

BIM: better building process – building better performance

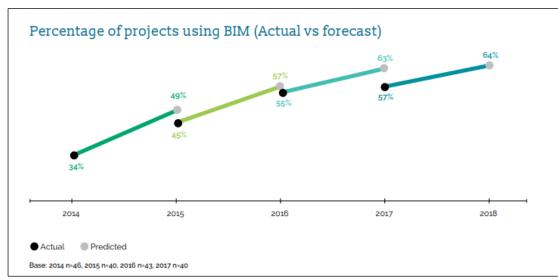
Purpose of this report

This report provides a short summary of the achievements of the Acceleration Committee for the financial year (Apr 2017 – Mar 2018). It is provided to the major funder, BRANZ, ahead of inclusion on the BIMinNZ site so our wider stakeholders are informed of our progress.

Achievements April 2017 to March 2018

The major achievements over the 2017/2018 financial year were

 Continued growth in the use of BIM across the design, build and operate stages of the lifecycle of constructed assets



Source: BIM in New Zealand — an industry-wide view 2017 (EBOSS)

- Agreement from BRANZ to fund the work of the committee for another 3 years
- Revising the acceleration strategy to include identifying the next potential target audiences for BIM Acceleration Committee work and barriers to the adoption of BIM as part of continuing to expand its use
- Undertaking quantitative and qualitative research for greater use of BIM across the value chain, including the annual EBOSS industry survey and focus group discussion with specialist trade and product suppliers
- The development of BAC communications strategy to improve BIM research knowledge dissemination to industry
- Re-development of BIM101 as a video series for the BIMinNZ website
- Confirming a strong demand for BIM 201 training, and identifying the UK BIM Academy's 'virtual project' course as a good basis for the next phase of industry training in NZ
- Continued delivery of case studies showcasing the value of BIM for Asset and Facilities Management, e.g. the Mason Brothers development.



The BIM Acceleration Committee's 2017 strategic focus

The goal of the BIM Acceleration Committee is to accelerate the adoption of a better building process for improved building performance in the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of all constructed assets.

To achieve this goal, the BAC expanded its strategic focus (for the 2017-2020 period) to six key areas:

- 1. Conquer the digital divide to better enable BIM uptake for those smaller and further down the value chain.
- 2. Develop and deliver BIM training to build BIM expertise in industry and tertiary educations.
- 3. Create more client-side demand for BIM through the education of government and other large clients in the benefits of BIM, specifically in facility and asset management.
- 4. Increase the support for collaboration that maximises the benefits of BIM use.
- 5. Develop data quality and process standards to facilitate interoperable (computer to computer) exchange of reliable data along the value chain.
- 6. Communication and general awareness raising. Telling the BIM story to existing and new audiences.

There was a focus during the 2017/2018 financial year on developing projects to deliver the strategy. Within each strategic focus area, research projects (activities) with specific deliverables and research outcomes were developed.

Three new streams of work have been developed into targeted projects to:

- Enable BIM uptake for those smaller / further down the value chain
- Increase support for collaboration to maximise the benefits of BIM use
- Ensure interoperable and reliable data along the value chain (quality and standards).

In addition to the existing streams of work for:

- Trained resource readily available to build BIM expertise in industry and tertiary education
- More demand pull by informed clients, in particular government clients, and through better understanding the BIM benefits for facilities and asset management
- Telling the BIM story to existing and new audiences.



Understanding BIM use across the value chain

A corner stone of the BIM Acceleration strategy for the three years ended March 2020 is 'greater use of BIM across the value chain': Increasing the use of BIM across both the life cycle of a construction project, and deeper within the value chains that support these projects. Market research was completed to understand the BIM adoption journey for different groups across the value chain - who the next users of BIM might be and the benefits and barriers to them using BIM. This research helps us to understand how to support those smaller / further down the value chain to achieve greater use of BIM.

Three research work streams were implemented within this project in the 2017/2018 financial year:

- The annual EBOSS survey of BIM use for the control group and clients
- Qualitative research / focus group discussions on specialist trade and product use of BIM, and the barriers / enablers of their using BIM more
- Comparison of the market research survey of BIM use with a wider group of BIM users (via a survey of the NZIOB BIM 101 attendees).

Completion of the annual EBOSS survey of BIM in New Zealand – an industry-wide view 2017

This survey was the fourth instalment of a five survey series that follows the progress being made in accelerating the introduction of BIM into New Zealand. This longitudinal study, one of only a few in the world, follows an industry control group of large and influential organisations in New Zealand's built environment. This year also marked the second year a specific client control group of asset owners and managers from organisations with large property/constructed asset portfolios were surveyed. Their inclusion was to better understand attitudes, drivers, and barriers towards BIM use.

The findings from the industry control group survey suggest that industry has moved past the initial learning stage and now realises how complicated BIM and BIM models can get. This is evidence that BIM is being used for more complex tasks, indicating an increase in the 'maturity' of its use. With this 'maturity', there is a realisation that this complexity has consequences including the cost of changes, the issues of combining BIM models from different parties, and the large amount of work involved in making changes and providing what clients need for later operation of construction/constructed assets.

