# TEKLA BASECAMP

AUG.27-29

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#### **Power of the Tekla API**

Mark Allphin Business Manager



# What in the world is an 'API'?

Dictionary.com says...

-<u>Application</u> Programming Interface



"a set of protocols used by programmers to create applications for a specific operating system or to interface between the different modules of an application."

-Layman's Terms

a **Programming Toolkit** that gives **Customizable Access** to functions of a software program

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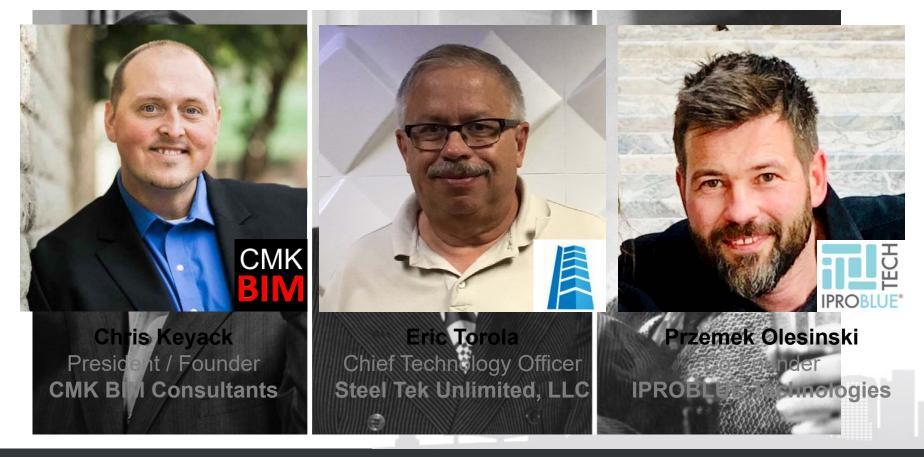
## Portfolio of Tekla (& Trimble) APIs







#### **Our 'Expert' Presenters**



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#### So, let's get started...





# Instead... Let's Start w/ a Basic Overview

- Creates a Competitive Advantage
- Customization of Tekla Structures ...without changing the 'Core'
- Utilizing Microsoft .NET Technology





# Major 'Elements' of the API

Macro API

Record and play commands and dialog actions

Model API

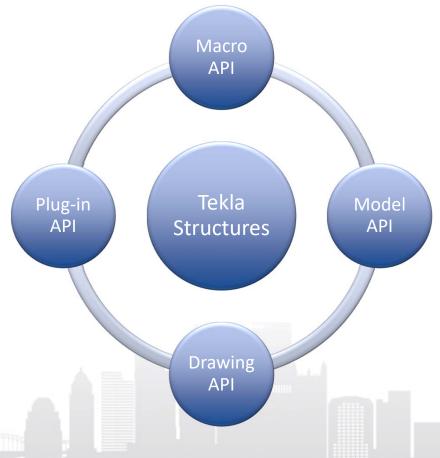
Create and modify model objects and info

Drawing API

Create and modify drawings and drawing objects

Plug-in API

Create intelligent parametric components





# Why Use the API?

- Customize Functionality to Fit <u>YOUR</u> Needs
- Speed Up Repetitive Tasks
- Increase Productivity

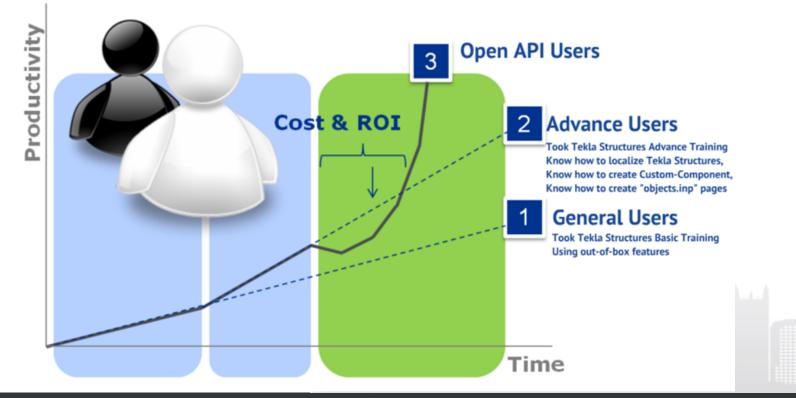


- Integrate with Other Software/Systems
- Create & Market Intelligent 3D Products



