This report is intended to review the current state of standards in the 3d Imaging industry based on responses and opinions from stakeholders within the building documentation industry.
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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I am pleased to present to you the sixth issue of the USIBD’s Cornerstone Report. This issue of the Cornerstone Report is an overview on Industry Standards. There are many organizations that have developed and are developing Standards for the Industry.

I would like to share with you a section out of our recent USIBD 2015 2nd Quarter Newsletter that was written by our Standards Committee Chair, Carlos Velazquez. I think he sums up quite nicely the argument in favor of Standards.

Standards ... are simply a foundation for which work can be done efficiently. Think about what our world would look like if Chevy, Ford, Honda and every other vehicle manufacturer didn't use the English or Metric standards for bolt sizes. Instead they decided to create custom bolts and tools for their custom bolts. Now we have to buy every vehicle manufacturers tools to work on our vehicle. What if every state used different colors for their traffic lights? What would you do when the purple light showed up? The point is that we need standards to evolve areas we see value in. The only way this happens is if stakeholders with an invested interest decide to do something. Welcome to USIBD and why we exist.

Building documentation is a distinct industry and is still in an early stage of development. As the various Stakeholders with an interest in building documentation come together and share their collective knowledge and experiences we all benefit. This is the purpose of the Cornerstone Report.

Inside this issue you’ll learn who is investing in Standards development and whether respondents feel as though Standards are helping or hurting. This report will uncover whether respondents are actually using Standards and which stakeholder is the most influential when it comes to setting Standards. And yes, you’ll find out how the recently released USIBD Standards Documents were received.

We hope you will continue to participate in future Cornerstone Report surveys as well as invite your friends and colleagues to participate as well. On behalf of the USIBD’s Board of Directors and the Technology Committee, we hope you will enjoy this issue of the USIBD’S Cornerstone Report.

John M. Russo, AIA
President, USIBD
May 5, 2015
INTERPRETATION OF DATA

Interpretation of Data

1) WHICH INDUSTRIES ARE REPRESENTED IN THIS REPORT?

- We saw a good turnout for this report with a nice variety of stakeholders presented, this graphic shows the spread of groups that have contributed.

![Survey Respondants](image1.png)

2) BASED ON THE RESPONDENTS, WHO’S INVESTED IN STANDARDS?

- A big showing from management and above, with over 85% of the respondents representing this category.

![Bar Chart](image2.png)
3) ARE WE AWARE OF A PREVALENT EXISTING STANDARD IN THE INDUSTRY?

- Survey says... No. A huge group of us (73%) don't believe that there is a well-known standard available. There is hope though, several comments recognize the lack of a common place document but reference work being done by BIMForum, USIBD and BuildingSMART Alliance.

4) WHEN WE’RE DEVELOPING INTERNAL STANDARDS, WHERE DO WE GO FOR SUPPORT?

- 6 one way, half a dozen the other. We’re about evenly split between developing these in house or going outside for help. While those going outside seldom look for the help of a consultant – only 6% of us have outsourced this work to a consultancy, 39% refer to existing documents and the rest work on our own.

5) WHEN WE KNOW ABOUT A STANDARD, DO WE USE IT?

- A lot of us do. When we recognize a standard, we’re apt to use it with 72% reporting to using the standard that they’re aware of.

6) SO, ARE THE STANDARDS HELPING OR HURTING US?

- No one thinks they hurt us, but almost 20% don’t feel that they have any impact. Although most aren’t aware of a prevalent standard, there’s a good showing of support with 80% stating that the existing ones do have a positive impact on us.
7) DO THE STANDARDS WE USE NEED BETTER DEFINITION?

- YES! Over 90% of the responses are in favor of better definition. One response specifically called into question the relationship of ambiguity to acceptance.

8) WHO DO WE THINK IS DOING THE BEST JOB OF SETTING STANDARDS?

- Interesting results here...
  - Asset owners – Asset owners
  - Contractor – Asset Owners, Architect, Survey, Service Providers
  - Architect – Architects
  - Engineers – Contractors and Architects
  - Surveyors – 50% feel that they’re taking care of within the geospatial community, but the other half give credit to everyone else pretty evenly
  - Service Providers – 50% claim that Service Providers do the best job, the rest are a healthy spread across the board

9) WHO DOES THE INDUSTRY VIEW AS A LEADER IN STANDARDS?

- The largest amount of credit for leading the standardization of building documentation is given to the Architects. There might be something to that judging by the following question.
11) WHO’S THE MOST LIKELY TO KNOW ABOUT AVAILABLE STANDARDS?

- Architects lead the way here with 50% of the respondents being aware of standards in the industry. An interesting metric is that 0% of the Owners are aware of a standard to use or deploy. The rest of the industry is fairly even in their awareness – coming in anywhere between 25% and 30% aware.

12) WHO DO WE THINK HAS THE MOST INFLUENCE IN MANDATING STANDARDS?

- Asset owners are the clear leader with almost twice as many votes at the runner up – service providers.

13) HOW DOES THE LEADER FEEL ABOUT THEIR INFLUENTIAL POSITION?

- It turns out, everyone agrees. Asset owners understand their position and the runner up for most influential, the service providers, feel the same way. Asset owners are the most influential group when it comes to standards.

14) IS THE USIBD DOING THEIR PART?

- It appears that the USIBD is developing standards that are being recognized within the industry. A majority of respondents are aware of the different documents with more than 75% of us recognizing the most recent release.

15) WHICH USIBD DOCUMENT IS GETTING THE MOST ATTENTION?

- With over 1,400 downloads, USIBD documents are definitely getting attention. The most popular of the downloads is the Level of Accuracy, but only just barely; it was only 10% more popular than the runner up – 3D Imaging Specification.
16) WHO’S READY TO COMMIT?

- Almost a given because of its popularity, the Level of Accuracy Spec is the most likely to be implemented. A close second is the 3D Imaging Spec, with the two other coming in at a tie for third with 40% of us ready to implement.

17) AT THE END OF THE DAY, HOW IMPORTANT DO WE THINK STANDARDS ARE ANYWAY?

- In an amazing turnout, 97% of us feel that standards are important to our industry.

18) WHO ARE WE WILLING TO LISTEN TO?

- This is important to understand, the respondent group was a representation of our industry and not just from the USIBD… #1 recognized resource that we’re willing to adhere to is the USIBD. The next in line would be the Government/University and followed by a three way tie between the BuildingSMART Alliance, BIMForum and BOMA.

19) INTERESTING COMMENTS

- Many respondents are expecting to use but modify available standards.
- Several are developing job/project specific standards
- Skepticism in longevity of standards causes reluctance to adopt
- Hoping that better standardization creates a level playing field (apples to apples comparisons)
CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JOHN RUSSO, AIA</th>
<th>BRYAN MERRITT, PLS, PSM</th>
<th>TED MORT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRESIDENT</td>
<td>VICE PRESIDENT</td>
<td>TECHNOLOGY CHAIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:john.russo@usibd.org">john.russo@usibd.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:merrittba@erdmananthony.com">merrittba@erdmananthony.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:tedm@eco3dusa.com">tedm@eco3dusa.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

US Institute of Building Documentation
18025 Sky Park Circle, Suite L
Irvine, CA 92614

www.usibd.org