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CHALLENGES FOR THE THIRD MILLENNIUM

Introduction of BIM in a Civil Engineering School: Curricular Program

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ABSTRACT

The attention of Civil Engineering is currently oriented to the methodology Building Information Modelling (BIM), a new concept that is based on recent scientific advances concerning the ability of computer systems to store, manage and manipulate large amounts of information, and established as the big breakthrough in the construction industry. Being the school the main actor in the formation of new engineers, it has the mission to offer disciplines or training workshops to prepare students for the professional activity, giving the knowledge concerning the current most advanced computer technology. In the context of implementing BIM, the future engineer should acquire the ability to apply basic BIM tools in different specialties and recognize the advantages in developing collaborative projects provided by BIM platforms. The incorporation of different disciplines in a single model BIM, through a collaborative effort, requires, on the part of each expert, the knowledge of the benefits and mode of operating of the tools necessary for an effective development and monitoring of a BIM project. This process requires study, practice, research and dissemination. In Portugal, the involvement in terms of design offices and construction companies, have been growing and as so this interest of the Construction industry is an incentive that justifies the inclusion of BIM in the curriculum of the Master course of Civil Engineering. In order to add the topic BIM to the course offered by the DECivil students Civil Engineering, it was proposed the introduction of the "BIM Methodology" discipline. A correct insertion of this curricular unit, involving the different specialties was at the level of last year of formation, taking the form of a discipline.