MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/16/2011

TO: Richard Gee

PROJECT: Region 5 BIM Model Checking

SUBJECT: Recommendation on the R5 Family Naming Conventions

INTRODUCTION:

In an effort to organize Revit families within the project browser view, consider the following classification systems and how they could assist in organizing families for ease of access within the Revit environment.

UniFormat – Provides an organization method to allow for arranging construction information based on assemblies or parts. Since Revit families and types consist of both assemblies and parts, this could be a way to organize all elements in the model. UniFormat was developed in the 1970's. Currently, some of the specification programs (i.e. e-Spec) able to integrate with Revit use Uniformat information associated with BIM objects to create the specs.

MasterFormat – Industry standard recognized by A/E design teams, contractors, and owners as the most common way to arrange specifications for materials and other information for building projects in the US. The numbering system has been in use for over 40 years.

OmniClass - OmniClass is useful for many applications, from organizing library materials, product literature, and project information, to providing a classification structure for electronic databases. OmniClass incorporates both UniFormat and MasterFormat as a basis for many of the tables.

RECOMMENDATION:
Use the above classification system to update the built-in parameters in Revit and use simple pre-fixes in family names to indicate an objects location in the model. This helps to make locating items such as wall types quicker when scrolling through the project browser. A recommended naming convention for walls and doors is indicated below.

Exterior Walls:
Naming Convention: LOCATION – Wall Thickness – Wall Name Description
Example: INT – 12" – Single Wythe CMU Bearing

Walls are "built-in" to Revit. In other words they are not loaded components and don't reside in an external folder. For families that require loading into a project, the naming convention would be slightly different. Since doors are typically numbered according to the room or space they occur in, the label or tag would not need to be included in the family name.

Exterior Doors:
Naming Convention: LOCATION – FAMILY NAME
Example: EXT – Single Flush Doors

Kristine Fallon Associates, Inc.
11 E. ADAMS STREET, SUITE 1100 | CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60603 | 312-360-9600 | WWW.KFA-INC.COM