



# Ideate Software Presents: Spotlight on Aperte Design

## Studies in Success

Solution Toolkit: Autodesk® Revit,® Microsoft® Excel,® Ideate BIMLink



Nancy McClure,  
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–Nancy McClure

### Aperte Design maximizes project team member skillsets with Ideate BIMLink

San Francisco, California-based Aperte Design headed by BIM consultant Nancy McClure, works with multiple design teams to define workflow processes that leverage software tools to streamline tasks and allow teams to spend more time focusing on their designs.

On projects ranging from government research labs to grand scale transit-oriented housing developments, McClure integrates Ideate BIMLink into many workflow processes, from early stage Programming through to documentation data management.

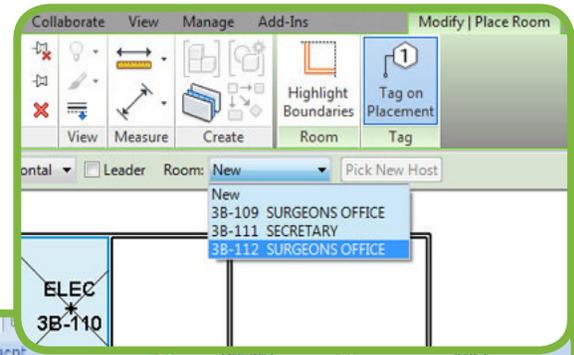
### Ideate BIMLink for Programming

As McClure explains, “Medical teams include skilled medical planners who work entirely in spreadsheets to structure program data from the Client. They may be developing organizational approaches several weeks before a design team begins modeling layouts and creating a visualization model.

“Ideate BIMLink enables a team to link the data from the Planners' spreadsheets directly to model elements in Revit, eliminating redundant data entry and the risk of mistranslated data. This serves as both an efficient means of data transfer and a validation means for the design team. Program elements defined by Planning are fully accounted for, and these elements are data-rich with necessary organizing information.

“The data is applied to the project ONCE, by the team members with the most responsibility over it, and through deployment of Ideate BIMLink, data is directly transferred across files and into native model elements. This has proven invaluable toward managing what can be vast amounts of client-required departmental data, much of which is encoded and easily corrupted if transcribed into another program manually.

“The on-going bi-directional connection Ideate BIMLink provides between the Revit elements and the Excel databank provides for ongoing updates, and reliable validation of the program throughout the building design development. This saves numerous hours of tedious manual updating or cross-checking. Team efforts are shifted from data entry to higher value design tasks.”



