



Charter for the US Chapter of buildingSMART International

Proposed Structure of US Chapter

The US Chapter has been incorporated in North Carolina as buildingSMART USA Inc. and has been granted tax exempt status as a 501(c)6 nonprofit organization.

Role of US Chapter

The US Chapter is being established to bring buildingSMART International open standards efforts into focus in the US as major global market through recruiting the support and participation of US Companies, Professionals, Industry Associations, Research Organizations, Academic Institutions and Government Agencies. This involvement will ensure an equal US voice is at the table alongside European and Chinese leaders of industry to steer how international open standards for information exchange, process optimization and protocols for managing digital data are being defined for the design, construction and operation of built assets (which includes both buildings and infrastructure).

Focus of US Chapter

The initial emphasis for re-establishing the US Chapter will be to focus on infrastructure – specifically Roads, Bridges, Tunnels, and Airports. This focus is in response to resolutions passed by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) supported by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and in response to the needs identified by the Airport Cooperate Research Program (ACRP) supported by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

The US Chapter may also decide to pursue specific projects or initiatives pertaining to other segments of the built asset industry as the demand for interoperable solutions arises. Certainly, in the longer term as the Chapter grows, the Chapter will expand its activities to also include Rail, Power and Buildings.

Chapter Membership

buildingSMART USA will offer two forms of membership. Membership can either be directly with buildingSMART International (where a company has a global business interested in addressing international markets) or with buildingSMART USA (for companies that serve the US market only). The US Chapter will be recruiting both types of members.

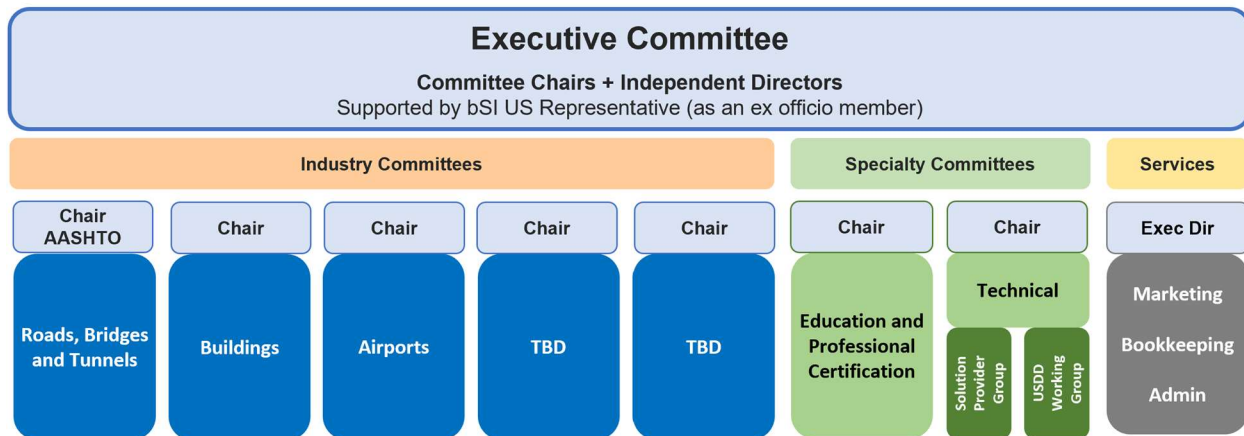
International membership is directly with buildingSMART International according to the membership categories and respective benefits described at <https://info.buildingsmart.org/benefits-page>. Any US

based company (affiliated office, wholly owned subsidiary or branch office) that is a member if buildingSMART International is also automatically a member of the US Chapter and as such, can also participate in US Chapter events, meetings and activities as local members and at membership rates. buildingSMART USA will receive a proportional rebate (as set by the bSI Bylaws) from buildingSMART International for every international member recruited by the US Chapter.

buildingSMART USA membership is with the local US Chapter only. Chapter members can participate in International Rooms, projects and events. However, members from one Chapter generally cannot participate in another Chapter without also joining that Chapter or becoming a Multi-National or Strategic member with buildingSMART International

Chapter Organization

The Chapter will be organized as a number of Industry Committees with four areas of focus being proposed initially that align with active buildingSMART International ‘Rooms’ and ‘Projects’. An Executive Committee will be responsible for overseeing all Chapter activities.



Changes to the number and focus of Industry Committees and the composition of representation on these committees will occur over time based upon changing industry needs and a growing market demand for buildingSMART open standards.

Note that to qualify for appointment onto an Industry Committee, individuals must be supported by a US based Association or Organization that is a member of buildingSMART International (under the bSI International Membership Scheme).

Committees may convene sub-committees to be called Working Groups for any duration as required to address specific areas of study (such as the ‘US Data Dictionary Working Group’ under the Technical Committee and the ‘Solutions Provider Group’ for vendors interested in implementing open standards also under the Technical Committee). Committees will appoint an appropriate member to act as the Convenor and Coordinator for each Working Group who will oversee the scope, priority and management of that group’s activities.

Governance

The Executive Committee will be comprised of the Chairs and Vice Chairs from each Industry Committee together with a Technical Director and the bSI US Representative serving as an ex-officio member.

