



4Clicks
By Estimators For Estimators

4Clicks
CHATTER



The Premier
Cost Estimating & Project
Management Solution

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Please join us as we look back to September 11, 2001, and the many events and actions that have followed. Recall the bravery, courage and humanity shown on that day and the many that have followed since. And most of all remember the lives forever changed.



Adaptation 9-11 Memorial

We have been busy this summer ensuring that you have access to the latest information to support your work and your mission, as well as provide the latest on key trends within the AEC sector. First, we launched our new 4Clicks website. We also introduced several new programs allowing us to gain valuable feedback from you to allow us to serve you even better. We sincerely hope you enjoy this month's newsletter! And, as always I look forward to hearing from you!

Our new website layout makes it even easier to locate great information and to order products. We've also added new capabilities. For example, you can now gain direct access to the latest RSMeans information, including City Cost Index (CCI) updates. Take a look at www.4Clicks.com/products-services/rsmeans to access this information. As an RSMeans Cost Data Book customer you may view the "RSMeans Change Notice" - a quarterly on-line publication that keeps you up-to-date with cost data changes.

We now offer brief 20-30 minute monthly webcasts focusing on a particular feature of e4Clicks Project Estimator. Our first two SPOLIGHTS, July and August, focused upon *Getting Ready for Fallout and Updating RSMeans Pricing and City Cost Index*, and *Learning How to Copy and Paste Estimates and Line Items*. Visit our events page located at www.4Clicks.com/resources/events to view our upcoming complimentary SPOTLIGHT webcasts!

In closing, please allow me to again, give pause and remembrance to all of the families affected by the events of September 11, 2001.

By an Estimator for Estimators

Quote of the month

"Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things."

- Peter F. Drucker

4Clicks Article Published by COAA

BIM for Facility Management, and Its Relationship to Project Delivery Methods

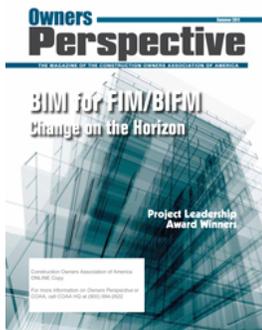
Many currently view BIM as a 3-dimensional representation of the built environment, primarily for use during the design and construction phases. This narrow focus is inconsistent with the definition of BIM. *Building Information Modeling is the process of generating and managing information about a building during its entire life cycle.* National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) notes the following about BIM: "The scope of Building Information Modeling (BIM) directly or indirectly affects all stakeholders supporting the capital facilities industry. BIM is a fundamentally different way of creating, using, and sharing building lifecycle data." BIM is a digital software system and an open standards-based collaborative business process targeting life-cycle facility management. It includes: 3D (visualization); 4D (time-scheduling/life-cycle analysis); and 5D (cost-estimating/capital planning) which serve as a common, centralized repository/portal for all life-cycle building related information, from concept thru deconstruction.

The combination of standardized information and facilities management processes enables facility life-cycle and total cost of ownership management. BIM's expansion to incorporate all facility life-cycle phases necessitates standardized business processes, taxonomies, and data architectures. Interoperability and standardized content at all levels of granularity from building models to systems, subsystems, components, and individual units are required.

BIM for FM, and the adoption of an associated Building Information Management Framework – BIMF, will drive productivity gains within the Architectural, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) sector.

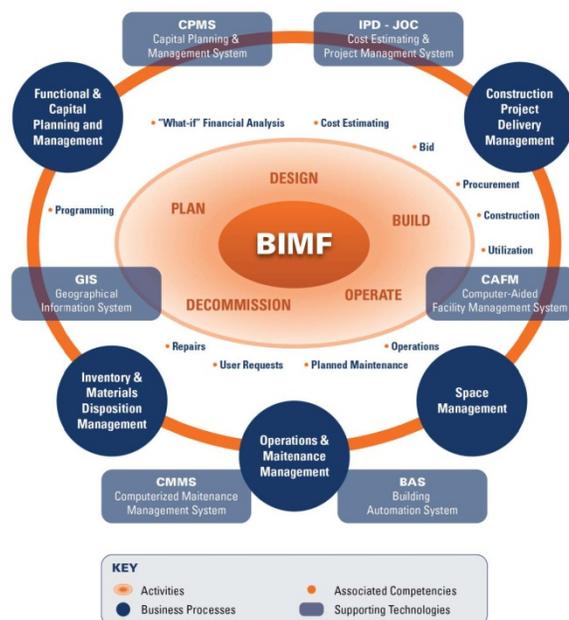
The adoption of robust business processes as well as systems integration of industry knowledge domains will be facilitated by information technology. 3D/4D/5D Building Information Modeling (BIM), more collaborative Project Delivery Methods such as Integrated Project Delivery (IPD), and Job Order Contracting (JOC), and several other core competencies will converge to provide an actionable framework for professional collaboration, and increased productivity from capital planning through construction and downstream operations and maintenance.

