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What is Autodesk Construction Cloud?

Brandon Lacourciere

Learning Objectives

- Learn what Autodesk Construction Cloud is and how it can be used by project teams
- See the advancements made over the course of the last 12 months to the products and vision
- Understand the future roadmap for Autodesk Construction Cloud

Description

Introduced at Autodesk University 2019, Construction Cloud brings together the most powerful portfolio of construction management software products in the industry, supporting workflows spanning all phases of construction—from design, to planning, to building, to operations. There is tremendous breadth of supported workflows, depth of capabilities in each of the software products, and connectivity of data between those products. Over the past year, Autodesk has focused on three main areas of advancement with Construction Cloud: continuing investment into improving Assemble, BuildingConnected, PlanGrid, and BIM 360 software; delivering more integrations and connectivity between the products; and building a unified platform. This class will show how Construction Cloud has advanced over the course of the last 12 months, and we'll explore the workflows from design through operations that can be supported by the products.

Speaker(s)

Brandon Lacourciere

Brandon grew up in the construction industry, joining his first framing crew at age 16. After receiving his degree in Architecture from Lawrence Technological University, he returned to the construction industry as an estimator and project manager. Noticing an opportunity to improve construction processes through BIM, he founded RevCore Construction Services, specializing in virtual construction and high definition laser scanning. Brandon has spent most of his career partnering with General contractors, union trades, and specialty contractors to solve complex problems on hundreds of projects. Today he is the Director of Customer Success for Autodesk Construction Solutions. He and his team are committed to solving industry challenges and helping customers optimize their workflows using the Autodesk Construction Cloud.



Autodesk's Journey in Construction

To put it plainly, Autodesk has had a long history in construction, but it hasn't always been smooth sailing. Especially for you, our customers, who expect us to have solutions, visions, and ideas that are accurate and can be leaned on as guidance for the future.

Now, let's start from the beginning. In 2006, we made a massive investment as a company. This is really the evolution of design and coordination, where you saw us purchase products like Revit, the maturity of solutions like Buzzsaw, and also the incorporation of platforms like Navisworks and Constructware. These are some really great solutions that are focused largely on delivering model-based information in a 2D deliverable that allowed for true connectivity between different variety of BIM platforms. Now, the reason that this was such an important point in our history is that a lot of the evolution that you'll see is based off the bedrock of what we did in the early days with products like Revit.



Now, as we move into 2010, we move into a field execution phase, and this is really where Autodesk takes its first step into construction. At this point, really Revit and AutoCAD were our primary offerings to our customers, but Navisworks was really catching on as a best-in-class solution for day-to-day model coordination.

At the same time, we understood that this influx of remote users and social media based applications via tools like the iPad were opening up the doors for customers to not just use the data in the office, but also in the field.

This is when we acquired products like Glue and Vela to allow for us for the first time to introduce our standalone solutions and the documentations they produce in a field-based deliverable.

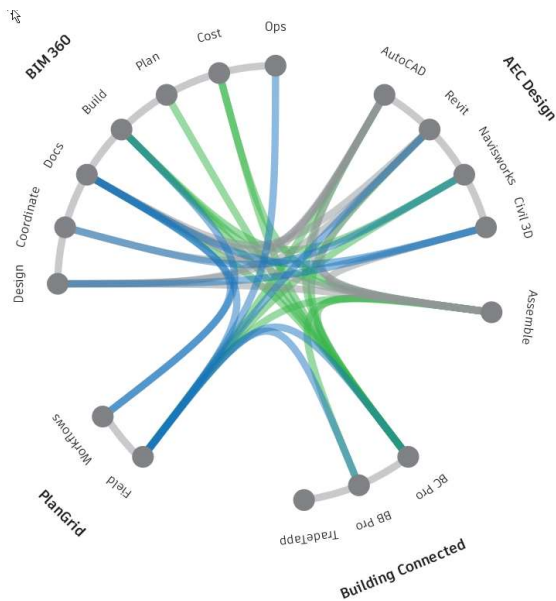
We also, at this time, invested in companies like Get The Point and ourPlan to address long-term scheduling needs that our customers were facing as well as quantity and point takeoff that allowed us to very quickly develop a layout-based systems and layout information using a tool that would later be called Autodesk Point Layout

As we moved into the 2012, 2014, we began to understand that the complexities of our design and coordination tools and our field execution tools were starting to create a headache for some.