The Executive Committee will appoint a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer for the Chapter. In addition to a Technical Director, the Executive Committee has the discretion to appoint additional members by majority vote that will help serve the interests of all of the Industry Committees.

Each Industry Committee will appoint a Chair and Vice Chair responsible for convening and overseeing the activities of the Committee.

All Committee appointments will be for an initial term of two years and individuals will be eligible to serve subsequent two-year terms at the discretion of a majority of the other members of the respective Committee.

The US Chapter will enter into a standard “Chapter Membership Agreement” with buildingSMART International to become designated as a “Full Chapter”. The Chapter Executive Committee shall be responsible for complying with the terms and conditions of such Agreement as well as the buildingSMART International Ltd Governing Documents (By-Laws and Articles) to which it refers.

Duties and Responsibilities of appointed Executive Committee Members

The duties and responsibilities of Committee Chairs and Industry Directors who are appointed to the Chapter Executive Committee include:

1. To promote bSI’s mission and values.
2. To actively recruit membership to buildingSMART international.
3. To encourage US Companies to attend international summits and to participate in bSI ‘Rooms’
4. To solicit sponsorship and in-kind resource contributions for bSI projects.
5. To disseminate bSI marketing materials (e.g. Annual Report, Case Studies, etc.).
6. To secure speaking engagements for bSI at industry conferences.
7. To represent the interests of US member companies.
8. To collaborate with other buildingSMART International Chapters.
9. To contribute to the technical development of bSI defined open standards (IFC, BCF, etc.).
10. To support adoption, localization and implementation of open standards in the US.
11. To coordinate with other US industry standard organizations
12. To liaise with bSI International Rooms

Chapter Staffing

The US Representative for buildingSMART International is based in the US and will act as a liaison for the Chapter with the bSI Leadership Team based in London, UK. The US Representative will assist the Executive Committee and Industry Committees in the execution of their duties and responsibilities in the capacity of Interim Executive Director for the US Chapter until such time as the Chapter can afford to employ a qualified and experienced professional in this role on either a part-time or full-time basis.

At its discretion, as the Chapter scales in membership, the Executive Committee can also choose to appoint part or full-time staff to assist with Chapter administration, marketing, operations and finances to be funded solely from Chapter finances.

Chapter Finances

The Chapter will receive a rebate from buildingSMART International from the membership dues paid by all US direct members. In addition, the Chapter will be eligible for a pro-rated rebate (in accordance with the existing bSI Membership Scheme) from any non-US Multi-National Members who choose to participate in the US Chapter.

The US Chapter may also directly solicit sponsorship to support Chapter events or specific Chapter initiatives.

All monies will be held in account by the US Chapter and be managed by the Treasurer with the oversight of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer will be responsible for preparing and monitoring an annual budget as well as for quarterly financial reporting to the Executive Committee.

Chapter Partnerships

The Chapter is encouraged to partner with existing industry organizations and collaborate with existing industry initiatives that also serve to promote the adoption, implementation and use of international open standards. Examples include the following -

- Supporting innovation by key Industry Associations in the development of IFC based standards for their constituents such as the BIMSteel project by AISC (the American Institute of Steel Construction).
- Assisting AASHTO in implementing their resolutions to adopt the IFC Bridge and IFC Road standards for all 3D electronic data deliverables as a National Standard for all State DOT's.
- Collaborating with NIBS on the creation and maintenance of NBIMS-US™ (the National Building Information Modelling Standard) with IFC and COBie as reference standards.
- Working together with the BIM Forum for the training and certification of their large community of end-users.
- Acknowledging Government Agencies such as GSA (US General Services Administration) who specify IFC model files and COBie compliant hand over deliverables for public building projects.
- Leveraging the interoperability research being undertaken by the Digital Building Laboratory at Georgia Tech and the JSON research at CASE/RPI as contributions to the technical work of buildingSMART International.
- Encouraging leading BIM vendors including Autodesk, Bentley Systems and Trimble to continue their software development efforts to support IFC based data exchange and information sharing.
- Promoting the ability for software implementors to license the IFC SDK published and supported by ODA (the Open Design Alliance) to import/export IFC data.
- Partnering with Oracle to promote an IFC/BCF based openCDE (Open Common Data Environment) to support design coordination and construction management workflows for the built asset industry.

- Facilitating relevant “open standards” education programs such as The COBie Academy by the University of Florida.
 - Offering a Professional Certification Program by identifying and appointing Registered Training Providers such as the Strategic Building Innovation group for openBIM certification.
 - Joining the Microsoft/Dell/GE/Ansys led Digital Twins Consortium to enable adoption of bSI’s IFC Schema as a commonly defined semantic data model for both buildings and infrastructure.
 - Acting as agent for the buildingSMART Data Dictionary implementation of the NSBA Bridge Glossary.
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For more information about buildingSMART International ...

- Download our Annual Report: <https://www.buildingsmart.org/annual-reports/>
- Visit our Website: www.buildingsmart.org
- Follow us on Twitter: [@buildingSMARTIn](https://twitter.com/buildingSMARTIn)

Any questions about buildingSMART International or this US Chapter Charter should be directed to:

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