BIM implementation at SBB Infrastructure.

With the introduction of Building Information Modelling (BIM), SBB is making a significant contribution to the future-oriented and efficient planning, construction and operation of buildings and technical facilities. SBB has been using the BIM method for its construction projects since 2021. In 2025, the BIM method will be implemented for infrastructure projects.

BIM has an impact on collaboration: information management is simplified, processes are improved and work steps can be automated.
To integrate these changes into the construction work, SBB has defined a plan for their implementation in several stages. This will make it possible for all stakeholders to take the next steps together.

The BIM implementation strategy shows how SBB is introducing BIM in construction projects: in stages, following in line with construction plans. Infrastructure projects with BIM will be put out to tender from mid-2024.

The stages are divided into major and minor releases and are based on the construction process and SIA project phases.
It will be introduced in all of SBB's technical units (e.g. civil engineering, safety installations, track, catenary construction, geomatics etc.).

Major release
The major release takes place every two years and will provide major BIM functionalities within the designated time period. This includes providing necessary tools (such as BIM-enabled systems and instruments), as well as critical instruments and training materials, to employees and partners.

Minor release
The minor release takes place every six to twelve months and will provide extended functionalities relevant to a specific major release.

There are dependencies between the major releases. It is necessary to ensure that a certain development level is achieved in a given area before the major release is implemented.

With the BIM implementation strategy, SBB ensures that all construction projects can be implemented with the BIM method in both a stringent manner and in line with the construction process.
From 2025, construction projects that are started with the BIM method in the pre-project phase will be completed with BIM throughout all project phases.

What happens next?

This information is continually updated. Visit www.sbb.ch/en/bim or send your question(s) to bim@sbb.ch.

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