As a byproduct of that, we developed our BIM 360 platform along with our Forge API. Now, the reason these two tools came to be is because largely we wanted to connect what we saw as a desktop-based set of features in Navisworks and our field-based users with Vela.

By introducing the formalized BIM 360 platform, we began to connect these two tools and we did it on top of our Forge API allowing for the first time external third-party providers to provide a direct integration into our BIM 360 offerings.

Project Lifecycle



Moving on to two years ago, 2018, we announced the acquisitions of three key, best-in-class products that could fill gaps in our product lifecycle. Those products – Assemble, PlanGrid, and BuildingConnected – gave us the ability to fulfill the Project Lifecycle. Preconstruction and Site Execution were now powerhouses for us, but at the time, we still have one problem. Yes, we now have these best in class products, but we have to make them communicate with each other, and allow a seamless flow of information. From the time of the acquisitions through today, we have and are continuing to connect the dots and workflows between our Autodesk Construction Cloud offerings.

Now, that really kind of brings us to where we are today here in 2020. There's a lot, there's a ton going on in this space now, and what a lot of our customers need is simplicity more than anything. So while our integrations are important, they weren't our only solution.

A big part of what Autodesk is focused on the last year really from the moment we made those acquisitions is creating a solution our customers have asked for, that unified deliverable that truly addresses and meets the needs that our customers have today. We know what those needs are, right? They're not the same as they were in 2019. Heck, they're not the same as they were in March. Our customers have had to make massive and dramatic changes to their business models and they should be applauded for the way that they've done it so skillfully, and

in many cases, through innovation that didn't exist three months ago. We are fortunate to have a customer base that is so technologically savvy, but at the same time innovative, and that's why we're so excited to deliver this unified platform.

	 Design	 Plan	 Build	 Operate
Capabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Authoring Design Collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model Coordination Model Conditioning Quantification Bid Management Qualification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Management Cost Control Field Collaboration Quality & Safety Commissioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities Maintenance Asset Lifecycle
Shared Data	Models · Drawings · Issues · Specifications · RFIs · Cost · Assets · As-Builts			
Insight	Predictive Analytics · Benchmark Reports · Mitigation Strategies			
Network	Builders Network			

Now, inside of our offering, it has a wide variety of features and functions. Some are just really table stakes, things that our customers have been asking for for some time that we've made good on.

That includes the ability to do simple operations like escalate an issue to an RFI, an RFI to a change order, and then manage that change order across budget and forecasting modules that reside inside of our cost tools.

In addition to that, we've also introduced new solution sets, which include both 2D and 3D estimation, as well as progress tracking, which we'll talk about in just a few moments.

What's really important to understand is that these aren't just features on a slide. They're interconnected workflows that ensure when we escalate certain items, that they quickly and seamlessly connect with all of the different offerings.

This is maybe best understood when we look at our quality management and safety management platforms, which for the first time allow us to leverage features like Meeting Minutes to understand how a safety kickoff discussion or a safety planning meeting in the morning could evolve into larger safety discussions or quality and safety discussions out in the field.

In addition to that, our Meeting Minutes platform allows us to escalate old and new business, allowing us to quickly understand how things have progressed over the course of multiple weeks.

Now, this is all well and good, but we are not done and we won't be done. Construction space is a place that Autodesk is going to spend the foreseeable future trying to help our customers address the day in and day out struggles and pain points.

We're doing this with a lot of different parts and pieces, but most notably we're doing it with investments.



We're doing all of this because of those three basic tenants that I talked about at the very beginning.

We have listened to our customers and they've explained the need for not just best in class project management tools, but an offering that truly connects design, planning, building and our operations platform, allowing users for the first time to quickly review documentation at the drawing phase, understand the implications that will have on our project management and execution teams and apply information and warranty data that our ops teams can leverage long term. The reason we're doing this is in large part because these were the solutions that you've asked us to help address.

These are the pain points that have been voiced day in and day out and it's the responsibility that we have to our customers to ensure that they're getting the most out of the tools that we're providing.

One of the things that we're really committed to and that we will continually share with our customers is our understanding of our limits, and while our limitations will not be an excuse and not offering the solutions and features that our customers need when we understand and truly know what those limitations are, they will be the catalyst for us to make future investments in tools that currently address those pain points and allow for customers to execute on the workflows that are most important to their projects.

With that said, if you want to hear additional information on Autodesk Construction Cloud, and our unified product, please visit [construction.autodesk.com](https://www.construction.autodesk.com), where we will have more information on the capabilities, workflows, and features you've heard here, and hopefully more that catches your eye as well.

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