High Level Cost Modelling of Elevated Deck & Linkway – the Importance of Key Performance Indicators for Cost Planning

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SUMMARY
BIM is not just about software but people and processes too. The "I" in BIM for "information", is key to the success of using BIM as a modelling tool. Otherwise, it would merely be a 3D visualization aid. To ensure the full potential of QS BIM for cost modelling, QS practices will need to organize the historical information of tendered or completed projects into key indicators for economic evaluation of design alternatives. Information from the public domain such as websites can sometimes be used, with caution, where comparable data/information may not be available. This paper will examine how knowledge available from a firm can be used in conjunction with information from the public domain to produce a high level cost model of a suspended deck and linkway spanning between adjacent high-rise towers above a busy trafficked area. It illustrates a quantity surveyor's approach in making optimum use of available information to create a cost model where the Level of Detailing provided, of say 100, is insufficient. Since applied knowledge is a competitive edge for the QS, there is a need to consider data-mining tools to develop the firm's knowledge management (KM) base to better serve the needs of the project. How this KM base is to be developed will depend on the proper identification of key indicators for economic design evaluation. Keywords: QS BIM, cost modelling, design evaluation, knowledge management

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