#### Value Beyond the 'Box'

#### Increase Your Productivity in 3 levels

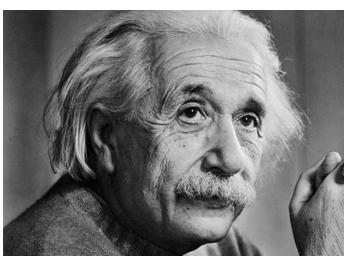




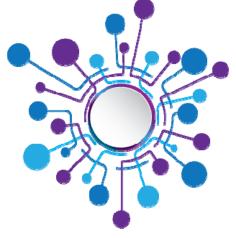
#### Crawl...Walk...Run...



#### **POWER TOOLS** "Click Savers"



SYSTEM TOOLS "Expert User Systems"



**DELIVERABLES** "Quality Output"





#### **POWER TOOLS – "CLICK SAVERS"**





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## **POWER TOOLS – "CLICK SAVERS"**

- Seen These Before?
- Everyday Productivity Boost
- Does a Specific Task
- Beyond Custom Components & Recorded Macros





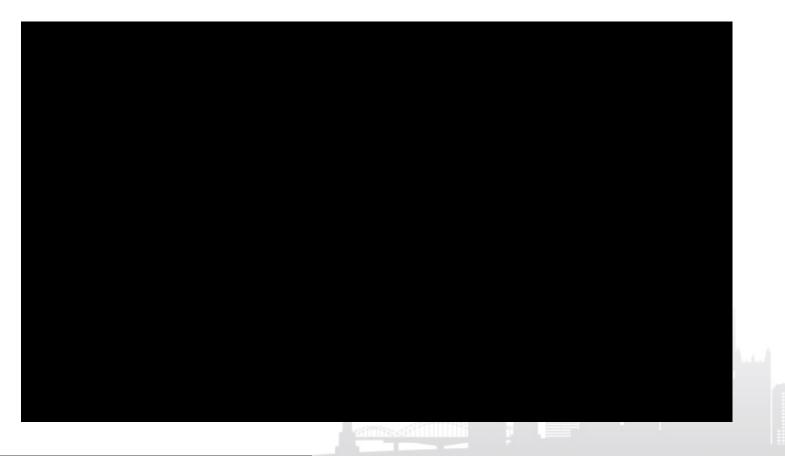
# **POWER TOOLS – ESTIMODELING CONCRETE**

- Estimator NOT a Detailer
- Tedious Manual Tasks
- Get More Estimates Done





## **POWER TOOLS – ESTIMODELING CONCRETE**





## **POWER TOOLS – "CLICK SAVERS"**

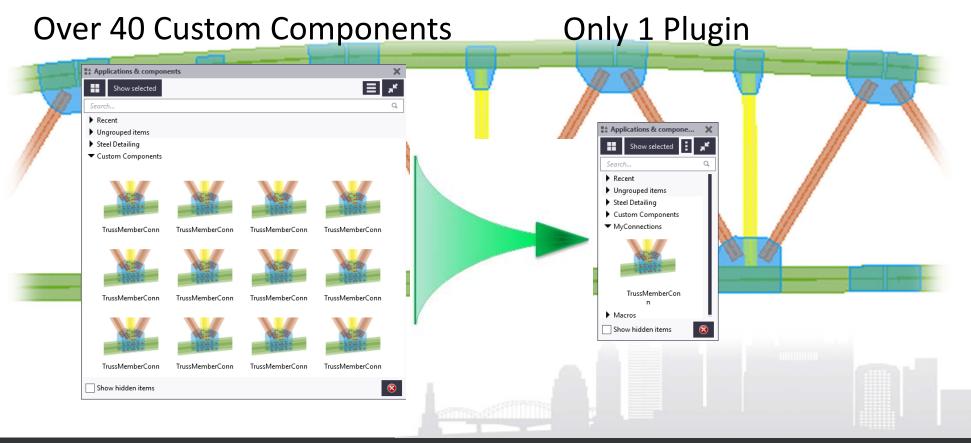


• Why API instead of Custom Component?



