

Case Study

BDP implementing TeamBinder on 500 projects

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Building Design Partnership (BDP) is a multi-discipline practice of architects, designers and engineers. There are over 1000 staff across 10 locations in the UK and 200 more in Singapore, Ireland and BDP international partner in France, Groupe 6.

BDP is the largest European practice of its kind, designing about 2% of all new, non-residential buildings in the UK each year, at a construction value of around £450 million (US \$900 million).

Challenges

“Giving our projects a standard, robust, easy to implement and easy to use system, accessible from any location made TeamBinder a natural progression for us”

Peter Wilson
Quality Director
Building Design Partnership
(BDP)

◆ Improving communication efficiency

BDP is engaged in 2000 active projects at any given time. Every project requires communication between multiple parties and the provision of a variety of document management services. These services include shared access, revision control, review and approval, filing and archiving. The project documentation can take many forms including drawings, specifications, e-mails, faxes, and more traditional methods of communication such as letters, memos and transmittals.

◆ Reducing durations

Although e-mail has made communication easier, it also produces masses of correspondence which has to be sorted and filed. BDP knew that it needed to make the process of sorting the vast volume of project correspondence faster and easier.

Key Project Statistics

580

Live projects

175,000

Controlled Documents

250,000

Transmitted Documents

76,000

Project emails per month

31,000

Users

Solution

◆ TeamBinder

BDP decided to implement QA Software's TeamBinder document management solution to tackle these challenges. A correspondence and document management tool accessed by users through a web browser, TeamBinder provides a hosted web service that does not require the installation of software, and proves to be a significant time-saver that enables BDP to 'go live' for any project, at any time.

BDP was already using QA Software's QDMS system among other specialist document control systems for drawing issue management. BDP wished to expand on the advantages gained through QDMS by implementing TeamBinder as the standard system throughout its offices.

◆ Archiving document correspondence management standards

A project relying on hard copy transactions needs to be boxed, filed and stored at completion to form an archive. TeamBinder allowed BDP to continually archive throughout the life of the project using TBArchive, an archive tool with electronic access to historic data. This archived data would reside on CD, DVD or a network location, thereby greatly reducing the physical space required to store a completed project, and simplifying access to archived files.

"BDP recognised from the outset that a focus on training was a key requirement to bring staff across so many offices on board with TeamBinder. Appointing champions in each office has really helped the implementation process by coordinating user feedback enabling any issues to be dealt with in a timely manner."

Brian Dodsworth
Managing Director
QA Software UK Limited

Results

◆ Uniformity across multiple projects

BDP has deployed TeamBinder as its corporate-wide document control solution on more than 100 projects within the first 12 months, and more than 400 projects within the first 24 months; all new BDP projects will immediately utilise TeamBinder.

By May 2005 all BDP offices had been exposed to TeamBinder, with larger offices embracing it fully for all new projects. By January 2008, BDP had more than 500 active projects on TeamBinder.

◆ Accountability

All project information from letters, faxes, drawings and reports is contained in an electronic database and can be accessed by any team member who has an Internet connection and the appropriate login information.

◆ Increased efficiency

With TeamBinder, BDP was able to collaborate with construction partners and share design information from project outset. The issuing of drawings also became more efficient as all project team members could simply download information via a link, while revision control helped to reduce time-wasting errors.

Why TeamBinder?

BDP chose TeamBinder because it:

- Streamlined the process of BDP's shared access and revision control for multiple parties, covering a wealth of project documentation including drawings, specifications, and communications
- Simplified the process of sorting the volume of correspondence produced by over 2000 active BDP projects
- Provided an easy-to-use web-hosted service that didn't require the installation of software, resulting in significant time-savings for BDP
- Allowed BDP to archive continually throughout the life of its projects, while also simplifying access to archived documentation

QA Software

QA Software is the leading provider of information management solutions for the engineering and construction industries. With offices throughout the world, QA Software provides a suite of products that help clients deliver projects faster and within budget.

A proven track record on thousands of projects world-wide and the ability to understand client requirements have made QA Software solutions industry leaders.



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