The client group survey results indicated that clients are aware of BIM but are not using it and that there is a perception that the costs of BIM outweigh the benefits. This is a reflection that where asset managers have already made the move from reactive to preventative maintenance, with supporting legacy systems, the cost of changing systems is high with the benefits of BIM limited to reduced cost of ongoing data input.



Focus group research to help drive awareness and use of BIM

Complementing the Annual Survey of BIM in New Zealand, a focus group research project, 'To Help Drive Awareness and Use of BIM', was conducted to expand on the following areas:

- Knowledge and organisational use of BIM
- Motivators, barriers, and solutions to promote BIM use
- Effective methods of BIM communication channels.

A key recommendation of this research was the development of a communications strategy for the Acceleration Committee to target the different industry members in the most effective channels. There was also emphasis on the importance of continuing to develop case studies showcasing the value and benefits of BIM. These recommendations have been translated into an implementation plan that will include stakeholder engagement.

Comparison of quantitative and qualitative research on BIM across a wider group

A comparison was made of the quantitative and qualitative research on BIM use across a wider group of users via an NZIOB market research survey. This comparison provides a richer picture for undertaking and revising the Acceleration Strategy.

The implications of these research findings were a continued or increased focus on:

- communication to a wider audience using professional bodies and other channels –
 with a focus on what practitioners can do to use BIM better / more.
- identification of training opportunities
- creating competency in clients (including government) in specifying BIM, and procuring construction projects that will make it easier to get the full range of productivity benefits from using BIM
- reducing the technical barriers / difficulties using BIM
- engaging with contractors more.

These themes and focus areas aligned well with the Acceleration Committee's expanded strategic focus and were used to inform and direct the 2018-2020 specific research projects/activities to deliver on its strategy.



Achieving greater use of BIM across the value chain

The market research undertaken provided an understanding of who the next users of BIM might be, the benefits and barriers to their using BIM and how best to engage with them.

Based on the findings of this research the Acceleration Committee identified the need and commissioned the development of a communication plan to engage a wider audience and improve BIM research knowledge dissemination across the value chain.

The focus of the plan is on

- the wider group of people using BIM in design and construction of larger commercial construction and their specialist trades and product suppliers
- clients who may benefit from the use of BIM in design, construction and operation of their built assets, with particular focus on owners with portfolios of large commercial buildings and infrastructure, or large portfolios of smaller buildings.

The plan informs the activities of the committee for the 2019/2020 fiscal year, particularly in the distribution of content.

Developing BIM industry training and education

Industry training and education of BIM continues to be at the forefront of the Acceleration Committee's agenda.

In 2016, the Acceleration Committee ran a very successful education series called BIM 101. BIM 101 was a seminar that covered the basic principles of BIM, starting with poor productivity and information flow, leading into BIM as a solution, and the fundamentals of BIM in the New Zealand construction industry. During the 2017/18 fiscal year, the Acceleration Committee identified that greater industry penetration of this content would be possible if it were published on the BIMinNZ website, and available when and where people want to engage with this introductory content. An industry training group was formed to recast the content and make it suitable for video 'soundbite' delivery. This was recorded in December and BIM 101, BIM fundamentals for new users, was re-released as free of charge video content on the BIMinNZ website to engage with a wider audience.

The Acceleration Committee, with the NZ Institute of Building (NZIOB), undertook market research on the original BIM 101 attendee database to determine demand for BIM 201. Confirming strong demand for a BIM 201 training, the Acceleration Committee explored options to build on the BIM 101 training that might also create a stronger connection between industry and tertiary education providers via more hands-on training. The UK BIM Academy's



'virtual project' was identified as a good basis for next phase of industry training in NZ. Three industry trainers attended and assessed the Academy's 'virtual project' course, determining its suitability as a basis for BIM 201 and the industry training group began work with the Academy to modify the content suitable for delivery in NZ.

Expanding the evidence of the benefits and value of BIM for Asset and Facilities Management

In line with the Acceleration Committee's communication plan and the focus on the benefits of using BIM for clients, an article and case study on the value of BIM for Asset and Facilities Management (AM/FM) was developed. The Mason Brother's case study and associated article are aimed specifically for building clients and large asset managers, showcasing the new and innovative use of data/information management, and cloud-based technology for on-site use of BIM AM/FM.

Government as client

With BIM maturity still low with Government, there is more work to be done is raising awareness of the benefits of BIM and to better articulate the value proposition of BIM. Feedback from Government clients was that they needed a simple-to-follow document that outlines BIM requirements. A BIM Procurement Schedule was developed, intended to be trialled by New Zealand Defence Force, with MBIE support, on a small-scale project in Auckland. Owing to a subsequent restructure of MBIE's Building System Performance branch, the Government as Client strategic focus was adjusted to be on ministries who are actively sponsoring projects, for example, NZTA, NZDF, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health (Area Health Boards).