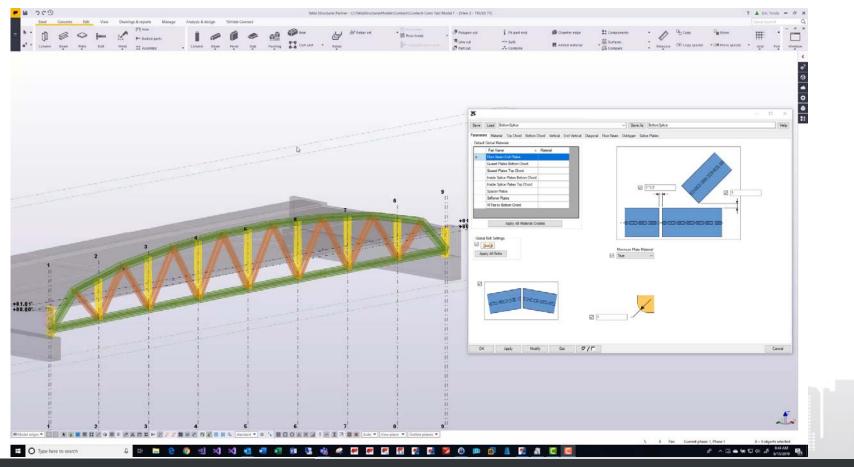


#### **POWER TOOLS – Truss Gusset Plate Conn.**





#### **POWER TOOLS – Truss Gusset Plate Conn.**



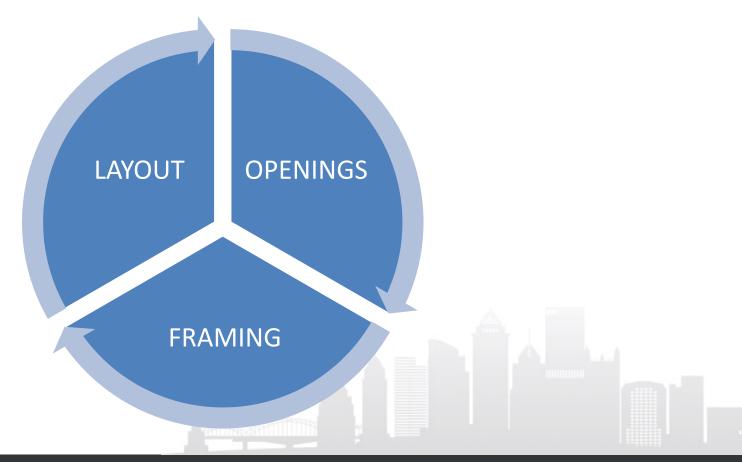
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#### **POWER TOOLS – start small ...**



