



Revit Architecture gives us more time to do a better job.

Douglas Palladino
Principal
RTKL Associates Inc.

High-performance architecture.

For a more coordinated and integrated design process, RTKL chose the Revit® Architecture design and documentation system.

The Firm

RTKL is a multidisciplinary architectural firm that prides itself on its breadth of services to clients in the public, hospitality, health-care, corporate, and residential sectors. From urban planning and architecture to branding and sustainable design, their comprehensive approach ensures excellence in the design and development of long-lasting client relationships.

After exhaustive research, RTKL is moving to standardize on the Revit Architecture design and documentation system for its Washington, D.C., office. After a year-long pilot program, the firm is now ready to launch a companywide rollout. "We're trying to do the best job for our clients," says Douglas Palladino, a principal in the firm. "Revit Architecture helps us meet our goal of creating the best in high-performance architecture."

A Clear Choice

Before standardizing on Revit Architecture in 2004, RTKL assembled a task force with representatives from each of the firm's 10 locations. "The group interviewed the most competitive architectural software vendors in the world to fully understand their short- and long-term development plans," says Palladino. "As a result, we decided to begin using Revit Architecture at the earliest practical time."

From Design to Documentation

By January 2005, Autodesk® Consulting, working with an Autodesk Value Added Reseller, had trained and provided project mentoring to about 60 RTKL architects and interior designers on Revit Architecture. RTKL has since completed 8 projects, including its first 100 percent Revit Architecture–documented project, a 300,000 square foot office building and a 850 car parking structure for the Food and Drug Administration. "Our strategic goal is to begin a pilot project using Revit Architecture in every office as soon as possible," says Palladino.



After exhaustive research and a year-long trial, RTKL Associates is launching a companywide rollout of the Revit Architecture design and documentation system. Revit Architecture helps architects

- *Design on a single, integrated building information model*
- *Automatically coordinate all work across the entire model*
- *Quickly and easily create multiple design scenarios*
- *Enhance collaboration among project team members*
- *Boost repeat business*
- *Increase productivity and competitive advantage*

The Solution

“We see Revit Architecture as a way to do what we do in a more in-depth and efficient way,” says Palladino. In addition to providing integration with AutoCAD® software, Revit Architecture enables designers to work on a single, integrated building information model. Revit Architecture automatically coordinates work on individual drawings and schedule views across the entire model, right down to the construction documents. “As a result, people spend their time thinking about the more important aspects of the project, rather than just repeating menial tasks.”

Building Information Modeling for Better Results

For example, in its work on the 300,000-square-foot FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, RTKL designers used Revit Architecture to study many different design possibilities and better understand the implications of their choices. The 3D Revit Architecture model enabled them to quickly and easily show stakeholders how the project appeared from any vantage point, resulting in more-informed decisions, and a better finished design.

Improved Coordination

Before using Revit Architecture, RTKL routinely maintained and updated separate design models and documentation. “At a certain point during construction documentation,” says Palladino, “we would stop keeping the design model up-to-date. Now, as we continue to develop the design, Revit Architecture automatically updates the entire model—including construction documents and 3D design views.”

Enhanced Collaboration

“Revit Architecture has changed the dynamics of the project team,” says Heidi Stemkoski, a designer at RTKL. “People aren’t so isolated working on just plans or sections or elevations. It’s just not possible to work that way anymore. The team understands the building as a whole—and that’s better for the project.”

Heightened Productivity

Revit Architecture leverages work performed on previous projects or away from the office. With Revit Architecture, RTKL designers can

- Work at home on a laptop and then plug designs back into the model
- Integrate and coordinate work performed using AutoCAD software, or hand off work generated with Revit Architecture to consultants for documentation in AutoCAD
- Reduce the number and frequency of requests for information (RFIs) thanks to more accurate documentation

The Result

“Creating higher-quality architecture gives us a competitive advantage in the marketplace,” says Palladino. “Revit Architecture helps us spend less time drafting and more time designing.” As a result, clients are happier with the design and keep coming back. And the designers? “I personally find it more enjoyable,” says Stemkoski. “We’d all prefer not to go back to 2D drafting.”

Learn More

For more information about Revit Architecture, go to www.autodesk.com/revitarchitecture.