

Dear Prospective VDC Time Study Participant,

Our team at the University of Washington is excited to invite you to join a new Virtual Design and Construction (VDC) Time Study aimed at benchmarking VDC modeling and management. This research is pivotal in paving the way for more accurate and comprehensive estimating and management of VDC services.

This project is supported by MCAA, NECA, SMACNA, their respective foundations, and their member firms. The objectives of this project are threefold: 1) Develop metrics to support the estimation of VDC engineering for MEP trades, 2) Benchmark current VDC engineering practices and performance, and 3) Develop metrics to evaluate the efficiencies and effectiveness of virtual design and coordination. We have received positive responses from the companies participating in the pilot phase. A VDC manager commented, "I value the method of monitoring work tasks and the clarity it offers. It helps me see how I allocate my time, such as in creating shop drawings or attending meetings, and I am eager to implement this approach with my engineering team."

Why Is Your Participation Valuable?

- 1) **Direct Impact on Research:** Your involvement will contribute directly to the advancement of VDC practices across the industry.
- 2) **Stay Ahead of the Curve:** By participating, you and your company will have early exposure to the latest findings and methodologies in VDC.

What Does Participation Involve?

Participation involves providing data on how your employees allocate their time among VDC activities, categorized into four types: modeling, management & coordination (both internal and external), and fabrication support. This will be based on a schema developed by our research team, encompassing over 20 distinct activities, each defined to avoid overlap and ensure accurate time tracking. The data collection process is expected to last for a year, starting from February 2024. During the pilot study, participants stated that it took less than 15 minutes per day to participate in the time-tracking tasks.

How to Participate?

Fill out the consent form by clicking [here](#). We will then send more information about how to create accounts and participate in the data collection. The time study primarily utilizes the Clockify platform and Microsoft Forms, thus requiring you to set up an account and submit the necessary forms.

We truly believe that your participation will be instrumental in shaping the future of VDC practices and research. We look forward to the possibility of collaborating with your esteemed company on this exciting project.

Thank you for considering this invitation. We eagerly await your response and hope to embark on this journey together.

Best Regards,

UW VDC Time Study Research Team

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Industry Partners and Sponsors

