

Helsinki, May 15th 2020

Dear Software vendor,

This letter is an open invitation to IFC Infra implementation to all software vendors by seven Nordic Road and Rail Authorities.

We are writing to you on behalf of the seven Nordic Road and Rail Authorities. These organizations have been working together for several years for a common approach to develop and use Open BIM for infrastructure. You can read the news about "Launching an agreement for a common Nordic approach to BIM - 19.1.2018":

<https://uk.bane.dk/en/Supplier/News-for-suppliers/BIM>

BuildingSMART International has extended the IFC schema to also support long stretched infrastructure. This was done in co-operation with industry stakeholders and owners. The Nordic organisations have been heavily involved in this important work. The goal is to publish a final open standard in 2021. Many international clients¹ have already presented their commitment to this future standard. We - 7 organisations - have also a common goal to make the new standard as a requirement in our projects.

The benefits of Open BIM are documented in many sources:

- "Open BIM is not new, but it is a global trend that is growing. Reports forecast that the wider adoption of BIM will unlock 15–25% savings to the global infrastructure market by 2025. And it is the technology-led change most likely to deliver the highest impact to the construction sector." -*EU BIM Hand Book*
- "If the wider adoption of BIM across Europe delivered 10% savings to the construction sector then an additional €130 billion would be generated for the €1.3 trillion market" - *EU BIM Hand Book (BCG, Digital in Engineering and Construction, 2016; McKinsey, Construction Productivity, 2017)*
- "Vision 2030: Annual information management cost savings 300 M€, when information flows unhindered and the productivity growth 12%-20% by digitalization" - *The RASTI Project – A national strategy and road map for information management standardisation in the built environment in Finland, www.rastiprojekti.com*

¹ For example AASHTO Board of Directors resolution [LINK](#)

This year the implementation of the new schema will start. We are about to start testing the newly extended IFC schema *IFC4.3 RC1* that is available on buildingSMART website: [LINK](#). We are anticipating this will be one of the future mandated formats for exchanging design files and objects between phases and actors for our industry.

We are welcoming all software vendors to join the implementation work. We are launching the IFC Infra Implementation group. You can join the group by sending email to contact person Karin.Anderson@trafikverket.se. Email subject line: *IFC Infra implementation group - expression of interest*

In the Email, you are kindly asked to answer the following questions:

- Your implementation contact person/s
- Your ability and willingness to join
- Your company's plans for the future regarding IFC for Infra
- How your company can support us in the task of verifying the extended schema during the coming months.

You can also ask more about the issue from NBC software vendor contact person Karin.Anderson@trafikverket.se

Thank you very much for reacting to this letter.

On behalf of Nordic BIM Clients Group (NBC)

Tarmo Savolainen
Chair of the NBC Group

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