


Redefining campus design through digital collaboration

The University of Portsmouth and Ridge & Partners LLP deliver a future-ready campus masterplan using Autodesk Construction Cloud

Universities are rethinking their campuses in response to changing learning demands and student needs. The University of Portsmouth set out to **reimagine its estate with a decade-long £250m masterplan**, aiming to foster collaboration, research and innovation.

Ridge & Partners LLP, a multidisciplinary built environment consultancy, was appointed to help bring this **vision to life**, driving digital collaboration and efficiency at every stage.

Key Stats

- **£250m** university campus investment
- Model open time: **35 mins → 2–3 mins**
- **1,300+** Ridge employees across **15 offices**
- Fully coordinated, cloud-based design process

The challenge

Delivering a large-scale redevelopment in the heart of Portsmouth’s busy city centre required careful coordination, strategic planning and seamless collaboration. The University needed to balance estate improvements with the day-to-day experience of students, staff and the wider community.

Disparate workflows, long model load times and siloed data made it difficult to coordinate across Ridge’s 15 UK offices and multiple external stakeholders.

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“We needed a well-thought-through plan and programme of works that could be easily articulated, showing how the journey would be delivered.”

Tahir Ahmed,
Director of Estates & Campus Services, University of Portsmouth

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The solution

Ridge adopted **Autodesk Construction Cloud** to centralise project data and streamline collaboration across disciplines and stakeholders.

This technology enabled the creation of clear, simple 3D visualisations, presentations and VR fly-throughs - giving the University and its stakeholders greater visibility of the project and helping them make faster, more informed decisions.

Autodesk Construction Cloud reduced model open times for Ridge from 35 minutes to just 2–3 minutes, a 10x efficiency gain that became a catalyst for broader change. For them this means more work, faster project delivery and reduced risk; a winning combination.

A key moment came when Ridge demonstrated how opening and synchronising models on Autodesk Construction Cloud reduced wait times from 35 minutes to just 2-3 minutes - making a powerful business case for change.

The results

“ACC has changed my workflow and afforded me more time.”

Leonardo Ali,
Associate Architect, Ridge & Partners LLP

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By moving to the cloud, we realised the benefits across all disciplines and multiplied them.”

Brent Rees,
Partner, Ridge & Partners LLP

- 1** Real-time collaboration across all disciplines
- 2** One centralised, always-updated model
- 3** Faster decision-making & stakeholder reviews
- 4** Improved data accuracy & model integrity
- 5** Better engagement with faculty, students, and staff

Want to learn more?
Watch the full customer story film here:

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