



Tapping  
the Future

2014

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CSC Conference 2014 – TAPPING THE FUTURE  
Kitchener, Crowne Plaza Kitchener/Waterloo  
May 21-25, 2014

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Session	5C
Date	May 23, 2014
Time	9:00 – 10:00
Speaker	David Stutzman, CSI, CCS, AIA, SCIP

### **Documenting Design Intent with Preliminary Project Descriptions (PPD)**

To explain design intent, Architects are obligated to supplement preliminary design drawings. A written description must be developed to ensure the owner, estimator, contractor, and lender all will understand the basis of design. Preliminary project descriptions (PPDs) bring a flexible, expandable structure designed to capture project design, performance, materials selections, and sustainability requirements for each functional element. When multiple design solutions are considered, the PPD can easily document each alternative, the selected solution, and the reason for the selection — providing a design record and quality assurance tool for both the owner and the design team.

#### **Attendee Outcome:**

Attendees will see PPDs demonstrated as a convenient structure that can document material and system selections, including alternatives, all in a single document while providing a powerful tool to ensure the design satisfies the stated project requirements throughout the design and construction phases.

Upon completion of this session, you will be able to:

1. Apply CSI PPDFormat as a standardized structure for presenting design intent during early project design phases.
2. Document multiple optional design solutions for evaluation to meet project performance and budget criteria.
3. Match the PPD hierarchy and level of detail to accommodate available content during iterative design process.
4. Identify the relationships between preliminary project descriptionsPPDs and BIM that allow PPDs to serve as external model data before design solutions are decided.



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### **Prerequisites and Intended Audience:**

A basic understanding of current practices for producing schematic design documents including BIM, drawings, basis of design, and outline specifications will be helpful, but is not essential. The intended audience is owners, project architects, specifiers, estimators, and contractors - all those participating in early design phases that must:

- Develop owner's project requirements and budgets
- Create and present project designs
- Estimate designs and design options
- Approve optimum design direction

### **Speaker bio**

David is a registered architect, certified construction specifier, and founding principal of one of the largest independent specifications consulting firm in United States with 38 years experience in specifications, preliminary project descriptions, and quality assurance reviews. David is the thought leader for CSI's Specifying Practice Group, a regular speaker at CSI and AIA conferences and conventions, and author for Tech Tips, the CSI award winning monthly publication about design and construction.

### **Speaker contact information**

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