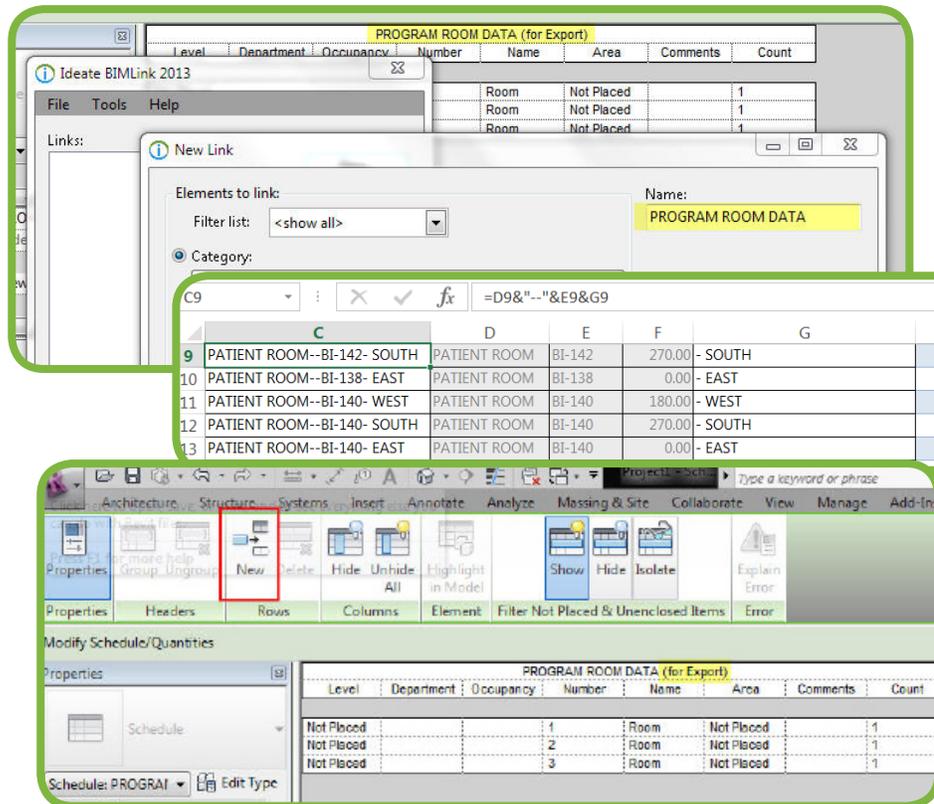
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1	231365	SURGICAL	MP-CYSTOCOSPY	3B-102	OFFICE	117			25
2	231366	SURGICAL	MP-CYSTOCOSPY	3B-103	OFFICE	58			25
4	231367	SURGICAL	MECHANICAL	3B-104	ELEC	6		GREY data	25
5	231368	SURGICAL	MP-CYSTOCOSPY	3B-105	SURGEONS OFFICE	95		cannot be	25
6	231369	SURGICAL	MP-CYSTOCOSPY	3B-106	OFFICE	101		edited	25
7	231370	SURGICAL	MECHANICAL	3B-107	F.A.C.	2		(calculated	25
8	231371	SURGICAL	MP-CYSTOCOSPY	3B-108	SURGEONS OFFICE	99		in the BIM)	25
9	231372	SURGICAL	MP-CYSTOCOSPY	3B-109	SURGEONS OFFICE	112			25
10	231373	SURGICAL	MECHANICAL	3B-110	ELEC	6			25
11	231374	SURGICAL	MP-CYSTOCOSPY	3B-111	SECRETARY	104			25

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### Leveraging Data across Categories

McClure also observes, “Dozens of interior elevations, which would otherwise need to be manually renamed and coordinated to room number and orientation, are now having their view data exported through Ideate BIMLink, which allows access to Room and Area data otherwise not available to the user within the Revit interface. Concatenation and Look-Up formulas in Excel very quickly pull room data together to replace the generic view names. The combined information is immediately imported back into the model, completing what would have been hours of tedious manual renaming within minutes, with much higher accuracy. The success of applying Look-Up tables to determine orientation from a view angle range has proven to be a very adaptable solution for complex non-orthogonal project layouts.”

### Conclusion

McClure notes the ways she is shifting teams away from isolated design tasks to workflow methods leveraging data more globally by saying, “Ideate BIMLink breaks down key category barriers in Revit, allowing project data to be broadly referenced without duplication and risk of error. Projects involve both data management and visualization; this can include different software packages, each speaking its own language. Ideate BIMLink bridges the gap between essential programs that reduce redundancy and allow for the best use of team members' skillsets.”

### About Aperte Design

Nancy McClure has over a decade of architectural design team experience and has been involved from schematic design through consultant coordination, full documentation and construction administration services. As a BIM consultant, McClure provides training and documentation in Revit workflow and specializes in BIM strategy and management.

### About Ideate Software

Ideate Software solutions, a set of far-reaching Building Information Modeling (BIM) data management tools, help Autodesk Revit users solve problems in architectural, engineering and construction (AEC) workflows and help the Revit community leverage BIM to its fullest advantage.

### About Ideate, Inc.

Ideate, Inc. is a leading Autodesk Authorized Developer with 25+ years' experience in software development and specific focus on Building Information Modeling (BIM) and is an Autodesk solutions provider offering quality software, training, support and custom consulting services to the AEC industry since 1992. Headquartered in San Francisco, California and operating Autodesk Authorized Training Centers (ATCs) in California, Oregon and Washington, Ideate is recognized as an Autodesk Gold Partner for Architecture, Engineering and Construction, one of Autodesk's highest levels of authorization.

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