

August 03<sup>rd</sup> 2018

## Notice to Software Vendors

### Reconfirmation on Basic Ground Rules for Software-Certification 2.0

It is demanded by end-users and agreed by the bSI-community, that a higher level of IFC data-exchange quality is absolutely necessary. In their daily practice, end-users need more reliable data-structures and less variability.

Consequently, this requires stricter implementation of agreed IFC-standard-releases which cannot be changed after approval. The only way to influence the standard is before the final approval. Exceptions resulting in a corrigendum are only acceptable in cases of errors in the specification.

This means, that quite likely some vendor implementations will be needed to support specific standard releases. This also includes definitions of MVDs.

Even though IFC4 and RV and DTV went through the official approval process of bSI (the “Standards Process”) we are experiencing ongoing change requests. This has continued after the ISG-meeting 2017 in Prague and leads to an unacceptable moving target for certification. In cases of contradicting requests, only one can prevail and consequently has to be accepted by those not in favor and may result into extra effort for implementation.

To provide consistency and a robust basis for the certification process the currently achieved status has been frozen and is now binding for certification. This cannot be changed any longer, otherwise this certification cannot be finished.

Sometimes some additional support is required in order to support automated testing as far as possible. This also benefits the software vendors since automated testing is supporting their development effort.

An example is the quest from certifiers to use given procedures for namings of entities. If this is not possible, at least a mapping table relating own namings with the given ones would be very helpful. In case the standard is requesting given structures this cannot be changed so that it fits to existing individual implementations.

This is illustrated in the case of the structure for stairs, where the standard demands flights and landings. Alternative structures like just steps cannot be accepted, since this would finally lead to issues in daily practice of end-users.

On the understanding that this is now fixed and that no further change requests will come up, the cert-team is committed to provide the ReferenceView 1.2, the test-cases and updated checking tools by mid of Sept. 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. St.', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rasso Steinmann  
bSI-Software Certification

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Petrie', with a horizontal line underneath.

Richard Petrie  
bSI-Chief Executive