COVER LETTER

Helsingborg, Sweden

November 12, 2008

My ArchiCAD story starts back in 1992. After using AutoCAD at school and a couple of years at work it was what everyone else was using and seemed good at the time. I was introduced to ArchiCAD by the young Stefan Larsson from LaserCAD. The company i started working for Eurocon, was newly started. We decided to look at ArchiCAD and where just blown away. We loved the concept and beleived and wondered why everyone, wasn´t working with this software. Well, it was MAC only and probably why a lot of larger firms didn´t adopt. Well we didn´t have any computers and hardly an office to put them in. There was something special & inspiring about Stefan too, just don´t tell him that. So we went for it and personally i have never looked back.

Stefan showed us version 4.02 I think it was and I will never forget my first training in ArchiCAD. My boss was a very efficient man and asked us if we could visualise an underground park garage in three storeys. The concept was a sloping garage with curved sloping corners. Not the easiest of projects to start with, let a lone as a training exercise. In the end Stefan fixed a beta of version 4.1 to have any chance of modeling it. A little "rotx" in GDL for the curves and an extensive coarse in the roof tool, and we actually completed the visualisation after two days of training.

When i started at Tillberg Design I was very excited. This was one of the world´s best cruise ship designers. Not only did they work with the interiors, they designed the exteriors as well. Their clients were P&O, Samsung & Disney just to mention a few. I remember saying at the first interview that i thought it was a shame that they didn´t work in 3d. When i got the job the boss said that he liked my ArchiCAD work, and if I couldn´t get the office into 3d. This was one of the most difficult things i have done. These guys were 2d caders using a software called PowerCAD. Easy to us, no training needed, cheap and they loved it. Stefan helped me with an ArchiCAD licence and I was a lone wolf using ArchiCAD, modeling interiors. Not even when i produced the first exterior models did anyone want to learn ArchiCAD. There was a lot of sceptisism and doubts that it would be too hard to adopt. PowerCAD had one major problem and that was DWG. The ship yards where using our drawings more & more and started complaining. We got a major new client at about the same time who wondered if we could show them 3d drawings. Well this was like a gift from above. We ended up doing a comparison between Microstation & ArchCAD. Bentley came and demoed and so did Graphisoft. ArchiCAD it was, with training in Sweden, London & Fort Lauderdale. At most we had 55 licences. I became CAD manager & produced template files in both ArchiCAD & Plotmaker. I even produced a library for ships. All the objects where on a special storey. This was before favorites in ArchiCAD. Unfortunately there were only a hand full that modeled fully and most used ArchiCAD in 2d. It was around this time i started beta testing ArchiCAD 5.1 for teamwork. We did a lot of the exteriors in teamwork. We signed in to different decks (storeys) & modeled entire ships in ArchiCAD.

I eventualy got home sick and returned to Australia. Before I left I did a training at Graphisoft in Budapest in SalesCAD and GDL technology. I started worked as a consultant and helped Angley & Arrowsmith with a web based library for designing retail stores. I later worked at Woodsbagot in Melbourne here we worked extensively in teamwork. We had one team working with the structure and one team working with the shell. This was all hotlinked into a teamwork model of the building. I was responsible for the output of documentation where we sometimes had up to 8 plus teamworking and drawing the interiors. This is where I learned most about projekt setup and completion of large scale projects in ArchiCAD. I would have liked to have stayed longer at Woodsbagot but returned to sweden after only 18 months.

When i joined Möller Architects they where using ArchiCAD totally as a 2d tool. They only modeled wireframes which they printed and visualised by hand. After a couple of projects I built a model of the shell to produce facades. I did this quicker than another guy who was doing the facades in 2d on a second building in the project. I could of course show the building in 3d where we studied the down pipes. The boss was blown away and said, "this is how we have to work". I got them to start building basic models with the structure and roof so that they could produce facades and sections from the model. Details and other drawings in 2d. I now support them with templates, an extensive navigator & favorites library. Kitchen & bathroom modules for interior elevations and schedules for windows and doors.

During all this I have been a proficient beta tester of ArchiCAD, version 5.1 to 12. I have won three beta awards in a row for ArchiCAD 10, 11 & 12. I even work in support for ArchiCAD at Graphisoft Sweden once a week. My consulting firm is called Arkitekt Support and goal is to use my unique experience of BIM in large scale projects to spread my knowledge and success in using ArchiCAD. I look forward to the possibilty of participating in the consultant program.

kind regards

Reinhold Klein