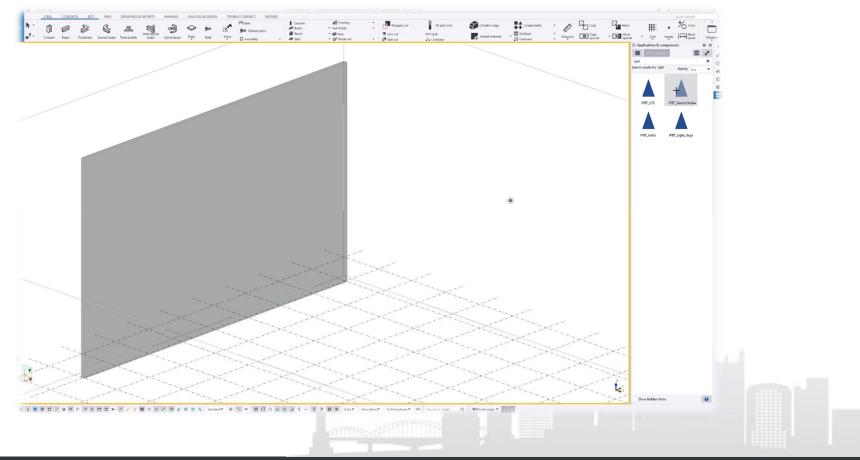


## **POWER TOOLS – LIGHT GAUGE STEEL FRAMING**

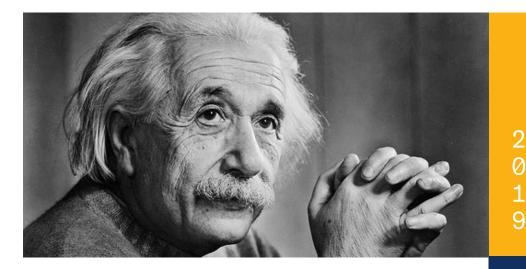




#### **POWER TOOLS – LIGHT GAUGE STEEL FRAMING**











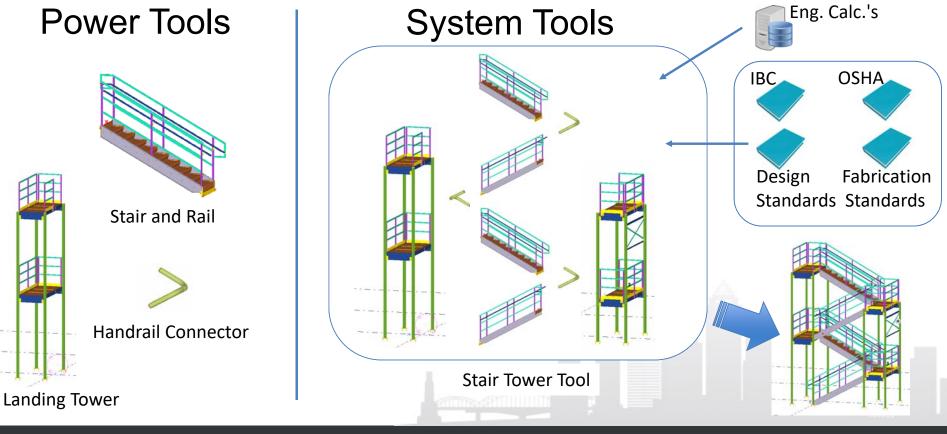
What is an Expert User system?

A system or collection of plugins and applications that work together to create your products.

Examples:

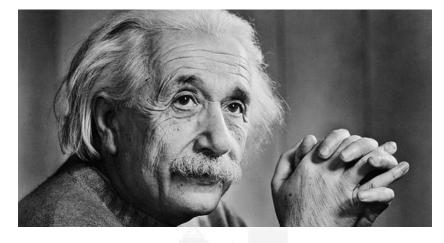
- Stair towers
- Pre-engineered buildings
- Bridge components
- Precast or panelized buildings

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- Why create an Expert User system?
- Embed your expert users...
  - Engineering knowledge
  - Design standards
  - Fabrication standards
  - Industry standards and codes
  - Building codes
  - Other business data



... in your modeling tools before they retire



Compare how far your shop processes Have evolved...



... to how far your drafting, and engineering processes have evolved.

Maybe it's time to address these processes.



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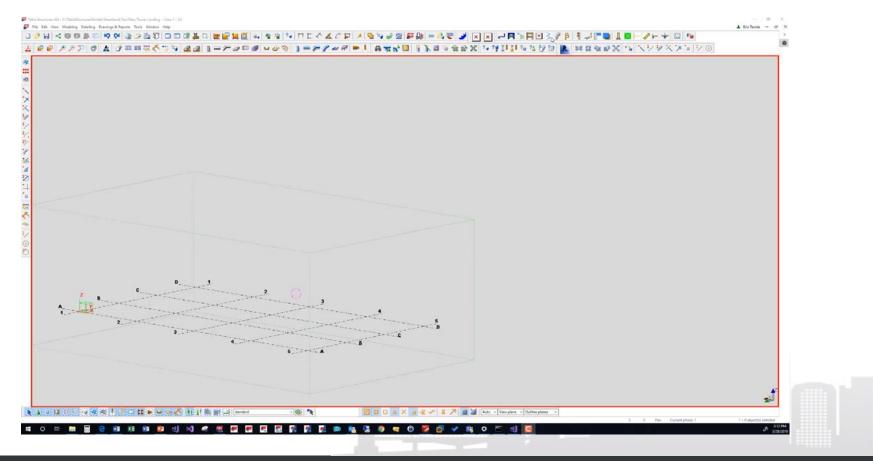








