
Lifecycle Building Information Modeling (BIM) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is Lifecycle BIM?

For building owners seeking to improve facilities management, Lifecycle BIM (LCBIM) is a comprehensive solution that incorporates industry leading building design, GIS, data management, and facility management software into best practice workflows to enhance communication, increase efficiency, and reduce costs. Advanced Solutions' fully integrated solution enables owners to optimize their building operations from cradle to grave.

LCBIM focuses on projects related to buildings, infrastructure, facilities development and management. It involves the integration of data from concept development to the end of a project's usable life and ultimately its disposal.

Can Lifecycle BIM be used on new construction and/or existing buildings and larger complexes?

LCBIM is applicable to and highly valuable for new construction projects, existing standalone buildings, and multi-building complexes and campuses. The principles and standards of LCBIM are consistent for any type/size of project, however implementation techniques vary for new construction vs. existing facilities.

What is Advanced Solutions' approach to Lifecycle BIM?

Advanced Solutions focuses on the management side of BIM, not just the modeling. We leverage powerful technologies and tools using a systematic approach which allows all project stakeholders to realize significant benefits, from cost savings and greater creativity, to improved operational control and management. By combining BIM best practices and standards with industry leading tools across all project systems, we are able to achieve a highly efficient system of management and control for both users and owners.

Is Lifecycle BIM a fit for my size project?

Lifecycle BIM will benefit any size of building project, from very small to very large. The techniques and process remain the same regardless of project size. Users can purchase a one-building or even one-floor LCBIM system. LCBIM is ideal and scalable for larger systems, often beginning with a pilot project and ultimately expanding to an entire campus or multi-building complex. Advanced Solutions is well equipped to provide licensing, integration support, and security systems to meet your budget and needs.

Does my team need to be well versed on BIM software to incorporate a Lifecycle BIM system?

All of the tools used in the LCBIM system are standard industry tools. Advanced Solutions is an Autodesk Platinum Partner, providing the full portfolio of Autodesk BIM software, such as Autodesk Revit and Autodesk BIM 360. Owners and their teams are not required to learn design tools, such as Revit, but may be required to obtain a basic level of proficiency with collaboration tools, such as BIM 360, which allow non-designers to view facility data online and perform basic tasks which related to their job functions.

Is Lifecycle BIM a highly customized system where I will have to abandon existing applications?

Advanced Solutions has deliberately selected industry standard LCBIM tools for quality, scalability, performance and interoperability.

How will implementing Lifecycle BIM affect my existing systems?

The key to a successful LCBIM integration is to take a step-by-step approach setting specific, measurable, realistic objectives each step of the way. For example, legacy FM systems can continue to operate side-by-side with LCBIM and do not need to be replaced. If preferred, all systems can be incorporated into the Lifecycle BIM system to achieve optimum efficiencies and savings.

How scalable is Lifecycle BIM? Can we start with a pilot project or a proof of concept before we make a major investment?

All aspects of LCBIM are scalable. Advanced Solutions provides a system design with a roll out plan as part of any project, including pilots (which is where many clients start before making a major investment).

Is it really possible to integrate so many different databases and systems into something that is usable by my team?

Yes, although each system requires some customization, especially when it comes to data management and security. This is where Advanced Solution's expertise in AEC software and data management combine to develop a tailored solution for each client. Our solution also incorporates touchscreen tablets for work orders, enabling service personnel to make real time updates to operations and management system data to increase efficiency.

My company does not have a lot of new construction projects. Is Lifecycle BIM worthwhile for us?

LCBIM is a data management system which incorporates all types of data and systems into a workable lifecycle solution. Legacy or existing buildings, facilities and systems can be incorporated into a LCBIM system.

Is this Lifecycle BIM cloud based or server based?

LCBIM can be either cloud or server based or a combination of the two depending on the needs of the client.

Can the solution be centrally controlled?

As part of the database management plan, all systems can be centrally controlled with users only having the ability to control their workspaces and respective tasks.

Why is Advanced Solutions offering this solution now?

The pieces of a LCBIM solution have gradually developed over the past 25 years. The biggest breakthrough has come in the area of 3D modeling techniques and processes. A key challenge has always been the integration, sharing and transfer of data. Advanced Solutions is an expert in this field and believes now is the time to take advantage of the latest technologies to support a Lifecycle BIM solution.

What role do consultants, such as architects and engineers, play?

As the creators of much of the data that goes into an LCBIM solution, architects, engineers and other consultants play a critical role. Advanced Solutions facilitates the front end of the BIM process by providing standards for model development, reporting, collaboration and data updates to create greater efficiencies and cost savings for consultants. We work with architects and engineers to ensure that data they produce can be seamlessly incorporated into an owners' LCBIM operating system.

How can Lifecycle BIM benefit general contractors and sub-contractors?

General contractors and sub-contractors are a critical element in the LCBIM process. Advanced Solutions works closely with contractors to ensure data provided to them by consultants is maintained throughout the construction process and delivered intact for integration into the owners' LCBIM system. General contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers need to have BIM models and systems that are accurate yet flexible. Having a standardized Lifecycle BIM workflow in place keeps all stakeholders aligned. With Lifecycle BIM in place, the GC has confidence that when they pass project data over to the owner, the data will be fully compatible with the owner's existing FM system and operations and management processes. This is extremely valuable for the GC and can vastly reduce model rework and other duplication of effort, while ensuring that the GC remains in compliance with the owner's standards and systems.

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