

# Leading tertiary institutions

Educational success story

Autodesk Revit Series



"After being bombarded by new architectural programs from our first year of study, Autodesk Revit is truly the first program that is straightforward and easy to understand."

**Rozanne Basson**  
Cape Peninsula University of Technology  
Cape Town Campus

"I was a first-time user and I found Autodesk Revit very easy to work with."

**Mbongeni Dlamini**  
Durban Institute of Technology

"Autodesk Revit has inspired me to reach beyond all my previous expectations of myself and to push for the best 3D images ever."

**Jenny Howard**  
University of Pretoria

"Autodesk Revit lets me express my initial thoughts without losing their impact before they reach the drawing itself."

**Mari Jacobs**  
University of Pretoria

## Technology skills for aspiring architects

Architectural faculties at resource-strapped tertiary institutions across South Africa recently received an injection of sought-after design technology skills.

### The challenge

In February 2004, global design software company, Autodesk, launched its cutting-edge architectural design and documentation software, Autodesk Revit.

The unique software speeds the design process and allows architecture students to focus on architectural design and expressive form, learn about materials and technology, master design visualisation and develop skills for the technical documentation of building projects.

During the post-launch phase momentum in the commercial market gathered rapidly. Within a matter of months the South African market was adopting the software faster than any other country in the world.

While several local educational institutions decided to adopt Autodesk Revit Series (a software bundle containing Autodesk Revit and AutoCAD) as part of their training offerings, few lecturers had capacity to familiarise themselves with the software in detail.

### The solution

More than 500 senior architectural and interior design students from eight tertiary institutions as well as many lecturers participated in the Autodesk Revit skills programme.

"The programme enabled us to contribute to education as well as the longer term health of technology skills development in the architectural profession," says Amanda Wesson, business development manager at Autodesk.

Autodesk®



Participants in the programme included:

- Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
- Summerstrand South campus
- University of Cape Town
- University of Johannesburg - Interior Design
- Cape Peninsula University of Technology Belville and Cape Town campuses
- University of Pretoria
- Tshwane University of Technology – Department of Architecture and Department of Interior Design
- University of KwaZulu Natal
- Durban Institute of Technology.

Low-fee enrolment in the student programme included three days of training, an Autodesk accredited certificate, a free student version of Autodesk Revit Series as well as access to a technical help line.

“The response from students has been overwhelming,” says Lisa Rautenbach, MD of the authorised Autodesk educational reseller, Educad.

“Many of the students mentioned feeling ‘liberated’ because their creative spirit had been freed and would no longer be shackled by conventional 2D drafting software.

“Educad focuses on full service implementation of Autodesk software at educational institutions, including provision of a comprehensive Autodesk Revit curriculum, at no charge. It includes, amongst other things, lecturer notes for two semesters and a 270-page student workbook with exercises and datasets that correspond to each unit in the lecture notes,” says Rautenbach.

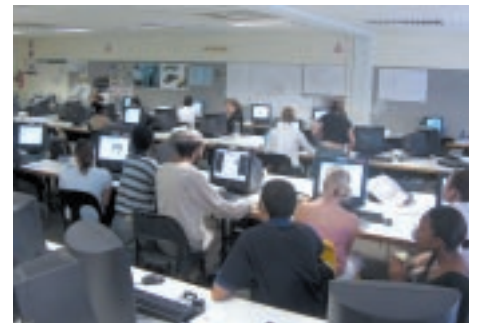
After the positive response to the skills programme from both students and lecturers, Autodesk is repeating the campaign.

Further information about the follow up programme is available from Amanda Wesson on (011) 805-1555 or [amanda@worldsview.co.za](mailto:amanda@worldsview.co.za).



“Autodesk Revit is like having seven architectural technologists on one project, but only paying for one!”

[Johan F. Store,](#)  
[Cape Peninsula University of Technology](#)  
[Cape Town Campus](#)



“Autodesk Revit has the perfect balance. It is an extremely powerful, intuitive architectural programme, yet it is uncomplicated and doesn’t interfere with design decisions.”

[Andries Haasbroek,](#) [Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Cape Town Campus](#)

