

IFD Library Uses

What can you do with it?

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What Use is IFD Library?

- Data Delivery:
 - Strange woman says, "I think you're the father of one of my kids."
- Data Receipt and Reaction:
 - Man says: "My God, are you the stripper from my bachelor party that I made love to on the pool table with all my buddies watching?"
- What Was Really Meant:
 - She says calmly, "No, I'm your son's teacher."

IFD Library - Fundamentally

- assist construction industry users to identify, classify, and reliably exchange information about buildings
- extend functionality already implemented in IFC
- provide business benefits outside the modelling realm
- object-oriented (not limited by classification)

Proprietary or Standardized?

- Proprietary:
 - One organization (or discipline) defines concepts to suit their purposes, or what they deem their users' purposes are
 - Useful only in proprietary softwares
 - Supports languages of their choosing
- Standardized:
 - International cooperative alliance; every organization defines their own terms, but stored in one common database and linked with all others (in context)
 - Open (anybody can adopt and use)
 - Supports unlimited languages (limited only by gatekeepers)

IFD Library - Foundation

- Unique GUID for every concept
- Unlimited number of "contexts" for every concept; one definition
- Describe concepts to unlimited level of detail

Stand-Alone Uses

- View definitions, translations to other languages, and relationships to other terms (such as lists of properties, components, etc)
- Translate object types and properties into supported languages (Can/USA English, Can French, Dutch, Norwegian)
- Indexing service to link proprietary data about a concept

Data Exchange Uses

- Between software applications (similar or dissimilar purposes)
- Between human languages
- Complex assemblies can be described simply
- Best implemented using IFC

Identification of Concepts

- Capture relevant property lists for object (one or many contexts)
- Identify "like" objects (or duplicate types) in a model, even if used in different contexts
- Reverse filter: Pre-filtered object values for end users; only acceptable object types are selected for model

Applications

- Design
 - Traditional geometric modelling applications
 - Design simulation software
 - Contract specifications
 - Building code checking
- Information resources (data warehouses)
 - Product data (input, search)
 - Cost data
- Facility Management
 - Maintenance scheduling
 - Space management
 - Asset management
- ...

Conclusions

- IFD Library useful on its own, to connect internal processes and data stores
- IFD Library enriches the established IFC exchange standard
- IFD Library has the potential to become a world-wide standard, with 5 languages in 4 nations already supported
- Implement IFD Library for internal processes; get additional benefits when modelling