



## Learn with Buesing General Definitions & Terms

Last Revised 6-14-17

A

B

### Building Information Modelling:

The Building Information Modeling (BIM) has been around 10+ years (2006) and has really been more commonplace and expected more this past three years by the Architects, Engineers, and Contractors (A/E/C) on medium size projects and larger. If drawing preparation in software such as AutoCAD™ produces printed products, that is considered two-dimensional (2D), and if it the building or structure is created in AutoCAD™ intentionally to include elevations (or height), then it is three-dimensional (3D). Because of the advances in the software and its applications BIM is often referred as 4D and sometimes 5D with the addition of layering, manipulation or driving “through” the structure, conflict identification between components, quantification by components, and then as-built record-keeping upon completion. There are several software brands servicing the BIM community including REVIT and NAVISWORKS.

Additional Resource: <http://www.engineering.com/BIM>

Additional Resource:

<https://network.aia.org/technologyinarchitecturalpractice/home/bimstandards>

C

### Critical Path Method In Scheduling:

The critical path method of scheduling is one of many used in the construction industry. It is defined in laymen’s terms to be the series of key activities that must be complete without extending in the overall duration of the schedule. There is a math calculation to evaluate the float of all schedule activities and those with zero float, are critical. Oftentimes these activities are color-coded uniquely (and connected by a red line) so they can attract the necessary attention and be tracked with relative importance.

**Cubic Foot:** Cubic Foot or feet (CF): is the most common unit of measure for air movement/handling, and laboratory analysis of soils and concrete.

**Cubic Yard:** Cubic yards (CY) is the most common unit of measure for soil, earthwork, and concrete volume calculations and management. This is true for estimating and field applications.

D

E

F

G

**General Contractor:** A firm that builds or constructs the entire project, structure, or building. The general contractor (GC), may or may not self-perform a portion of the work. Although each project will vary, the general contractor often will have a few to dozens of subcontractors under their responsibility that specialize in one trade or another. Interchangeable with “prime” contractor.

H

I

**Integrated Project Delivery Method:** The integrated project delivery (IPD) method of the owner/developer contracting the design and construction of a project is effective for large complex projects where the schedule is imperative. This multiple party contracting method is principled on the basis of collaboration between the owner, architect, engineers, and the general contractor throughout the entire project from concept to completion. Other key elements of this method include commitment to resources, schedule milestones, timely decisions/responses, and shared risk and savings (reward).

Additional Resource: <http://leanipd.com/integrated-project-delivery/>

Additional Resource: <http://ipdf.net>

J

K

L

**Lean Construction:** A method of project delivery and execution utilizing a combination of operating systems, common languages and efficient construction principles and practices. This industry-wide movement is an adaptation from similar lean principles from the manufacturing industry.

A good source of additional information is the Lean Construction Institute (LCI) at [www.leanconstruction.org](http://www.leanconstruction.org)

**Podium Construction:** A method and system of construction whereby the lower, or more often, below grade basement or garage structure, has a larger footprint than that of the above building (s).

M

N

O

P

Q

R

S

**Subcontractor:**

**A smaller contractor that often specializes in one or a few services or scopes of work. In most cases, they subcontract with the general contractor to build a project. Interchangeable term with trade contractor.**

T

U

V

W

X

Y

Z