

buildingSMARTalliance™

A council of the National Institute of Building Sciences
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January 27, 2009

To whom this may concern,

The purpose of this letter is to express the support of the National Institute of Building Sciences and the buildingSMART alliance, a council of the Institute for the "Open Floor Plan Display" project.

This project, which has the goal of seeking a common operating picture for emergency response, is an important, some would say critical opportunity to use information collected and sustained in a building information model for first responders.

The buildingSMART alliance, based on its enabling legislation serves to bring together various stakeholders to share open standard information through various forms of interoperability throughout the facilities and related industries.

This project represents, in terms based on ISO/PAS 16739, a model view of the building information model. Many stakeholders deal with facilities and an essential part of any effort is to provide accurate specific information as defined by the appropriate stakeholders. In addition, as stakeholders change a facility over time business processes should be in place to ensure that the information is sustained. Otherwise, the first responder will not have accurate information when needed. It should be noted however, that information from a building information model that is accurate at handover and not sustained is still far better than most of the information available today to first responders.

In order to be successful on this project information exchanges need to be defined and the model views be developed and standardized so that a true open standard common operating picture can be developed. It is essential that the National BIM Standard be used for this effort to ensure eventual interoperability and our best chance for information sustainability.

Sincerely,



Dana K. Smith, FAIA
Executive Director