The success of these processes and technology tools is totally dependent upon transformational changes regarding the ways in which AEC professionals deliver their products and services.



[Click to Download Full Article](#)

BUILDING INFORMATION MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK – BIMF



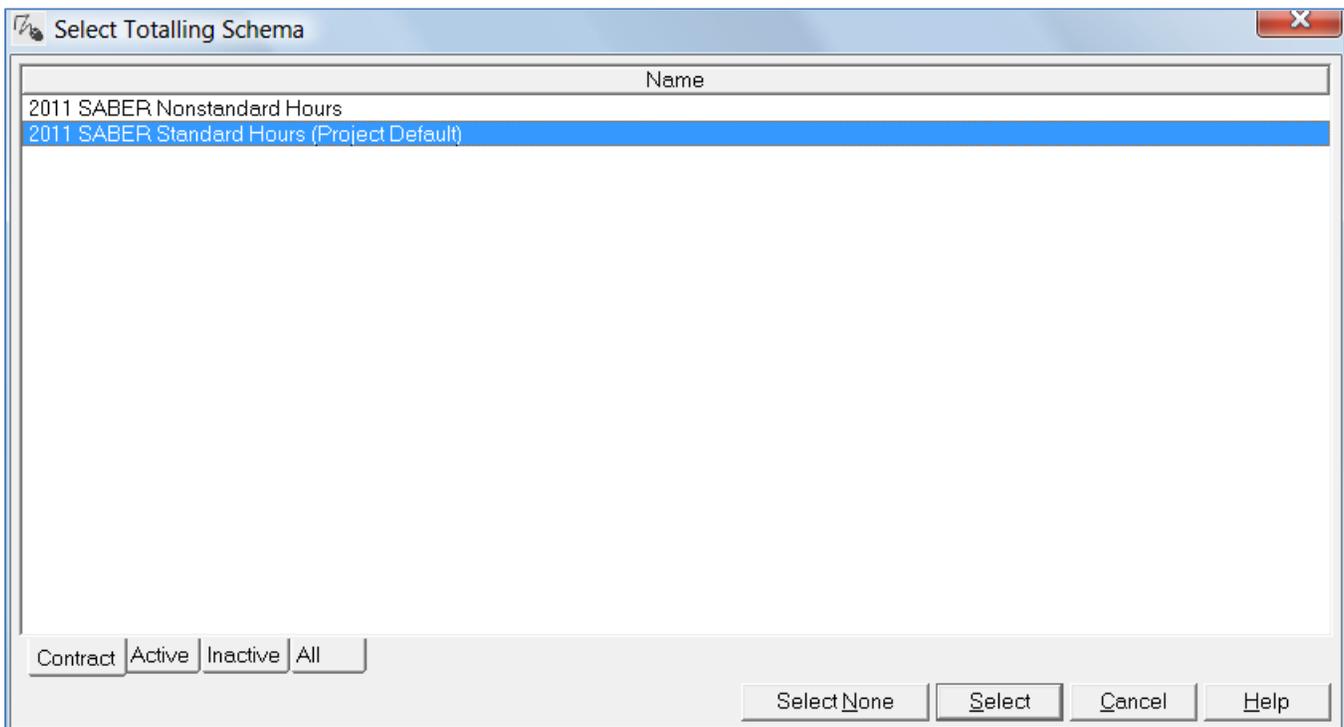
Version 2.610 is Right around the Corner!

Would you like more improvements in your favorite program? We hope so ... because we have some! And some of them are *really* exciting!

We can't share everything right now, but it is *really* close to be completed. We'll save the good stuff for the **ReadMe** that comes with our new releases. We know everyone reads the **ReadMe!** *Right?*

We've been giving you more power and tools in your Contract settings. So, let's take a quick look at one of the new features in that same area. We added another new tab to the **Update Contract** window, the **Totalling Schemas** tab. This allows you to tag all of the totalling schemas you would like associated with your contract. We think this will be a great way for those of you with multiple schemas for multiple contracts to quickly filter down to the ones applicable to your new project.

You've already seen that you can have the **Select Totalling Schema** window open after you select the contract performance period for a new project you are adding. Now you will see that you have a new filter tab available for you, the **Contract** tab. This shows you only those schemas that are tagged on the **Totalling Schemas** tab of your contract. Nice, huh? Hopefully this will make it much easier for you to navigate to the schema you are looking for!!



This is just one of many upgrades being made to your e4Clicks Project Estimator. Keep a look out for the new 2.610 version coming out any time now! And don't forget to read the **ReadMe** for details on all the new changes.

Training 2012!

e4Clicks™ is an awesome product, and it does a TON of stuff – much of which you may not even realize or be taking advantage of. We'll let's change that! We are ironing out our 2012 Regional Training Schedule, and we would love to see you at one of our classes!

