

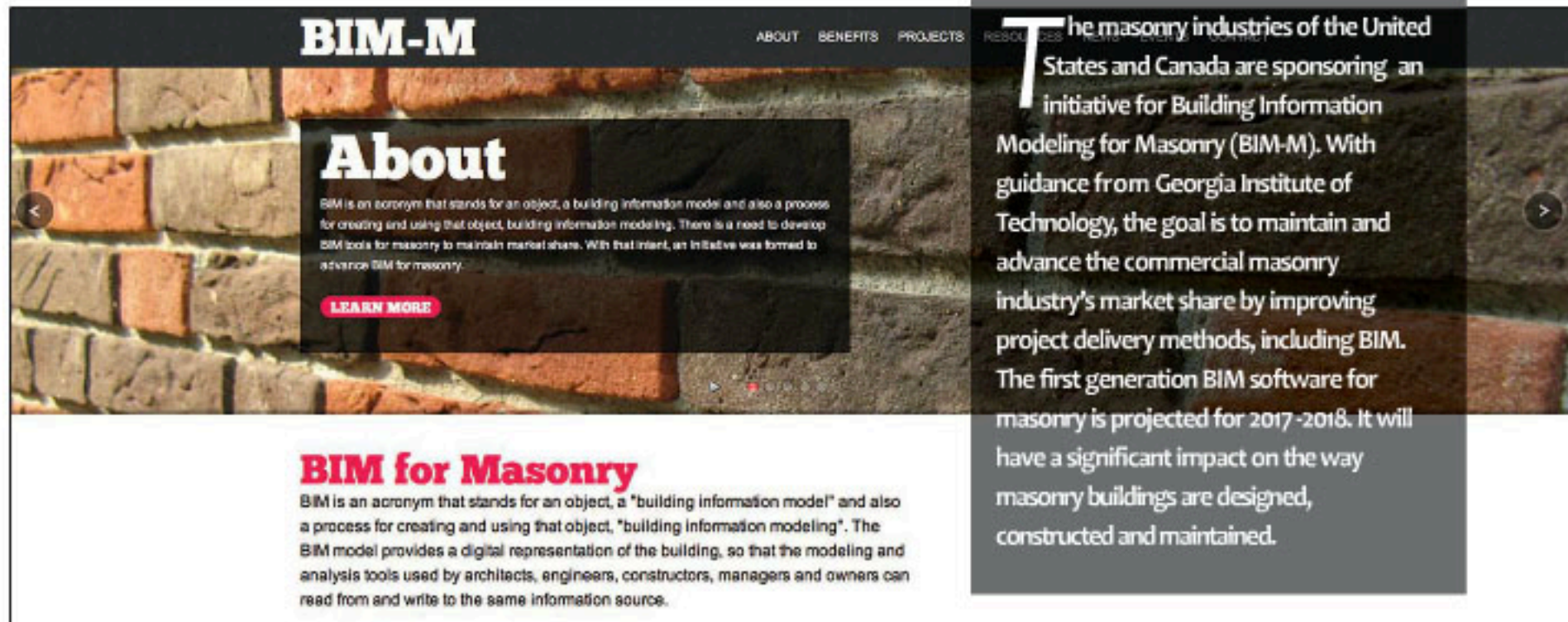


NEW WEB SITE LAUNCHED

BIMforMasonry.org

Building Information Modeling
for Masonry | BIM-M

David T Biggs, PE, SE, and Tim O'Toole



BIM-M

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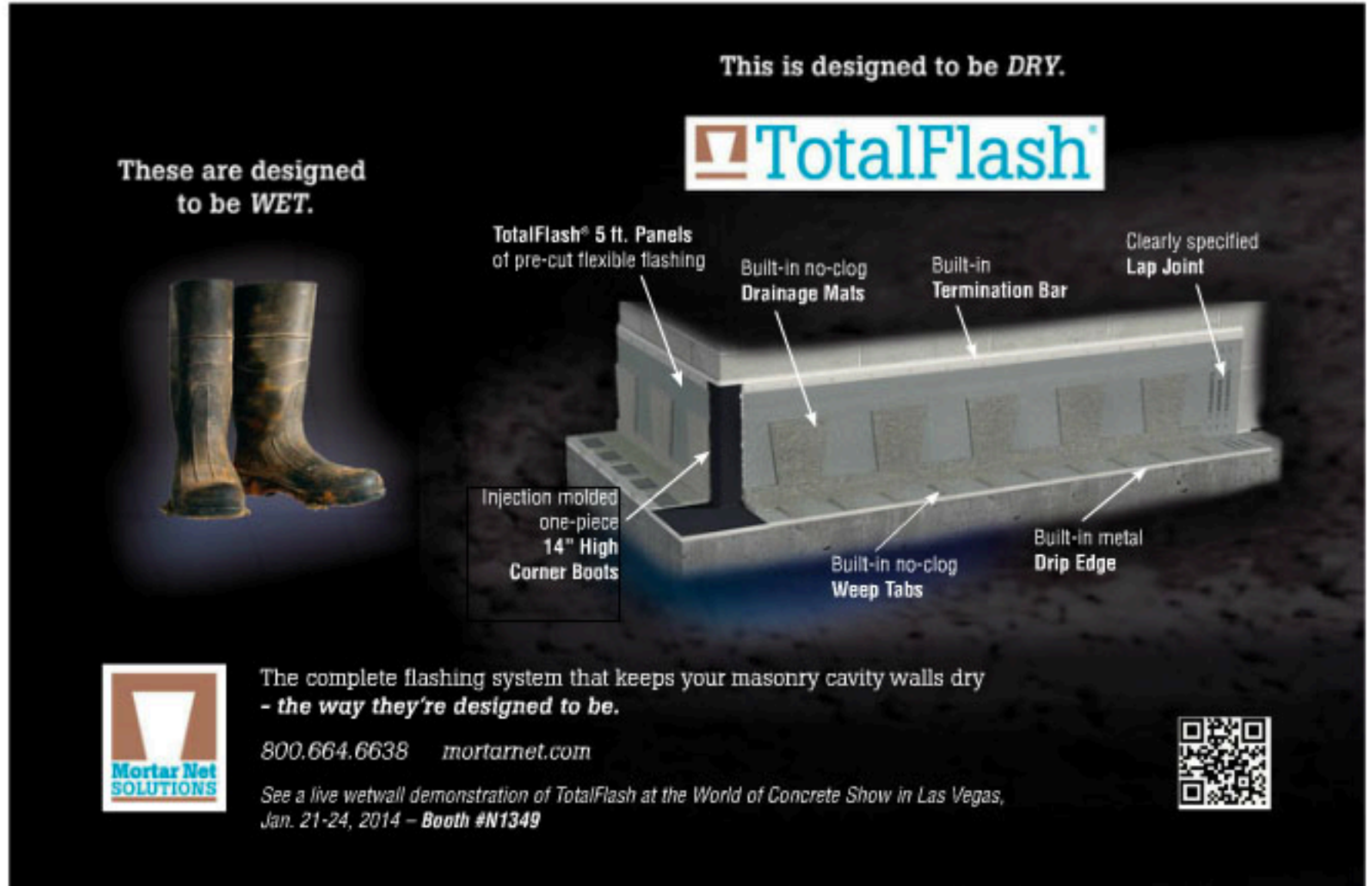
BIM is an acronym that stands for an object, a building information model and also a process for creating and using that object, building information modeling. There is a need to develop BIM tools for masonry to maintain market share. With that intent, an initiative was formed to advance BIM for masonry.

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BIM for Masonry

BIM is an acronym that stands for an object, a "building information model" and also a process for creating and using that object, "building information modeling". The BIM model provides a digital representation of the building, so that the modeling and analysis tools used by architects, engineers, constructors, managers and owners can read from and write to the same information source.

The masonry industries of the United States and Canada are sponsoring an initiative for Building Information Modeling for Masonry (BIM-M). With guidance from Georgia Institute of Technology, the goal is to maintain and advance the commercial masonry industry's market share by improving project delivery methods, including BIM. The first generation BIM software for masonry is projected for 2017-2018. It will have a significant impact on the way masonry buildings are designed, constructed and maintained.



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A major undertaking of sponsors and volunteers, this major initiative provides information through a newly launched web site. Coupled with periodic press releases, BIM-M will become known to the masonry industry in the US and Canada.

BIMforMasonry.org

transfers information on the initiative to site visitors. A resume-type appearance is easy to navigate and allows users to download information.

