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**Todd Nisbet**  
**Executive Vice President and Project Director**  
**Wynn Design and Development**

## Betting on Buzzsaw Pays Off

\$2.7 Billion Hotel Casino Opens on Time With Autodesk Buzzsaw Collaborative Project Management

### Project Summary

Five years in the making, Wynn Las Vegas is a \$2.7 billion luxury hotel and destination casino from Wynn Resorts. Time is money in Sin City, and Wynn Las Vegas faced an aggressive design and construction schedule in advance of its opening day. With close to 250 different parties involved in the design and construction and nearly 140,000 active drawings, Wynn knew it had to find the most efficient possible way to collaborate—or risk falling behind schedule. Conventional methods of information sharing—such as sending files via email, FTP, or overnight express—wouldn't suffice. Autodesk® Buzzsaw® collaborative project management provided Wynn with the ideal solution for its needs, allowing it to:

- Provide on-demand access to the most current construction drawings in one centralized location
- Reduce costs associated with printing out and shipping blueprints via overnight express
- Avoid delays and costly mistakes from having out-of-date information
- Streamline the design review process by as much as 75%, allowing the project to adhere to its tight schedule and meet deadlines



Wynn Resorts was able to streamline the design process by 75% on its Wynn Las Vegas resort casino.

## THE CHALLENGE

### A New Contender

From luxurious castles and palaces, to scale replicas of the Eiffel Tower, the city of Las Vegas is well known for its bold and audacious architectural undertakings. Enter Wynn Las Vegas: a new \$2.7 billion luxury hotel and destination casino resort that is turning heads, even in this famously larger-than-life city.

“The scope of the project was just massive,” said Todd Nisbet, Executive Vice President and Project Director for Wynn Design and Development. “Aside from the actual hotel and casino, we had to design 15 full service restaurants, 80,000 square feet of retail space, 200,000 square feet of convention space—not to mention the entire back-office infrastructure required for day-to-day operations. Essentially, we’re designing a miniature city and all its functional parts.”

### Time is Money

In addition to the sheer size of the project, the aggressive timeline for design and construction presented an additional challenge. “Vegas is a schedule driven town—every project is a ‘fast track’ project,” explained Nisbet. “We had 5.5 million square feet that needed to be built within 30 months. Making sure that we distributed current design information to all of the team members as quickly as possible was a key priority for us.”

Traditional means of distributing design information, however, wouldn’t be an option on a project as massive as Wynn Las Vegas. “Our files are way too large to email,” said Glen Ashworth, Director of Architecture for Wynn Design and Development. “And trying to print out drawing sheets and overnight them wouldn’t have been a viable option—some of our submittals had as many as 160 drawings. We needed a faster, more efficient way to collaborate.”

## THE SOLUTION

### Collaborative Project Management

Wynn did some research and soon found the perfect tool to keep Wynn Las Vegas on the fast track: the Autodesk Buzzsaw collaborative project management solution. With its design management, document management, and construction management capabilities, Buzzsaw keeps everyone on the same page—helping hotels and casinos to stay on schedule for opening day.

“There’s no such thing as a ‘soft opening’ in Vegas,” stated Nisbet. “We are 100% open for

business on day one. That’s why we saw the value of using Buzzsaw—we couldn’t afford to waste even a single day due to someone not having access to the most current construction drawings.”

## THE RESULTS

### The House Always Wins—with Buzzsaw

With Buzzsaw as the ace up its sleeve, Wynn Las Vegas was able to successfully manage the plan, build, and operate phases of the building lifecycle and meet its aggressive timeline. Wynn used Buzzsaw to simply and securely distribute more than 140,000 sheets of drawings among nearly 250 different users, facilitating communication amongst all the different team members and preventing costly delays or mistakes that could have thrown them off schedule.

“Buzzsaw gave us a centralized location where everyone always had access to the latest and greatest information,” said Nisbet. “That means no lags in productivity—the sooner people can access the information, the sooner they can use it.”

“It’s hard to overstate how much Buzzsaw streamlines the design review process,” added Ashworth. “We were able to post and review drawings virtually instantaneously with Buzzsaw. That allowed us to accomplish the design review process in one quarter of the time it would have taken if we had done things the old fashioned way.”

In addition to making Wynn more efficient, Buzzsaw helped reduce costs. “On previous projects of a similar scope there were upwards of a million dollars spent publishing and mailing drawings,” said Ashworth. “By using Buzzsaw for Wynn Las Vegas, we’ve been able to beat that significantly.”

### Going Global

Due to their success with Buzzsaw on Wynn Las Vegas, Wynn Resorts is deploying Buzzsaw on its latest project: Wynn Macau, off the coast of Hong Kong. “Our use of Buzzsaw on the Wynn Macau project has been probably even more invaluable than on the Wynn Las Vegas project, since we were using design professionals in Europe, Asia, and the United States,” said Nisbet before concluding: “Without this tool, it would be almost impossible for everybody to stay on the same page.”

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