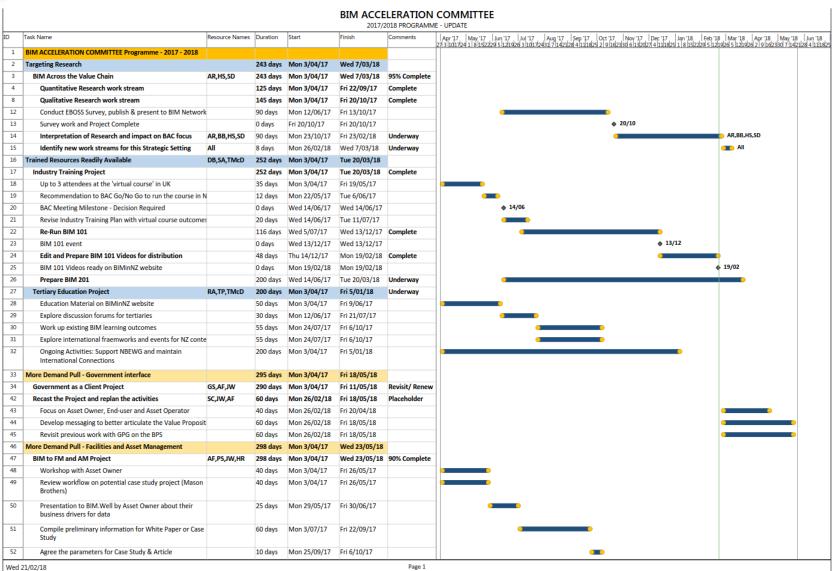
Financial summary and programme

The 2017/2018 budget and programme are included below.

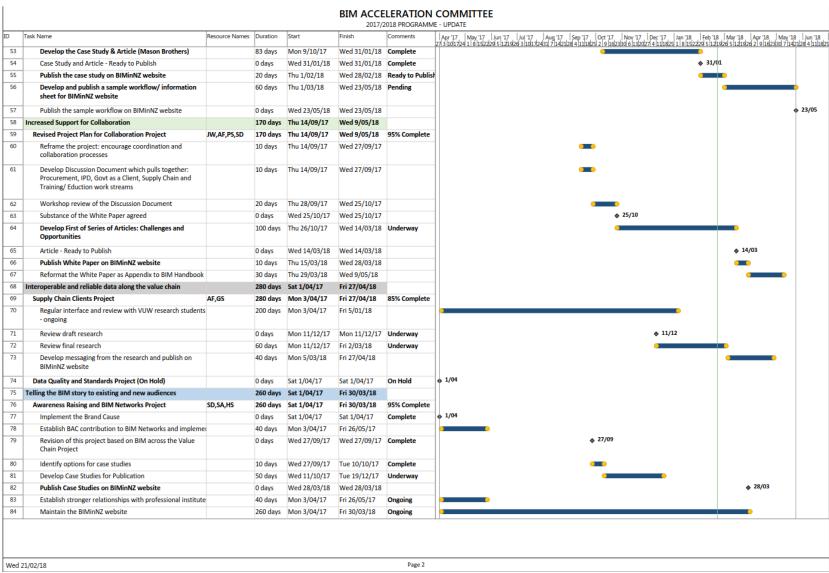
2017/2018 Financial Summary	
Income - BRANZ annual funding	\$250,000.00
Budget	\$274,400.00
Total Actual Expenditure	\$139,923.50
Total Actual Expenditure vs Income	-\$110,076.50

During the financial year it became apparent that work streams associated with at least two strategic areas were not progressing as planned – the Government as Client and Tertiary Education streams. A dedicated workshop was held in August 2017 to uncover key resourcing or budgeting constraints that would affect the Committee's ability to deliver the planned work. This session culminated in a re-cast of the programme and order of deliverables along with a critical reassessment of the resources necessary to deliver the work streams. As at March 2018, the Committee had substantially completed 75% of the overall deliverables that were set at the start of the financial year.











Committee membership to deliver the strategy

The Acceleration Committee saw a number of membership changes during the 2017/2018 financial year.

Departing members included:

- Gleb Speranski
- Paul Singleton
- Tara McDonald (BRANZ). Samantha Johnston (AECOM) has filled the secretariat position.
- Heather Staley, in her capacity at MBIE. BAC however, has been fortunate in retaining Heather's Committee membership in her new role for the New Zealand Defence Force.

New members include:

- David Darwin, Manager Policies and Standards at NZTA
- Brian Berg, Building Environmental Scientist at BRANZ as BRANZ Ltd. representative.
- Seth Campbell, Manager of the System Design and Implementation team at MBIE as MBIE's representative
- Steve Ritchie, Regional Operations Manager at Hawkins Construction Ltd.

The committee's current membership is well placed to support the strategy's direction.