# **SYSTEM TOOLS – Stair Tower Example**





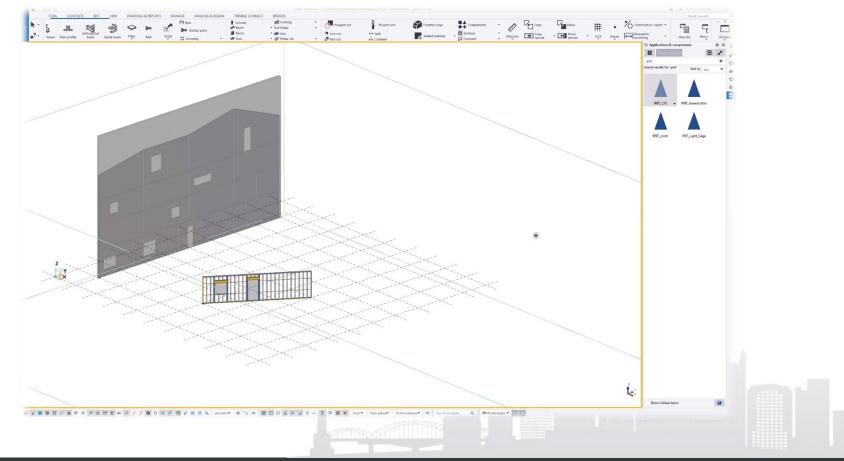






# EXPERTS ON DEMAND

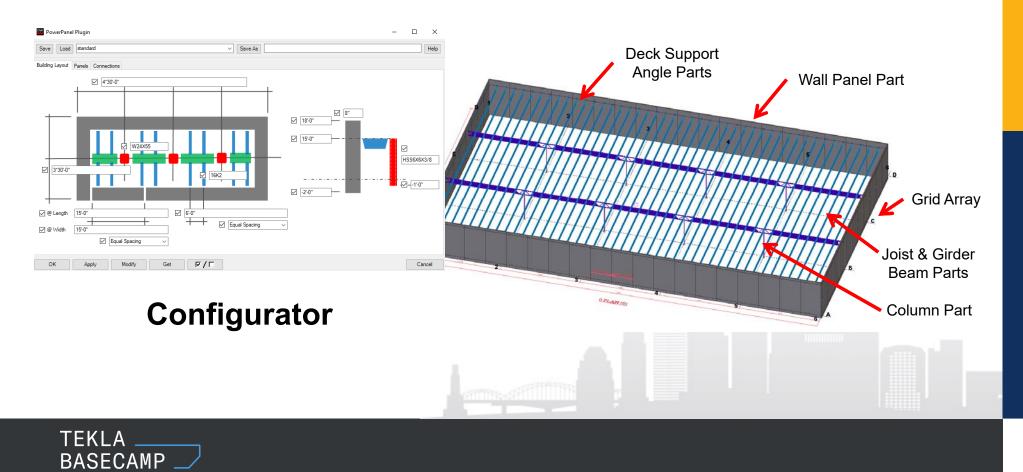
#### **SYSTEM TOOLS – LGSF cont.**

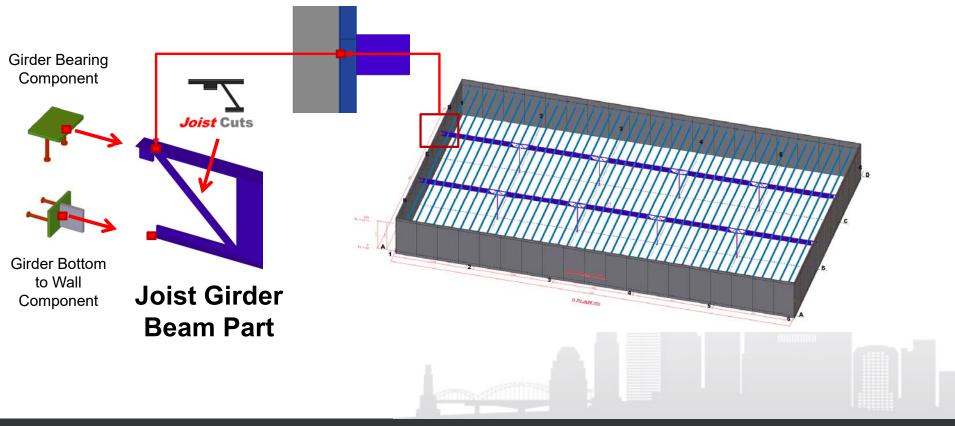




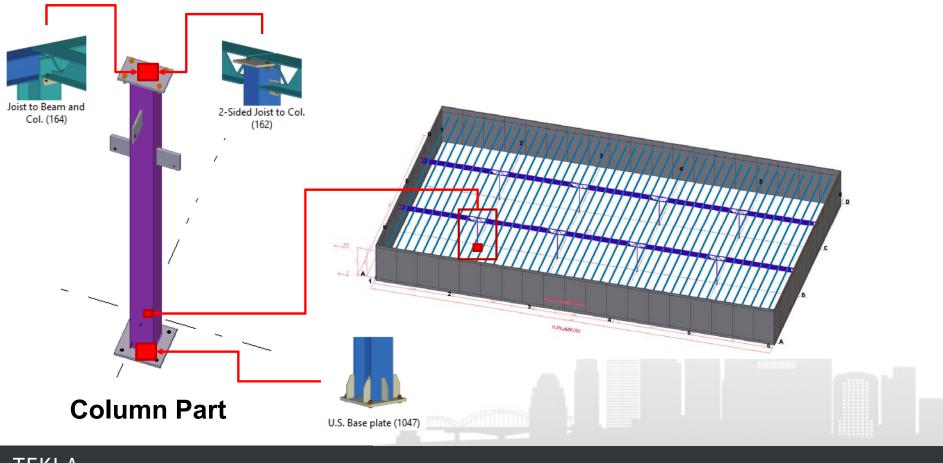








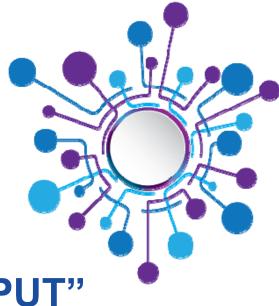