Get involved and share your expertise

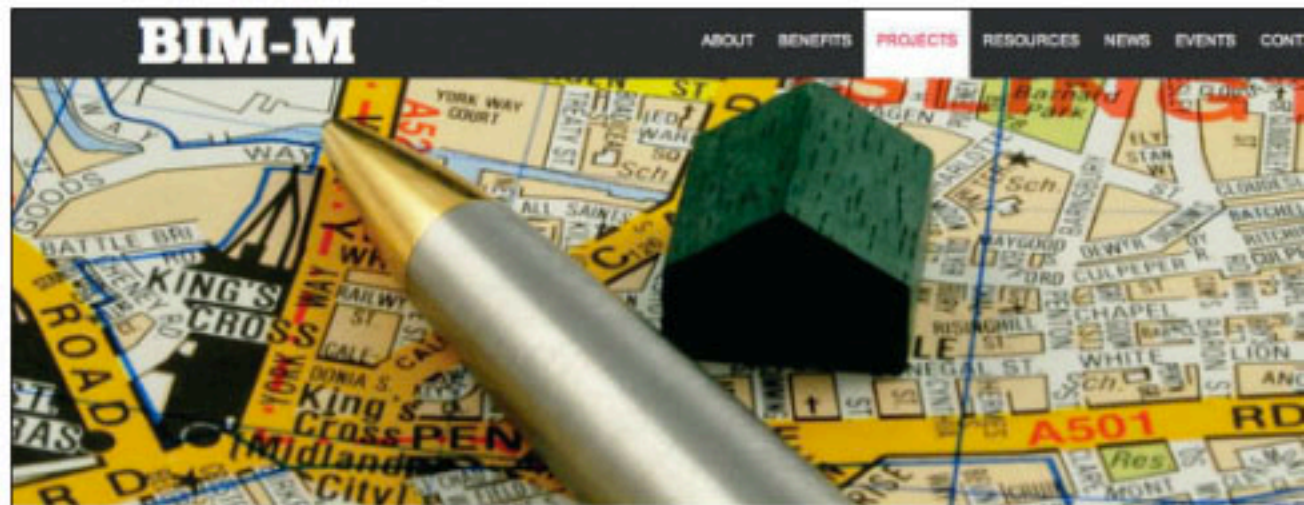
Layout

Key features include:

- BIM-M Leaders
- Visitors are invited to get involved
- Benefits to the industry including designers, suppliers, manufacturers, craftworkers, contractors, construction managers and owners are highlighted.
- The mission statement is spelled out for all to understand the goals and the vision for BIM-M.

The Building Information Modeling for Masonry Initiative (BIM-M) is identifying barriers to and strategies for the full implementation of masonry materials and systems into BIM software for the design and construction industries. The purpose of this initiative is to unify the masonry industry and all supporting industries through the development and implementation of BIM for Masonry software to facilitate smoother workflows and collaboration across all disciplines from owner, architect, engineer, manufacturer, mason, contractor, construction manager and maintenance professionals.

- Identified are organization, committee structure and Executive Committee initiatives.
- On-going BIM-M projects are listed individually with leaders, consultants and proposed time frames of completion. The initial project completed is the Phase I-Roadmap created by Georgia Institute of Technology under the direction of Professors Chuck Eastman and Russell Gentry, consultants to BIM-M, Georgia Tech's roadmap charts the path the masonry industry needs to take toward digital inclusion in the construction industry. The full Roadmap is available at

