



BIM
Harambee
Africa
2026

How to know when your BIM game needs sharpening

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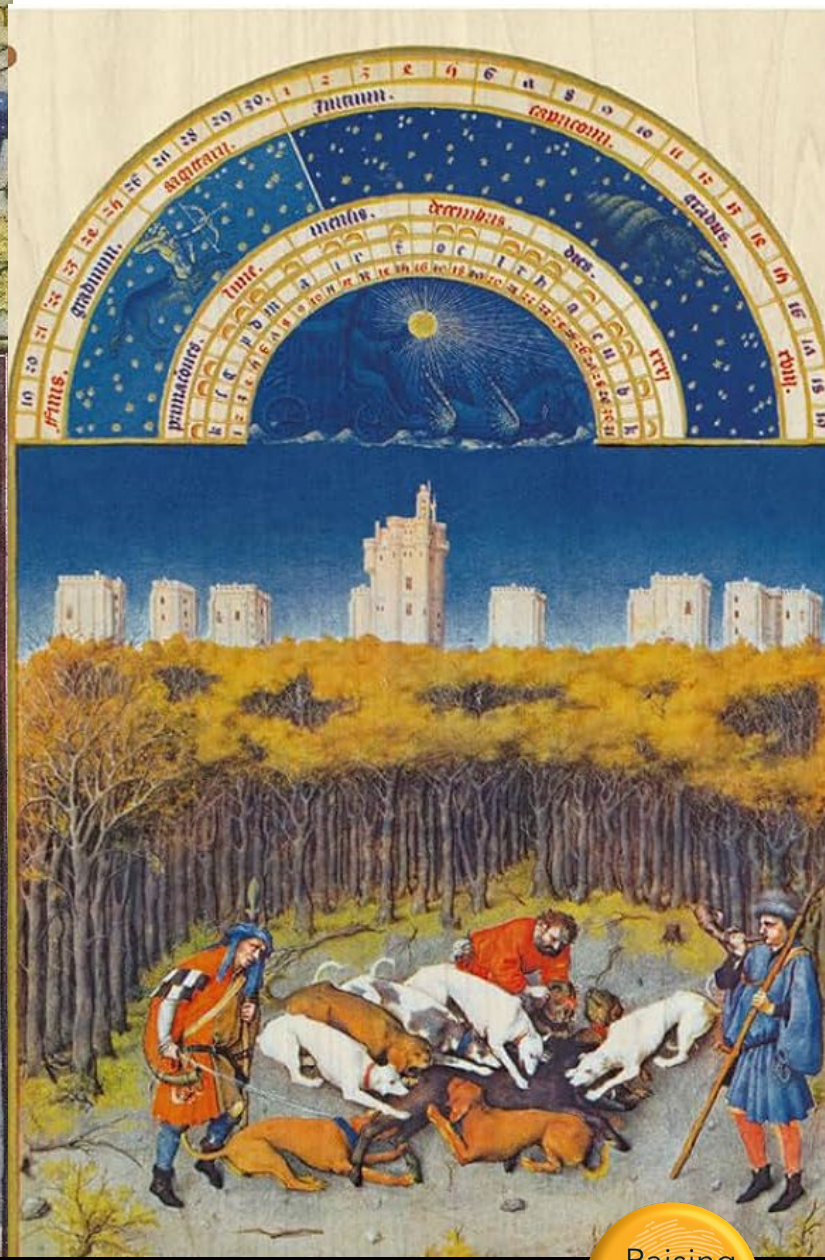