# **DELIVERABLES – "QUALITY OUTPUT"**





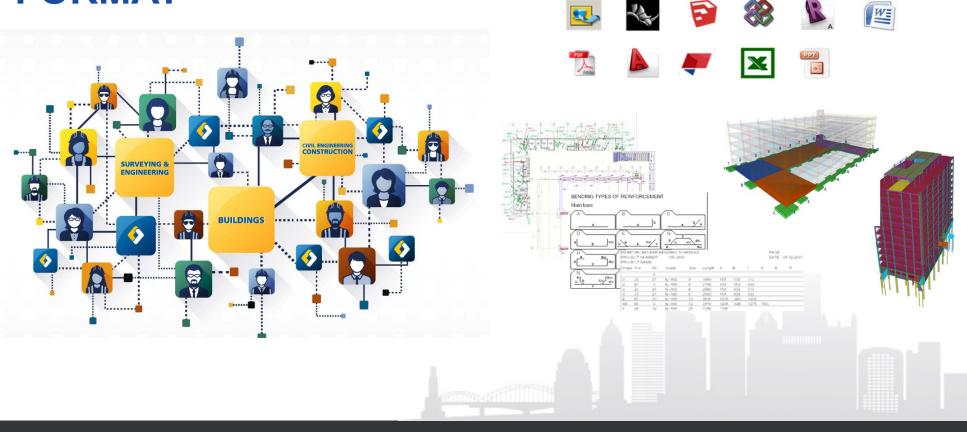




- "DESCRIBES" THE PROJECT
- ACCESS ON DEMAND
- FULLY DISTRIBUTABLE

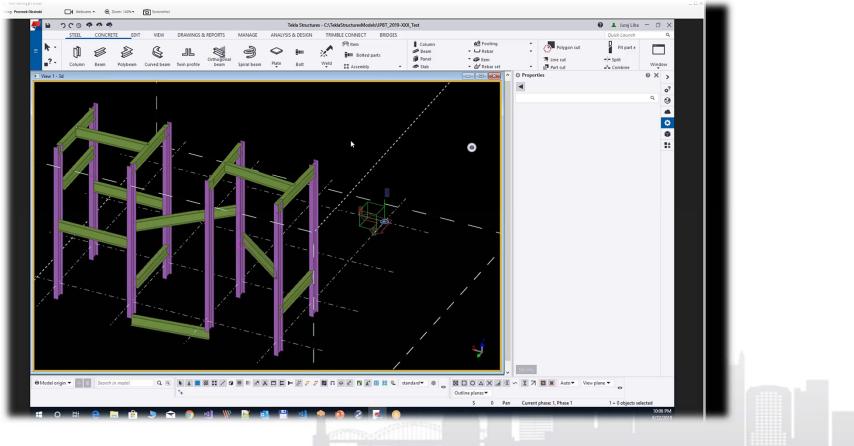


# DELIVERABLES – QUALITY OUTPUT IN ANY FORMAT



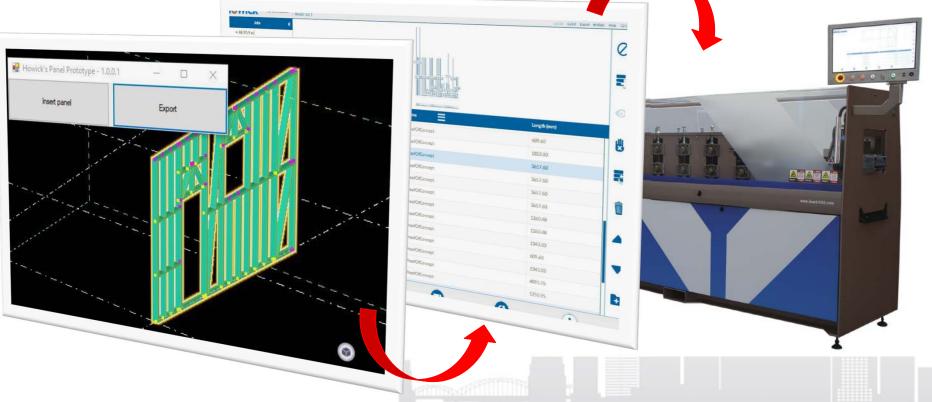


#### **DELIVERABLES – SOFTWARE INTEROPERABILITY**





#### **DELIVERABLES – DATA INTEGRATION**