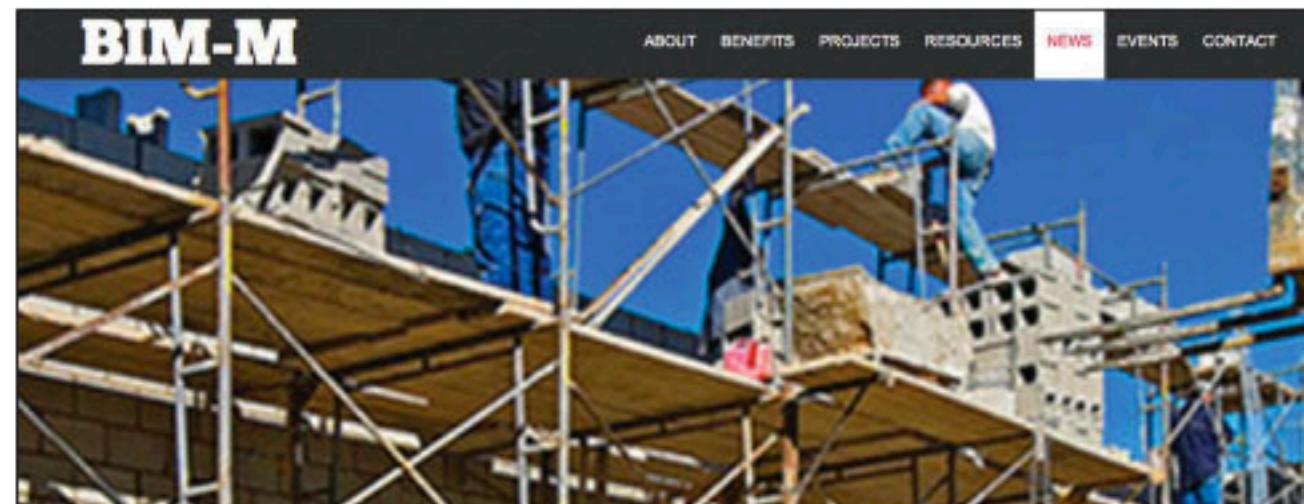


Phase I - Roadmap

The Roadmap for Developing and Deploying Building Information Modeling (BIM) for the Masonry Industry presents a roadmap for building information modeling (BIM) for the masonry industry. The roadmap results from an intensive nine-month effort by leading associations within the masonry industry and including the input of stakeholders: material suppliers, architects, engineers, and contractors. The Digital Building Laboratory (DBL) at the Georgia Institute of Technology prepared the roadmap. The Building Information Modeling for Masonry Initiative has adopted the following mission statement:

To unify the masonry industry and all supporting industries through the development and implementation of BIM for masonry software to facilitate smoother workflows and collaboration across all disciplines from owner, architect, engineer, manufacturer, mason, contractor, construction manager, and maintenance professionals.

This initial effort was funded by the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (IUBAC), the Mason Contractors Association of America (MCAA), the International Masonry Institute (IMI), the National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA), the Western States Clay Products Association (WSCPA) and The Masonry Society (TMS).



Articles



[Developing a Roadmap for BIM in Masonry](#)
(June 2013)



[BIM for Masonry: What's Coming for Structural Engineers](#)
(May 2013)



[Digital Tools for Masonry Design and Construction](#)
(April 2013)



[BIM-Masonry: Design Tool Paves Way for More Effective Project Delivery](#)
(March 2013)

Links to Important BIM-M developments, like the roadmap, and articles from Industry magazines are available at BIMforMasonry.org to keep interested parties up-to-date on the current status and next steps of this transformative project.

WEB SITE LAUNCHED

bimformasonry.org/pdf/a-roadmap-for-developing-and-deploying-building-information-modeling-bim-for-the-masonry-industry.pdf.

- Resources provide glossary of BIM terms, downloadable presentations and links to articles.
- Events and News are key features that will be updated as warranted. Events include educational opportunities. News includes changing programs and press releases.

Still to Come! With the first generation of BIM-M software improvements proposed for release in 2017, there is plenty of work to do. The web site will follow the activities of BIM-M and be a vehicle of information. Social media opportunities are being explored along with additional links to related industries and organizations. Stay tuned and look to BIMforMasonry.org!



David T Biggs, PE, SE, DIST M ASCE, HTMS, is principal of Biggs Consulting Engineering in Troy NY and the Program

Coordinator for the BIM-M Initiative. He specializes in structural forensic engineering, masonry design and historic restoration. He lectures, is involved with research projects and provides consulting for the development of new masonry products. Biggs was a member of the Building Assessment Team that investigated the World Trade Center disaster for FEMA and the American Society of Civil Engineers. He is a Distinguished Member of ASCE, an Honorary Member of The Masonry Society and has been a visiting lecturer at the Czech Technical University in Prague and the University of Minho in Portugal for the European Course Advanced Masters in Structural Analysis of Monuments and Historic Constructions. He is a member of the Masonry Standards Joint Committee and a board member of both The Masonry Society and the Structural Engineering Institute of ASCE. Biggs is also a GREAT MIND of the Editorial Advisory Board of SMART|[dynamicsofmasonry](http://dynamicsofmasonry.com) and a partner of Constructive LLC, prefabricated masonry wall system. biggsconsulting@att.net | 518.495.5739

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Tim O'Toole is the Director of Marketing, Education,

and Information Technology for the Mason Contractors Association of America in Algonquin IL and the developer of the BIMforMasonry.org web site. He has a Masters in Business Administration from Webster University and has worked in the masonry industry since 2003. totoole@masoncontractors.org 224.678.9709