



# THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

A PUBLICATION OF THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

## TECHNOLOGY IN STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

SEAOt Forms New

Information Technology (IT) / Building Information Modeling (BIM) Committee

### **Background of**

#### **IT / BIM Committee Chair :**

*W.F. Ikerd, P.E., C.W.I., is Director of INTERTECH Design, Inc.'s department of Advanced Building Design (ABD) focused on BIM in structural engineering. Mr. Ikerd is currently on the National BIM Standards committee and has also attended national BIM conferences such as AISC IT-Roundtable, Autodesk University, and the Design Build Institute of America's 3-day BIM conference. He is invited to speak and author articles on Building Information Modeling (BIM) and Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) related topics in various venues. He currently sits on the advisory board for the University of North Texas' Construction Engineering Department where he teaches one of the first classes in the country to incorporate BIM into their undergraduate and graduate structural design and construction curriculum. He may be contacted at. [Wikerd@IDIse.com](mailto:Wikerd@IDIse.com)*

At its October Board meeting, SEAOt approved the creation of a new committee, the Information Technology (IT) / Building Information Modeling (BIM) Committee. This committee is the result of considerable work undertaken by SEAOt North Central Texas Member William Ikerd. Will has served seven years as chair of the North Central Texas Chapter's Computer Applications Committee (CAC), and recently attended meetings of the National AISC Information Technology Committee and the AISC e-commerce Committee. He has also been instrumental in the development of the Structural Software Survey Questionnaire described below.

This committee will focus on the use of technology in structural engineering. Some of the key topics that the committee will address will be to provide a non-biased view of analysis and design software as well as the emerging use of Building Information Modeling (BIM) in building design. Specific goals of the committee include:

- Provide SEAOt members with non-biased IT information pertaining to analytical and design software targeted to and used by Structural Engineers
- Provide SEAOt members with a unified channel of communication with software developers marketing to the profession. This will be accomplished by requesting SEAOt members to provide a list of requested features and comments each year. To obtain this information, SEAOt members will be invited to participate in an annual online Structural Software Survey Questionnaire. Results of the survey will be shared with software developers.
- Promote greater participation in SEAOt by inviting event sponsorship from structural engineering software companies.
- Give SEAOt members a voice in interacting with the IT Committees of other related organizations, such as building owners, architects and contractors.

Please watch your email and regular mail for your copy of the Structural Software Survey Questionnaire, and please take a moment to complete it. Your comments are important and valuable.