Each new situation requires a new architecture

Jean Nouvel

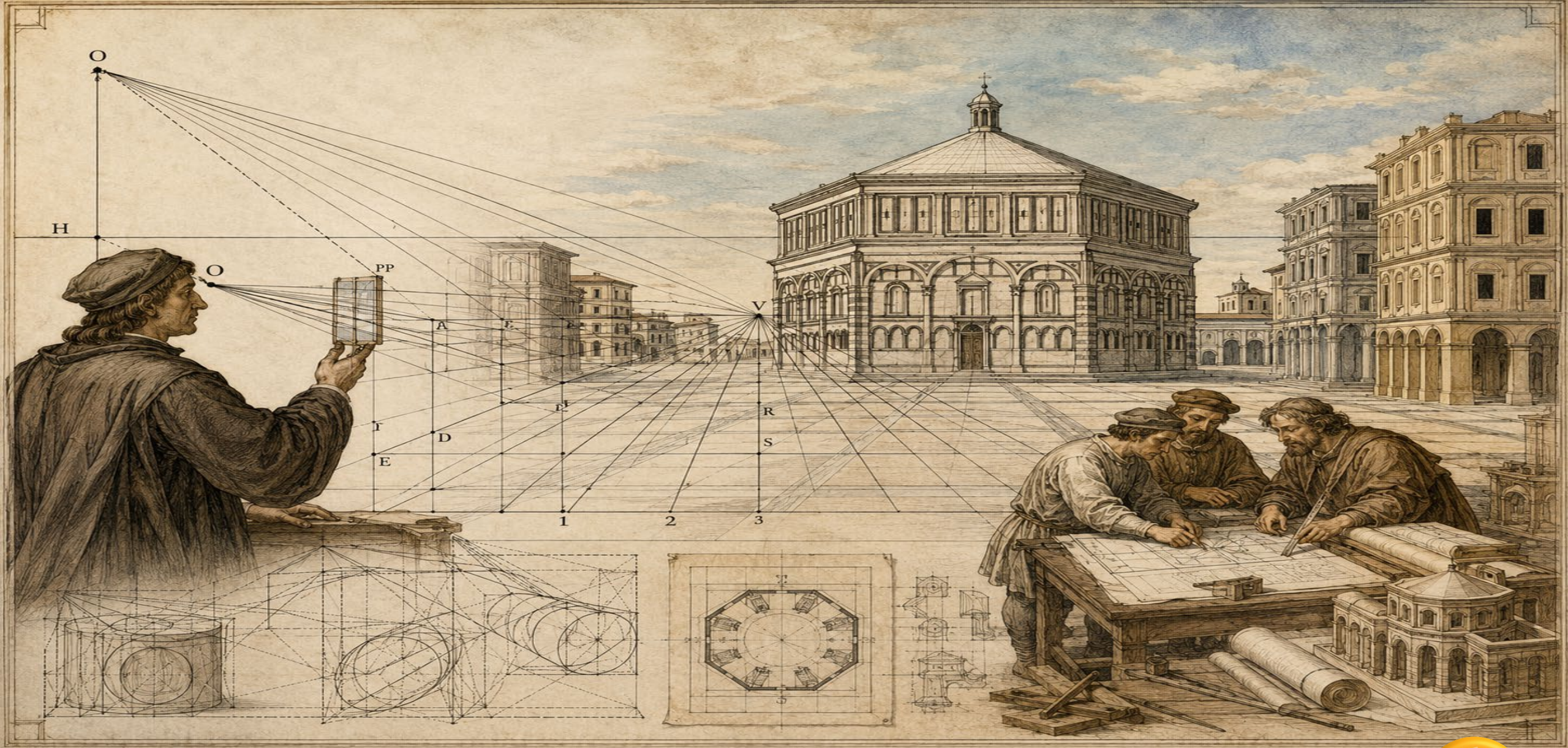
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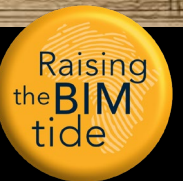


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SIGN

01

You model more than you manage information

A model can look complete while its information structure remains immature.

SYMPTOM 1

Geometry without data

BIM is being used as 3D CAD rather than as a structured information environment.

SYMPTOM 2

Schedules live in Excel

The source of truth sits outside the model, weakening traceability and coordination.

SYMPTOM 3

No naming convention / no BEP

Families are unnamed, conventions are unclear, and the team lacks a shared execution protocol.

INTERVENTION

Shift to information-first workflows. Define element purpose, set naming conventions, and build a BEP your whole team uses.

BEP

DATA STANDARDS

TRAINING

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02

Coordination feels chaotic

Teams can be working hard yet remain reactive and inconsistent in how coordination happens.

SYMPTOM 1

Reactive clash detection

Coordination issues are found late rather than managed through a defined process.

SYMPTOM 2

Issues surface on site

Problems are discovered downstream, increasing disruption, rework, and delivery risk.

SYMPTOM 3

Manual tracking / reporting

Information tracking and reporting depend on manual effort, making coordination harder to sustain.

INTERVENTION

Establish a coordination protocol with fixed cadence, defined clash ownership, coordination workflows, and a shared Common Data Environment.

PROTOCOL

CDE SETUP

WORKFLOWS

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03

Your models slow down over time

A model can remain technically functional while its performance steadily deteriorates as complexity accumulates.

SYMPTOM 1

Performance degrades as the project grows

The model becomes slower to open, navigate, synchronise, and update as information and geometry accumulate.

SYMPTOM 2

CAD imports are buried in links

Imported or linked CAD files remain embedded in the project, adding unnecessary weight and making problems difficult to trace.

SYMPTOM 3

No consistent model-health routine

Visibility overrides, warnings, unused content, and unmanaged worksets accumulate because auditing and maintenance are irregular.

INTERVENTION

Introduce model-health auditing, disciplined workset management, a federated file strategy, and regular purge routines to maintain performance at scale.

MODEL
AUDIT

WORKSETS

FILE STRATEGY

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04

You avoid open workflows

Interoperability remains fragile when information exchange depends on default settings, isolated platforms, and standards applied too late.

SYMPTOM 1

IFC exports use default settings

Models are exchanged without agreed export configurations, classification rules, or validation procedures.

SYMPTOM 2

ISO 19650 is addressed too late

Information-management requirements are added after workflows and folder structures have already been established.

SYMPTOM 3

Open BIM feels like a risk

Teams avoid open exchange because they lack confidence in how information will translate between platforms.

INTERVENTION

Use Data Exchanges and Connectors where appropriate. Establish office IFC export standards and align the Common Data Environment with ISO 19650 principles from the beginning.

IFC

ISO 19650

OPEN BIM

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05

You manually repeat tasks

Repetitive production work consumes time and attention that should be directed toward design, coordination, and decision-making.

SYMPTOM 1

Sheet setup is manual

Sheets, views, and annotations are created and arranged individually, even where the process follows a predictable pattern.

SYMPTOM 2

Parameter updates are inconsistent

Routine parameter changes depend on individual users, increasing the risk of omissions, variation, and rework.

SYMPTOM 3

Schedules require repeated effort

Door schedules and other project data are repeatedly formatted, checked, and updated by hand.

INTERVENTION

Introduce scripts and custom tools to eliminate repetition. Start with one task, define it clearly, and build the automation gradually over time.

DYNAMO

SCRIPTING

AUTOMATION

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What new services, design processes, design styles and business models become possible once the methodology is in place?

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THANK YOU

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