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## Case Study:

Integration between Archibus and Autodesk Revit provides powerful portfolio management for UCHealth



# Case Study

## Overview

**UCHealth has a lot of building information to manage, with 12 hospitals — including University of Colorado Hospital — and a growing number of clinics and facilities under its umbrella, as well as a clinical staff of nearly 27,000.**

While improved reporting and limited in-house resources first drove the need for centralized, standardized data, changing occupancy and real estate dynamics have further highlighted its importance. Pairing the power of Archibus with [Autodesk Revit®](#), UCHealth is able to maximize each building's performance and stay agile for the future.

## The Roots of the Implementation

When we first spoke with Michael DuLaney, the BIM Manager for UCHealth, in early 2021, he set the scene for what prompted the initial investment in Autodesk and Archibus.

The facility data UCHealth relies on for decision-making and reporting was once housed across three regions within three separate servers. While this division scattered facility data and made it hard to find, manually compiled spreadsheet data further complicated management of Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) reporting, employee spaces, and office moves.

Requests were time-intensive to fulfill and prone to error, and with the ever-evolving nature of facility demands, the spreadsheet management system became a seemingly nonviable option. With the goal of centralizing facility data, UCHealth made the decision to move from [Autodesk AutoCAD®](#) to Autodesk Revit — where deliverables from their architects lived — and combine this new BIM software with Archibus to bridge the space management gap.

Revit + Archibus = Better  
Building Information Modeling

## The Transition from AutoCAD to Revit

Within Autodesk Revit, users have access to 3D building models, versus 2D AutoCAD models. Alongside the ability to identify walls and fire safety measures, objects within Revit have inherent data attached to them — so whether you click on a desk, window, or monitor, you can access identity-related details about the item, including a description, the manufacturer, and the cost data.

Consider this in the context of a unique request that DuLaney recently received from the finance department.

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Looking to perform a cost-benefit analysis around renting versus buying paper towel holders, the supply chain department came to DuLaney with this question: How many paper towel dispensers do we have?

Revit makes it easy to visualize the paper towel dispensers or the wet areas where the presence of a paper towel dispenser can be assumed.



## Connecting BIM & Facilities Data

With limitations on the number of Revit user licenses and the time that would need to be spent training staff, UCHHealth wanted to find a way to let non-Revit users take advantage of the software's abundance of data. That's where Archibus comes into the picture. By implementing Archibus Space Inventory, Occupancy, and Smart Client Extension for Revit, UCHHealth can now tie

selected building information from Revit with enterprise databases that account for space, equipment, asset, and portfolio inventories across multiple facilities.

While giving the average user access to valuable BIM data, the connection between BIM and facilities data has also helped active Revit users be more efficient in their day-to-day operations. We can look at these efficiencies through the lens of our first conversation with DuLaney, as well as new workplace challenges he's encountered in the past year.

## An Easier Way to Manage Data & Report Requests

From a reporting standpoint, access to Revit data within Archibus — in combination with a script created by the Archibus Solution Center Research Triangle that auto-calculates data — has saved DuLaney countless hours of effort while enabling greater accuracy in CMS reports. What's more, Archibus archives the data so there is a data trail readily available to consult as needed. Quick access to facility data across different buildings and sites has also made it easier for DuLaney to answer space-related questions, locate employees and rooms, and gather space utilization information for reporting purposes.

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He elaborated on this point in a more recent conversation.

**“When somebody asks for a certain room type or category type, I can pull up that information, run a report, and have everything formatted in five or 10 minutes,”- DuLaney noted. “If I were to do that in Revit, it would probably take an hour or two. Using a CAD approach, it would take a full day.”**

The fast turnaround time on these reports, alongside their consistency across multiple regions, has improved satisfaction for the finance team and other departments.

## **An Easier Way to Manage Occupancy Dynamics**

Amid the shift to a more hybrid workplace, UHealth is making greater use of Archibus today — in conjunction with Revit BIM data — to manage occupancy across their hospitals, clinics, and facilities.

Tracking employees that are assigned to a cube or office, UHealth plans on implementing floor or department captains that report back once a month on office moves that have happened or people that are coming and going.

Working with UHealth’s finance department, the data from these reports has helped pinpoint potential opportunities to consolidate facilities based on vacancies and curb unnecessary costs in a time when commercial real estate prices are noticeably inflated.

Alongside these current efforts, DuLaney now uses Archibus as a point of comparison to UHealth’s Signature Authority, which provides details about all of the organization’s divisions and departments.



From time to time, a division or department code goes away or one department may merge with another department, making the original one inactive.

Because the Signature Authority tells DuLaney where departments have moved, he can easily make those updates in Archibus so that departments are situated where they belong and data is active.

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## Plotting Moves for the Future

While moving away from manual move measures has been a focus for UCHHealth, expansion that's underway has emphasized this need for the future.

At the University of Colorado Hospital campus, a third tower is under construction that will be approximately 650,000 square feet & 14 floors.

**“This would have been very difficult to accomplish with anything but Archibus,” DuLaney stated.**

A new medical center will be opening very soon in the north region, and one in the south region is set to be built soon. Each of these new facilities will be linked into Archibus with the appropriate departments and categories assigned, but the other side of that is also the move itself. In the case of the new UC Hospital tower, for instance, several departments will move to that tower from existing facilities.

With the ability to project and plan moves currently in Archibus, the next step is to implement Archibus Moves to execute a command that updates records based on moves and makes the relocation process as seamless as possible.

## Smarter Facility Decisions Through Unified Design & Operations Data

UCHHealth has already experienced the benefits of integrating Autodesk and Archibus. And with Autodesk's latest investment in iOffice + SpacelQ, building owners and operators have an even more seamless way to enable scalability, accelerate deployment, boost productivity, and deliver meaningful results.

You'll have the tools you need to keep facilities efficient, reduce costs, and ensure employee satisfaction — in a time when all of these variables are top of mind.

To see the power of the Autodesk & Archibus integration firsthand, [request a demo.](#)

**iOffice + SpacelQ**, a leader in the digital transformation of workplace and asset management, in 2021 announced a strategic investment by Autodesk, a global technology leader in architecture, engineering, construction, product design, manufacturing, and media and entertainment. The investment, which followed the recent combination of iOffice + SpacelQ, will provide integrated solutions that give businesses unequalled ability to analyze and optimize all aspects of their real estate and mission-critical assets.