#### DELIVERABLES – QUALITY OUTPUT IN ANY FORMAT





#### **DELIVERABLES – HSS Unwrap Drawing**

Automating Drawing Creation

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# **DELIVERABLES – HSS Unwrap Drawing**

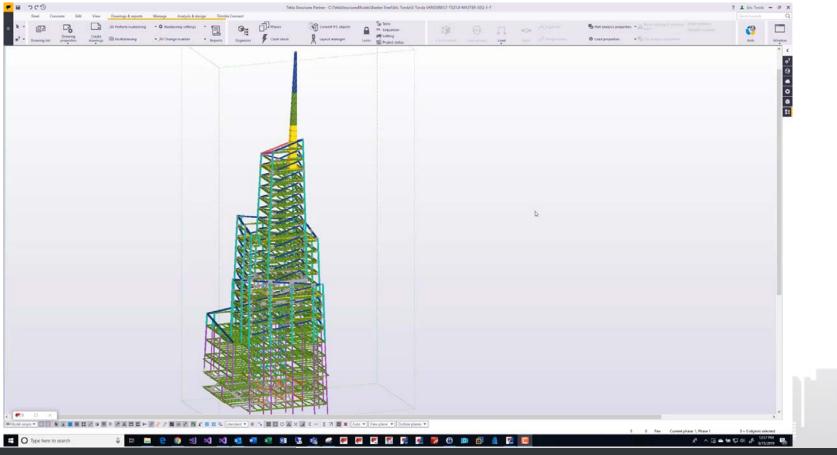
Problem to solve

- 1000's of HSS Beams
- 6 Week delivery of material
- Large liquidated damages for delays

