



*“At Arcturis, we strive to have the best talent and the best technology. That’s why we use Revit Architecture. It provides the tools we need—all seamlessly interconnected—to deliver the best solutions to our clients.”*

Ron Johnson  
Principal, Interior Design  
Arcturis

## Better design—inside and out.

Using Revit® Architecture software, Arcturis can spend more time on design, catch conflicts during the design phase, and significantly improve collaboration among architects and interior designers.

### Project Summary

For more than 29 years, Arcturis has provided strategic planning, architecture, and interior design services to companies across the country and around the world. Its highly skilled architects and designers serve a wide variety of markets—including higher education, financial services, health care, public works, and major corporations—and have won many awards. In fact, most recently, Arcturis was awarded the 2006 NAIOP Office Building of the Year for the Ancona Office Centre in Phoenix, Arizona. One of the reasons for the firm’s success is its emphasis on collaboration, both with the client and among different disciplines on the project team. That’s why Ellen Smith, IT manager at Arcturis, chose to introduce Revit Architecture design and documentation software to the firm in 2004. “I learned Revit Architecture while working at a local Autodesk reseller,” says Smith. “I saw immediately that Arcturis had the right mix of talent and desire to succeed that would enable them to really take advantage of what Revit Architecture could do.”

### The Challenge

The firm’s first project using the new software was the 55,000-square-foot Fenton, Missouri, campus of Sanford-Brown College. “They badly needed to expand, so they chose a six-acre site adjacent to a major highway for maximum visibility,” says Jennifer Gebhardt, architect. “It was a new building meant to house 700 students. Revit was an ideal tool to develop and visualize a project where the deadline was measured in weeks, not months.”

### A Slim Budget

“I was the project architect, working with two other architects and an interior designer,” says Gebhardt. “Our challenge was to create an attractive, eye-catching design within a tight budget—while keeping our clients fully informed. For instance, they really wanted to see renderings of the new lobby before we began construction.”



*Using Revit Architecture design and documentation software, the architects and designers at Arcturis were able to*

- *Significantly improve collaboration among architects and interior designers*
- *Create high-quality, photorealistic renderings*
- *Better manage placement of furniture, equipment, and workstation partitions*
- *Keep clients better informed and more involved in the design process*
- *Catch conflicts during the design phase—before construction begins*
- *Minimize change orders, requests for information, and costly rework*

### The Solution

“One of the first things we noticed on that pilot project was that collaboration among the disciplines—particularly between the architects and interior designers—was virtually seamless,” says Gebhardt. “Initially, our interior designer was hesitant to use the new technology and preferred to use AutoCAD. But features like Worksets and her ability to receive designs from the architects and begin work immediately—with virtually no ramp-up time—soon changed her mind.”

### Create Realistic Renderings

Using Revit Architecture, she was able to easily create high-quality, photorealistic renderings of the new building’s lobby. “That really impressed the client,” says Gebhardt.

### Improve Client Relationships

“It also enabled us to give them a much better idea of what to expect from the finished project,” says Brad Bloomquist, marketing director at Arcturis. “That’s much harder to do just looking at a floor plan or an elevation.”

### Minimize Errors

“And because it’s so easy to visualize what you’re designing, you can catch conflicts during the design phase—where they’re relatively easy to fix—instead of in the field,” says Gebhardt. “That forces us to think our designs through more thoroughly, earlier in the process. In terms of project delivery, that’s been huge.”

### Spend More Time on Design

Because Revit Architecture automatically generates all other views of the building information model—including elevations, schedules, accurate floor plans, 3D views, and more—during the design process, Arcturis was also able to drastically reduce time spent on project documentation. “That enabled us to spend much more time on design and get a better result,” says Gebhardt.

“For example, we like to do a lot of design options, especially for interiors,” says Gebhardt. “Using

Revit Architecture, we can create many different design options and map them out by phase. That’s one of my favorite features in Revit Architecture. And as we develop the designs, everything remains coordinated and consistent automatically. That just blows me away.”

### Get Better Bids

“The high quality of the drawings and documentation we’re able to produce also has a direct effect on the quality of the bids we receive,” says Mark Stegeman, interior designer at Arcturis. “For example, on one of our recent projects, the rate of cost variance was less than 5 percent. That’s great news for the client, and for us. Basically, it means that our initial documentation was so comprehensive that construction will go faster—with fewer change orders and requests for information, and much less rework.”

### The Result

Because the new facility at Sanford-Brown College was such an overwhelming success, Arcturis was chosen to add 10,000 square feet to another building in 2005. “Since adopting Revit Architecture, we’ve completed eleven major projects, begun many additional jobs, and anticipate using it on a variety of ongoing projects,” says Gebhardt. “We believe Revit Architecture is the future of architecture and interior design, and our push now is to get the whole organization using it on every project by 2007.”

To learn more about Revit Architecture, visit [www.autodesk.com/revitarchitecture](http://www.autodesk.com/revitarchitecture).