We have examined our training and found out that it looks like two days is about the perfect training length. If it's shorter than that, it's not worth your travel time and expenses. If it's longer than that, those additional days are *tough* – on the trainers and all of you. It gets to be a lot of information to process!

It's actually nice if you can take a couple days of training. Then spend a few months or a year mastering that information. Then when you come back for a couple more days of training, you are ready for the all of that good, advanced stuff. Then after a couple more months of practice, you are an e4Clicks pro! ... Or at least really comfortable in the major aspects of it.

We'd like to add a couple of cities to your location choices this year, and **we'd like your help finding them**. We are looking at **Atlanta and Orlando** over on the east coast. Are these good locations, or would another city be better? How about the Midwest – **Kansas City, St. Louis**, or ...? What about the west coast – **Anaheim, San Diego**, ...? Let us know what you think! Where would you like to train? [What is convenient for you?](#) Give us your feedback through an email or phone call. We are even going to set something up on the website to help you vote! So visit there too.

Below is what we thought would be good, but we want these to serve you as best as possible. So if we get enough good feedback from all of you, we are still flexible enough to tweak the schedule!

2012 TENTATIVE TRAINING DATES		
2-Day Introductory	Atlanta, GA	15-16 February
2-Day Introductory	Las Vegas, NV	14-15 March
2-Day Introductory	San Antonio, TX	18-19 April
2-Day Advanced	Las Vegas, NV	16-17 May
2-Day Advanced	San Antonio, TX	20-21 June
2-Day Introductory	Salt Lake City, UT	18-19 July
2-Day Introductory	Anaheim, CA	8-9 August
2-Day Introductory	Colorado Springs, CO	17-18 October
2-Day Introductory	Orlando, FL	14-15 November

Don't see a location or date that's right for you?

Please [email](#) us your preferences and suggestions for training locations and dates!



CEU Credits Available for 4Clicks Training Classes

New "Blue Paper" – *Dynamic vs. Static Costs for JOC and SABER Contracts*

Construction cost databases, typically referred to as Unit Price Books (UPBs), and their associated robust application are critical to the success of JOC and/or SABER programs. Our new 4Clicks "Blue Paper" discusses the merits of dynamic cost data vs. static UPBs.

We are focused on helping to make these multiple award contracts as successful as possible. We truly believe that efficient project delivery methods are beneficial to everyone: Owners, Contractors, AEs, and the Community at large. We hope that our experience in these types of contracts can help your program be as successful as possible.

[Dynamic vs. Static Costs Blue Paper](#)

Q & A Corner

Q: I have a coefficient totalling component with "2010" in the name of it. It's now 2011. Is my coefficient totalling component still correct? Should it now have "2011" in the name?

A: Great question! Let's look at a several things here. First, the names of totalling components need to be unique, but they do not affect how they work at all. (We will talk about one exception to this at the end of this answer.)

Second, when we see a year in the name of a totalling component, it does not necessarily line up with the calendar year. It sometimes references the year that the contract was awarded. This is especially the case in contracts with constant coefficients. In this case, it could be the same for the length of the contract. If the coefficient changes from year to year, then it probably lines up with the contract years. Contract years could start any day of the year and are usually awarded for an entire year. The year in the name of your totalling component probably represents the year that the option year was awarded. This totalling component is then applicable until the anniversary date of the award.

Third, how the totalling component acts is completely dependent on the

properties of the totalling component – not the name. The filtering available for totalling components does not distinguish between pricing guide years. So a subtotal may be setup to add up all of the RSMeans line items in an estimate. The subtotal will add up all of the line items from RSMeans regardless of the pricing guide years.

Finally, we promised to look at the exception. If the totalling component in questions is an RSMeans City Cost Index (CCI) type, then the year shown does affect how the totalling component acts. The year (and quarter if shown) in the name of the totalling components determines which CCI percentage is actually being applied. This year should match the year of the line items being used in the estimate.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are sharing your estimates with another organization, you want to ensure you are both using the same totalling component names. So if you are a contractor sending your estimates to the government (or are the government receiving them), you don't want to change the names of your components unless you know the other organization has done the same!

Feedback

We can't say it enough - our success is based on great clients and partners. [Please tell us what we are doing right, or what we are doing wrong... and send us information for our newsletter!](#)

Use Our FedEx

Use our corporate agreement and account number with FedEx Office to create, print, and deliver documents nationwide from over 1,800 FedEx Office locations... receive our corporate discounts. [More information.](#)

EVENTS

WebCasts



Project Estimator SPOTLIGHT

Spotlight: Monthly Tips
10/12/2011 - 3PM EST
Topic: DD Form 1354 Real Property



Visual Cost Estimating

10/12/2011 - 1PM EST
For Owners, Contractors, and AEs who are considering using Project Estimator.

Conferences – Come Visit Us!

May 22-25, 2012 – SAME/JETC
St. Louis, MO



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