

# Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo

Customer Success Story

Revit® Architecture  
Autodesk® Buzzsaw®

[www.rand.com/imaginativ/revit](http://www.rand.com/imaginativ/revit)



*“Revit Architecture has helped us increase productivity and significantly improve the coordination of our document sets. It’s rare that we find a technology that can help us do both so profoundly.”*

Larry Rocha  
CIO, Vice President  
WATG

## Creating world-class destinations.

Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo counts on Revit® Architecture software and the Autodesk® Buzzsaw® service for increased competitive advantage—and sees a significant increase in profitability.

### Project Summary

For more than half a century, the architectural firm of Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo (WATG) has pursued its goal of creating uplifting environments for its clients and their guests. Best known for its work in the hospitality, entertainment, and leisure sectors, WATG has designed more of the world’s great hotels and resorts than any other firm on the planet—on six continents and in more than 150 countries. “We understand our clients,” says Ron Van Pelt, Senior Vice President at WATG. “We understand their guests. And we understand where the industry is going and how it continues to change.” That’s why WATG standardized on Revit Architecture, a powerful design and documentation system for building information modeling (BIM), as well as the Autodesk Buzzsaw online project collaboration service. As a result, the firm has seen significant increases in both productivity and profitability and has completed almost 50 major projects with the new software.

### The Challenge

Recently, WATG was asked to design the Timberland Sports and Nature Club. This \$11-million country club is part of Timberland Heights, an environmentally friendly, master-planned community on the outskirts of Manila in the Philippines.

### Extensive Amenities

Currently under construction, this 14,000-square-meter complex will feature extensive indoor and outdoor recreational amenities, including basketball, tennis, and racquetball courts; gym and spa facilities; guest rooms, bars, and restaurants; and pools, hiking trails, picnic areas, and camping grounds.

### Rugged Location

During an initial visit with the client, Jim Balding, manager of the Revit Architecture implementation at WATG, spotted a challenge. “The site is located on a rather steep hillside. I noticed that one of the designers was using little pieces of paper to represent building footprints as he tried to lay out the site on a physical model.”

Autodesk®



Using Autodesk building solutions, such as Revit Architecture and Autodesk Buzzsaw, the designers at WATG are able to

- Assign multiple architects and designers to work on one project at the same time with powerful Worksharing features
- Work well with existing AutoCAD® data or with clients and partners who currently use AutoCAD software

### The Solution

Using Revit Architecture, Balding was able to create a new site model. “I imported existing DWG-based 3D site plans and 2D building footprints into Revit Architecture,” Balding says. “In just four hours, we moved the footprints around on the hillside and minimized site work and retaining walls. We saved the client about \$750,000 in site work alone.”

### Work Faster

WATG went on to use Revit Architecture as its major production tool. Revit Architecture enabled a small team—essentially one very proficient designer—to complete schematic design and design development in less than four months.

### Reduce Errors

Because Revit Architecture uses a single, integrated building information model, working faster does not mean sacrificing accuracy. “For example, using a traditional CAD program, if we need to remove a door, we have to manually remove it from every floor plan, section, elevation, and schedule,” says Larry Rocha, CIO and Vice President at WATG. “That can result in errors and omissions and costly change orders. Using Revit Architecture, if we remove that same door, the software automatically updates the entire model and removes it everywhere. It’s pretty close to ultimate coordination.”

### Get Creative

As a result, designers have more time to explore design options. WATG architects recently designed a series of duplexes at The Villas, a desert resort. “We had two or three design options for each side of any given duplex,” says Balding. “Using Revit Architecture, we combined the designs to create entirely new-looking buildings. It was easy to try out new scenarios, show the client, and quickly make a decision.”

### Get Instant Access to Information

The Autodesk Buzzsaw online project collaboration service enables WATG to manage and exchange information with its clients and team members around the world. “I have 600–700 users throughout the world working on close to 70 projects,” says Jim Grady, CAD Manager at WATG. “I’ve never had to train one of them how to use Autodesk Buzzsaw.”

### The Result

“Revit Architecture helps us work out real-world issues—such as subgrade windows—before construction begins, when they can be costly and embarrassing,” says Balding. “Revit Architecture helps everyone understand exactly how the designers envision the finished project.”

### Turn Design into Profits

This improved clarity pays off. Recently, Balding completed the entire CD package for one small project in ten and a half hours with two revisions. “We got no RFIs on it—zero. That is huge,” says Balding. Such success is one reason WATG has enjoyed a significant increase in profitability since implementing Autodesk building solutions. “There is going to be a compelling change in our industry as a result of technology,” says Ron Holecek, CEO and President at WATG. “Revit Architecture is one of those technologies.”

To learn more about Revit Architecture, visit [www.autodesk.com/revitarchitecture](http://www.autodesk.com/revitarchitecture). Or go to [www.autodesk.com/buzzsaw](http://www.autodesk.com/buzzsaw) for information about Autodesk Buzzsaw.