



VIRTUAL REALITY IN ENGINEERING DESIGN

## Agenda

- >About Extended Reality
- >IMEG's Virtual Reality Solution
- >Case studies
- >What's next?

# ABOUT EXTENDED REALITY

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## Extended Reality

>An umbrella term for the technologies that add to or supplement a person's conventional reality

```

    graph TD
      ER[Extended Reality] --- VR[Virtual Reality]
      ER --- MR[Mixed Reality]
      ER --- PT[Projection Technology]
      ER --- HT[Holographic Technology]
    
```

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## Extended Reality

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## Virtual Reality

- >Totally Immersive
- >Transports the user to a totally different environment
- >Requires hardware
  - Oculus Rift
  - HTC Vive
  - Google Cardboard

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## Virtual Reality



**>AEC Applications**

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Owner Buy-In
- Internal/Team Coordination

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## Mixed Reality

**>Inclusive**

**>See current environment and add information to it**

**>Requires Hardware**

- Microsoft Hololense
- Tablets with a front facing camera
- Google Glass



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## Mixed Reality

**> Inclusive**

**> See current environment and add information to it**

**> Requires Hardware**

- Microsoft Hololense
- Tablets with a front facing camera
- Google Glass
- Pokemon Go App



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## Mixed Reality

**>AEC Applications**

- Construction Coordination
- Internal Training
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Facilities Management




# IMEG'S VIRTUAL REALITY SOLUTION

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## IMEG's Virtual Reality Solution

**>Oculus Rift**

- Relatively portable
- Bring walkthroughs to the user




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## Tools Required for Virtual Reality



› **Short Path**

- Revit → Virtual Reality Add-In Tool (Enscape, IrisVR, Revisto, etc.)
- Quick – what you see is what you get (for better or worse!)

R → 

› **Long Path**

- Revit → 3Ds Max → Unity / Unreal
- Slow – take more time to add detail and interactivity

R →  → 

# CASE STUDIES

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## Case Studies

› **Stakeholder Engagement: OR Renovation**

- We invited doctors and nurses to review the design for a new Operating Room in Virtual Reality before it was constructed




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## Case Studies

› **Stakeholder Engagement: OR Renovation**

- Virtual Reality walkthroughs are much quicker and less costly to build than physical mockups
- Virtual Reality walkthroughs better capture design intent for stakeholders that are not trained to read engineering plans
- Virtual Reality walkthroughs can be completed multiple times through the life of the project

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## Case Studies

› **Stakeholder Engagement: OR Renovation**

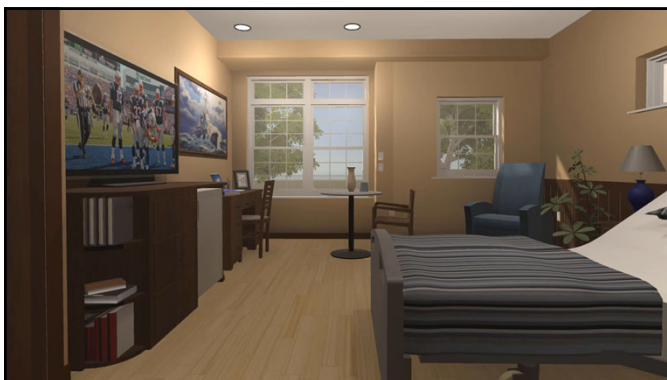
- Your equipment solution matters (RAM and graphics cards!)
- Jittery walkthroughs make people ill ☹️
- Poor lighting and shading can pull people out of the experience

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## Case Studies

**> Owner Buy-In: New Long Term Care Facility**

- We invited the owner to review the design before it was constructed

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## Case Studies

**> Owner Buy-In: New Long Term Care Facility**

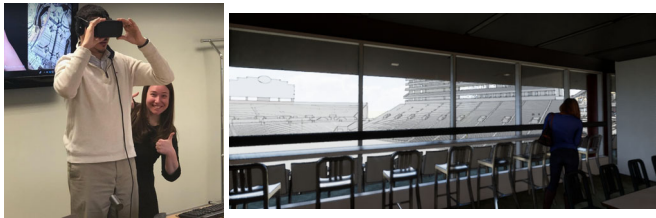
- Details and materials matter – and you can get stuck on them
- Have specific talking points to drive the conversation
- Lock down areas that you do not want to people to enter

