



*Building Your Quality of Life*



National Institute of  
BUILDING SCIENCES

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**Contact:** **Kelley Keeler**  
**(703) 837-5310**  
[keelerk@agc.org](mailto:keelerk@agc.org)

**AGC TO SPONSOR DEVELOPMENT OF UNIVERSAL DOCUMENT EXCHANGE STANDARD  
FOR CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**  
***AGCxml Will Save Contractors Time and Money***

**Washington, D.C.**—The Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) today announced it has reached an agreement with The National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) for the development of AGCxml, a set of standard industry schemas for exchanging electronic data among A/E/C business process software applications in order to increase efficiency and collaboration among facility owners and design and construction professionals.

“The development of AGCxml has the potential of saving contractors countless hours of data-entry, which can lead to hard-dollar savings,” said AGC CEO Stephen E. Sandherr. “This robust solution will also support the differing office applications employed by various segments of the construction industry.”

AGCxml will be one of the few document exchange standards to address the interoperability issue in the construction industry, enabling any software products or tools using AGCxml to exchange information in a manner that is recognizable between authors using different software systems. While building information modeling has received a great deal of recent attention in the industry, AGCxml is intended to address a related challenge by facilitating the reliable, electronic exchange of the business-to-business transactional data created by owners, contractors, and design professionals in the course of every design and construction project and found in such documents or forms as owner/contractor agreements, change orders, and requests for information.

“This is a very exciting opportunity,” said NIBS’ President David A. Harris, FAIA. “Our organizations’ collaboration on this ground-breaking *buildingSMART* initiative will couple recognized IT professionals with AGC’s recognized construction business leaders to foster more efficient and sensible business practices. By taking the lead in this effort, AGC demonstrates its commitment to improving the ability of its members to collaborate with their business partners and better serve their clients on every project.”

AGCxml will enable the efficient exchange of electronic construction project information between various industry software applications, including software designed for generating construction contract documents, project management, accounting or related construction work-flow systems.

The Associated General Contractors of America is the largest and oldest national construction trade association in the United States. AGC represents more than 32,000 firms, including 7,000 of America’s leading general contractors, and over 11,000 specialty-contracting firms. More than 13,000 service providers and suppliers are associated with AGC through a nationwide network of chapters. Visit the AGC Web site at [www.agc.org](http://www.agc.org). AGC members are “Building Your Quality of Life.”

The National Institute of Building Sciences is an independent nonprofit organization authorized by Congress in 1974. NIBS provides an authoritative, consensus-based resource, advancing facility-related technology, security, safety, economy, and performance, through public and private sector volunteer members representing the building community and the public interest. Visit NIBS’ website at [www.nibs.org](http://www.nibs.org).

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