



Ideate Software Presents: Spotlight on Lionakis

Studies in Success

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



Lionakis Project:
Foothill-DeAnza College
Campus and Education
Center Building
Lionakis used Ideate
Explorer to perform
operations more quickly.

“What makes Ideate Software so valuable to us is something beyond its functionality. We appreciate the responsiveness of the development team. In fact, we think that’s really what makes Ideate Software so great.”

–Emily Clark,
Design Technology
Manager, Lionakis

One Secret Ingredient in Lionakis’ Quality Control–Ideate Explorer for Revit

California-based Lionakis, a multi-disciplined privately held firm specializing in architecture, engineering, interiors, planning, sustainability and graphics, is focused on achieving Quality Control (QC) early on, and maintaining QC throughout the development of every project.

The firm has assembled a Task Force dedicated to QC, and the Task Force develops a BIM Execution Plan for every project. Their process relies on Ideate Software, especially Ideate Explorer for Revit.

Their challenges are familiar. Revit models grow increasingly information heavy. The management of volumes of complex data can bog down even the most adept Revit users.

The Innovative Response: Leverage Ideate Explorer for Revit

The Lionakis team uses Ideate Explorer for Revit for auditing. With it, they can split a model, enabling them to grab all the interior components and move them to the right location. The Revit add-in has become their go-to tool for in-house model management, making it far easier to maintain standards, find and delete unwanted insertions, and even assist them as they prepare for clash detection.

Training With Ideate Software Underpins QC

The Task Force trains Revit staff in the application of Ideate Software, particularly around best practices and office standards. Staff members use Ideate Software in multiple cases several times a week and acknowledge that it really helps with productivity.

“Keeping the file clean ensures QC. Ideate Explorer for Revit helps us get back into a well-organized structure so things get dispersed throughout the project accurately, and that means we reduce errors.”

— Kristina Gardenhire,
Design Technology
Application Manager,
Lionakis

In-House Model Management

Emily Clark, Design Technology Manager, Lionakis, says, “We use Ideate Explorer for Revit for model management. During our early transition to Revit, we sent out our CAD details to be recreated in Revit. Even though we gave specific instructions to NOT explode CAD files, we were quickly able to identify that they in fact had done exactly that! We thought it would be faster and easier but it ended up being more work. We found line styles in a foreign language, for example. We had to do unexpected clean up.”

Maintaining Standards

Kristina Gardenhire, Design Technology Application Manager, Lionakis, notes, “By using Ideate Explorer for Revit, we can find all inconsistently named elements, and change them to the standard naming convention almost instantly. Once everything is organized and clean, the file can be easily managed. We save error and misunderstanding down the road. Mistakes have a way of propagating if they are copied. We keep that from happening.”

Finding and Deleting Unwanted Insertions

In another case, a Revit-using Lionakis designer came to the team with a problem that originated from a deliberate action. An existing “old” Revit model had been inserted into a “new” Revit project created from an updated template. However, there had been no plan for handling the Levels prior to insertion.

Problems had been compounding. There were duplicate Levels. Some walls were based on the “old” file’s Level one; others were based on the “new” file’s Level one. Kristina Gardenhire’s first action was to open Ideate Explorer for Revit. She was able to separate, select and choose those that applied from those that were not desired. As she says, “In Ideate Explorer for Revit, we can easily see everything that is on a Level. We can pick and choose. I don’t even know how I would do it without Ideate Explorer for Revit because it would seem so tedious.”

Conclusion

For Lionakis, use of Ideate Explorer for Revit has become central to the design process itself, and even more importantly to the support of design staff and maintenance of the firm’s standards.

As Kristina Gardenhire explains, “Keeping the file clean ensures QC. Miscellaneous items can creep in, things that are not following the conventions we have established. Ideate Explorer for Revit helps us get back into a well-organized structure so things get dispersed throughout the project accurately, and that means we reduce errors.”

About Lionakis

California-based Lionakis has played a significant role in shaping the built environment throughout the State of California for more than a century. The privately held firm specializes in architecture, engineering, interiors, planning, sustainability and graphics, and ranks in the top 25 of California’s leading architectural firms. More than 80 percent of the firm’s projects come from repeat clients, who value their cutting-edge technology and sustainable design solutions.

About Ideate Software

Ideate Software allows Revit users to have unprecedented control over their data. Ideate BIMLink, Ideate Explorer for Revit, and Ideate Sticky were all developed to solve persistent problems in Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) workflows. Ideate Software solutions enable Revit users to save time, increase accuracy, improve project deliverables, and elevate design.

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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