.co.uk/standards>.

PDTs are written in Excel format and are usable with all BIM platforms - so manufacturers do not need to grapple with multiple versions of software for Level 2 BIM.

When a manufacturer completes a PDT it becomes a PRODUCT DATA SHEET (PDS) – a 'digital' description of the product. Subject to respecting the terms of use of the PDT, the manufacturer owns the PDS and is free to use it on its website and in any library it chooses. The manufacturer remains responsible for the accuracy and completeness of its data on the PDS, in the normal way.

Further information

Published PDTs: <http://www.cibse.org/Knowledge/BIM-Building-Information-Modelling/Published-PDTs>

PDTs currently out for Public Consultation: <http://www.cibse.org/Knowledge/BIM-Building-Information-Modelling/Product-Data-Templates/PDTs-currently-out-for-Public-Consultation>

PDT Proposed list: <http://www.cibse.org/Knowledge/BIM-Building-Information-Modelling/PDT-Proposed-List>

PDT FAQs: [http://www.cibse.org/Knowledge/BIM-Building-Information-Modelling/Product-Data-Templates-\(PDTs\)-FAQs](http://www.cibse.org/Knowledge/BIM-Building-Information-Modelling/Product-Data-Templates-(PDTs)-FAQs)

General info on BIM: <http://www.cibse.org/knowledge/bim-building-information-modelling>

A central BIM information website: <http://bimtalk.co.uk/>

PDT help and information sheet: <http://www.cibse.org/getmedia/6a8ee5a3-ead-48a5-b63f-5bf344d49d89/Product-Data-Templates-Guidance-Note.pdf.aspx>