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## Case Studies


**> Internal Coordination: A New College Arena**

- Where we put an IMEG engineer into a VR headset for the first time on a project that had a deliverable the next day



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## Case Studies



## Case Studies

### › Internal Coordination: A New College Arena

- Engineers notice things that they might not catch in Revit
- Engineers notice things that might not report as a clash

## Case Studies

### › Team Coordination: Team Project Design Meetings

- Where we take the entire AEC team and review the project in VR



## Case Studies

### › Team Coordination: Team Project Design Meetings

- We focus on small elements that we notice in reality but not always on plans that make the project better
- It's all about seeing the details that matter to the users of the space over the life of the facility
- We had fun doing it

# SHINY PRESENTATIONS

Seed Processing Plant Video for  
Owner Review

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## Case Studies

### > Shiny Presentations

- QR Codes



New Gymnasium



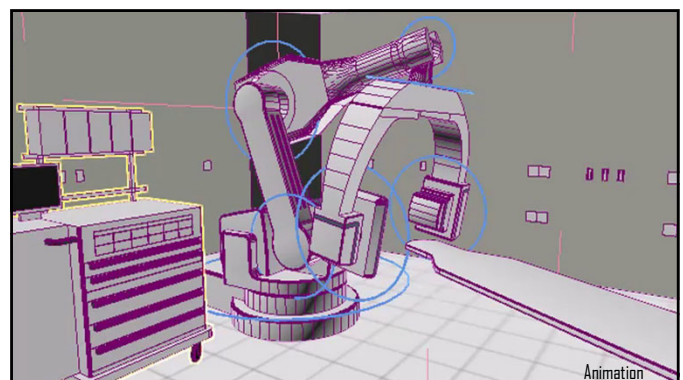
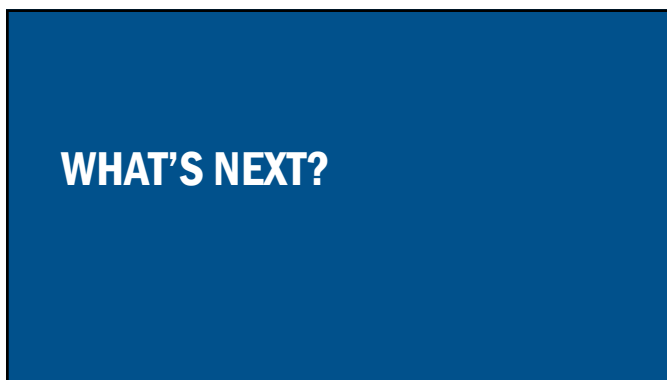
New Mechanical Room

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## Case Studies

### > Overall Lessons Learned

- All members of the design can benefit from Virtual Reality
  - Stakeholders, Owners, Designers
- Virtual Reality should be used for what it's good at
  - Immersive visualization
  - Details and Materials Matter
  - You get out what you put into it
- Backup your backups
  - When doing live demos, prepare for the absolute worst: extra batteries, failed exe files, no wi-fi to log into, sweaty people touching your equipment, people getting dizzy
- The technology is changing constantly
  - It's work to keep up with it. Find someone who is passionate about it and let them become a subject matter expert

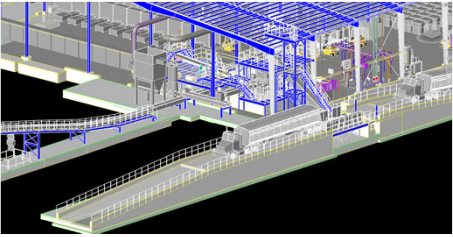


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## What's Next?

### > Acoustical Analysis

- Sound in the facility - now + potential



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## What's Next?

### > Mixed Reality

- Visualize existing utilities below grade
- Demonstrate new equipment in existing spaces
- Internal Training Applications

