

UOB construction starts: problem-free data exchange from 2020

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Installation companies and their project partners will be able to exchange data without problem from May 2020. The Board of Techniek Nederland and the largest technical service providers within the employers' organisation have given the green light for the construction of a Uniform Object Library (UOB). As the UOB is accessible for all involved parties, working with Building Information Modelling (BIM) will be easier and more efficient, whatever software is used. The construction of the object library is possible thanks to a financial contribution from Techniek Nederland, several members, a group of manufacturers and 2BA.

Flawless information exchange

The construction of the UOB will result in higher productivity, a drastic reduction of failure costs, and building management and maintenance optimisation. President, Doekle Terpstra from Techniek Nederland: 'Buildings are becoming more complex in a technical sense. This is due to the energy transition as well as the development of smart buildings. We need flawless information exchange to enable fast and high-quality construction and to optimise maintenance and management implementation. Significant digitisation advancements are being made in the chain and the Uniform Object Library is a crucial link in this.'

'Huge support base'

Techniek Nederland and the large technical service providers have laid the foundation for the construction of the UOB. Doekle Terpstra: 'Industry also plays a crucial role in the project. Enthusiasm and support among manufacturers and suppliers is high. That's why I'm expecting strong backing from industry. We really need to do this together!' Manufacturers will also benefit from the UOB as they will no longer have to produce and maintain specific product data for individual software suppliers. This will save them a lot of time and money.

Open standard

The design of the object library is based on twelve BIM use cases and an independent data platform between product data and BIM and CAD content. The UOB will start with the most frequently used CAD platform for installers and builders. As the object library is an open standard, it will be easy to use this in other CAD environments.

Project implementation

2BA is implementing the project and will soon take on the Object Library operations. This implementing body already supplies standardised and validated product data for the



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installation sector. Ketenstandaard Bouw en Installatie, Cadac Group and Itannex are also closely involved in the project. As representative of all electrical and mechanical engineering suppliers, the Federatie Elektrotechniek (Fedet) is also an important partner. Members of Fedet will supply the data for the UOB. The object library will contribute to the objectives of DigiDealGo, the government and building chain's national Digitisation Programme for the Built Environment. That is why it has been submitted as an acceleration project.

One uniform information model

The Uniform Object Library addresses the needs of installers and manufacturers. All manufacturers can add products to this public, brand independent library. Each installation company can then use the objects from the library for the design of building installations, independent of their own software. With one uniform information model, CAD systems can exchange product information quickly and precisely in every phase of the construction and BIM process.

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About Techniek Nederland:

Techniek Nederland is the employers' association for the technology sector and represents over 6,300 companies in the installation sector and the technical retail trade. With an annual turnover of over EUR 16 billion and employment for some 130,000 people, we play an important economic and social role. Our members design, supply, install and maintain smart technology within house building, non-residential construction, industry and infrastructure.