

Boston Business Journal

Building Boston: Spotlight on BIM

BIM around the block

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Date: Friday, February 18, 2011, 6:00am EST

Location: Waltham

Design firm: Margulies Perruzzi Architects

Type: Corporate office

Square feet: 335,000 between two buildings

Date completed: March 2010

What did BIM do? According to **Margulies**: “From coordinating the steel superstructure on an overhang, to the mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) coordination within the two buildings, BIM helped the team problem-solve long before anything was fabricated and brought to the site. It helped Columbia Construction explain the design intent to its staff and subcontractors, and streamlined the design and construction process.

“BIM also enabled developer/owner Hobbs Brook Management to save money. For example, the final budget came in nearly \$250,000 under the design development phase budget. During steel fabrication and construction, the BIM model provided views for precast connections and coordination of substructure for the metal panel radius. Columbia used the BIM model for 3-D MEP coordination as well. Steel fabrication required zero change orders or ASI’s as a result. When buying the terra cotta, Columbia was able to verify the subcontractor’s calculation in 10 minutes using the BIM model, a process that otherwise would have taken more than a day in traditional estimating. In this case, BIM saved approximately \$200,000 for Hobbs Brook Management.”