

**BDP.**

CASE STUDY



BDP ACCELERATES BIM LEVEL 2  
ADOPTION TO IMPROVE GLOBAL  
COLLABORATION AND ASSURE  
SUCCESSFUL CLIENT OUTCOMES



**Creative ITC**

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**BDP.** | Global architecture, engineering and design practice, delivering world-class solutions that enhance the communities they serve.

“Having trialled a number of solutions it was refreshing to see a VDI platform specifically designed for our industry and achieving BIM Level 2 maturity.”

*Alistair Kell*  
Principal and Director of IT and Process

**BDP.**



## CHALLENGE

Provide agile IT solutions to boost project delivery and client satisfaction through BIM Level 2 adoption.



## SOLUTION

VDIPOD, forming a collaborative workspace for data sharing and application communities like AutoCAD and Revit.



## RESULTS

Design process completed one-day faster on average.  
Higher productivity and lower travel costs.  
Better use of design and technical talent globally.

## CHALLENGE

Ranked second in the Architects Journal top 100 practices, BDP spans the full spectrum of the design world: from bespoke light sculptures to significant urban planning endeavours. Success is based on fusing placemaking and user-centric design with large-scale infrastructure skills. And that means ensuring a global workforce of 1000+ employees in 13 offices can easily collaborate and reach vital tools and information – as defined by Building Information Modelling (BIM) Level 2, a mandatory requirement for public sector construction projects.

Previous attempts to realise this using a common virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) had fallen short.

BDP had tried to get VDI off-the-ground running physical servers with application and network optimisation products, but latency and performance issues saw the initiative fail.

“We were constantly battling user perception and lack of flexibility, especially when trying to collaborate on models across locations,” says Alistair Kell, Principal and Director of IT and Process for BDP. “So, we’d resort to continually replicating data which caused further problems when trying to maintain version control and work across international time zones.”



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## SOLUTION

Following a competitive tender, independently adjudicated by a respected industry consultant, BDP opted for a VDI solution from Creative. “Having trialled a number of solutions it was refreshing to see a VDI platform specifically designed for our industry and achieving BIM Level 2 maturity,” adds Alistair. “Creative understood our industry, could quickly address specific key needs and gave us that extra dimension that unlocked benefits for our business. Their VDI solution is widely supported across all studios.”

Deployed on premise, the solution combines best-of-breed technologies including VMware Horizon VDI, Dell PowerEdge servers, Nvidia GRID graphics cards, Cisco networking and Dell EMC storage. Caching boosts

VDI performance and forms a secure common data environment that can be accessed via desktops and mobile devices. In fact, the firm’s staff in India prefer to use VDIPOD because it’s faster and more reliable than local IT infrastructure.

“Creative brought invaluable know-how to the solution design,” says Alistair. “For example, by recommending we built images on Windows 10 rather than Windows 7 to fully optimise the user experience. Now, our architects, engineers and designers work easily together in real time, while our IT team gets better service delivery control.”

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## RESULTS


Getting the right VDI platform, purpose-built for BIM Level 2, has made a big difference in the workplace. Given the previous VDI challenges, client projects could be delayed by the time lag introduced by reverting to email. Experts in different locations now work simultaneously from the same file – taking a day out of the design process on average.

In addition, when a new project kicks off BDP no longer needs to physically deploy so many people onsite, improving productivity and saving on travel costs. It’s also much easier to tap into expertise and make better use of resources around the world. For example, staff in Glasgow and India combined technical and design skills to support a major hospital redevelopment, an option that wouldn’t have been possible before.

The VDI upgrade has yielded some unexpected soft benefits as well. “In the past, we’ve sometimes struggled with recruitment in certain locations,” says Alistair. “Offering superior IT, global teamwork and slick processes helps BDP attract good candidates.”

Moreover, BDP has built a platform for growth with the ability to easily add users and, if required, double capacity for only a modest outlay.

Alistair sums up: “Creative genuinely want to build a long-term relationship, rather than always seeking to sell you something. They’re well connected too, so we get better deals with suppliers.”



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VDIPOD is purpose-built for graphics-heavy programmes. So BDP employees make the **best use of their talents** and **don't waste their time**.

Opening-up new possibilities for collaboration **improves decision-making, reduces project lead times** and delivers **better client outcomes**.



**Creative ITC**

To learn more about Creative  
and the solutions featured  
in this case study, visit  
**[creative-itc.com](http://creative-itc.com)**