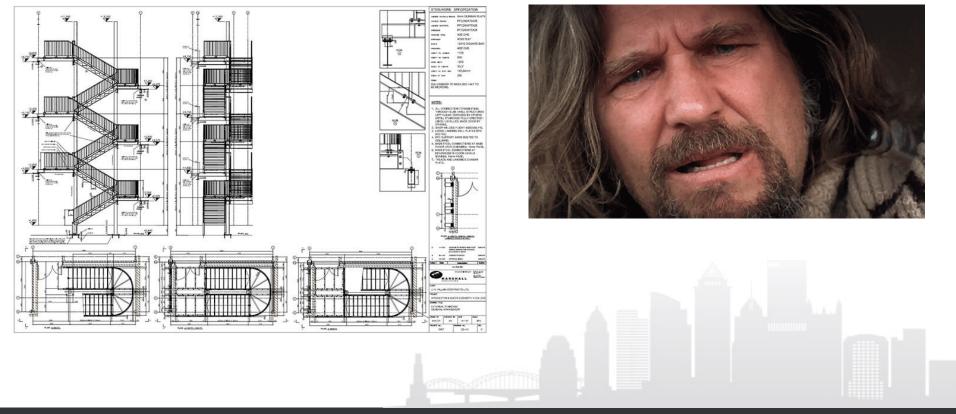
   Can't have any shop errors on cutting of parts



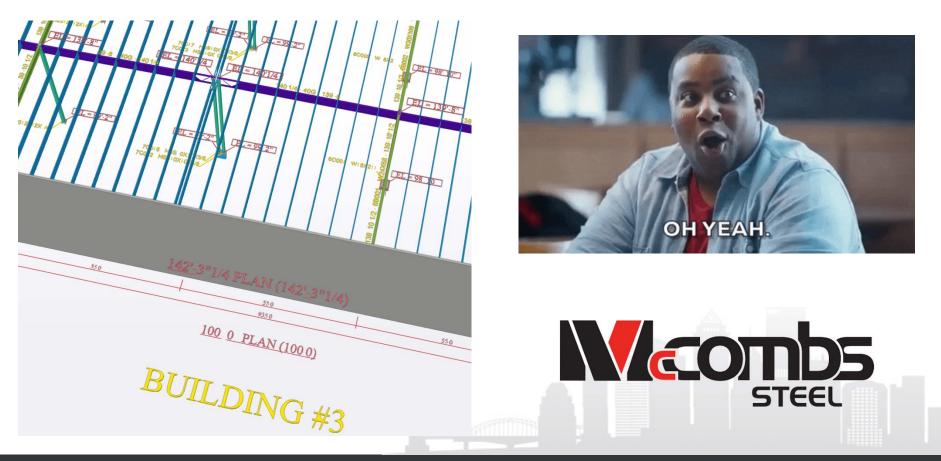
#### **DELIVERABLES – HSS Unwrap Drawing**



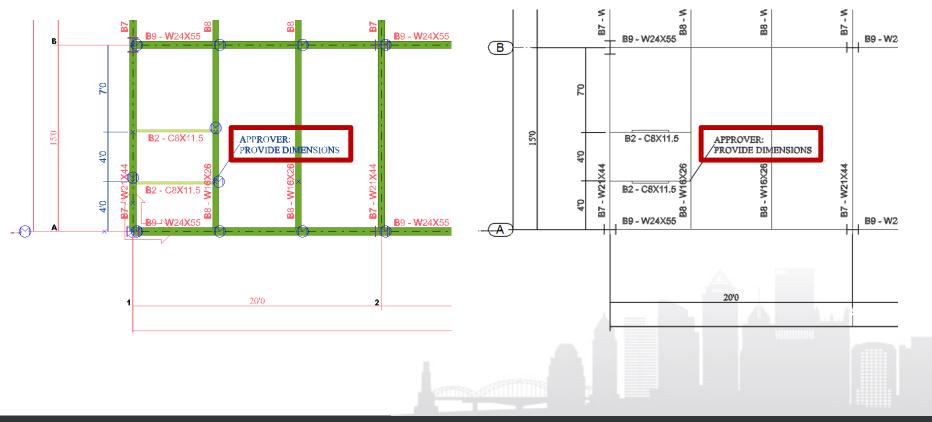














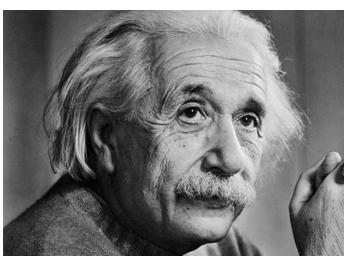




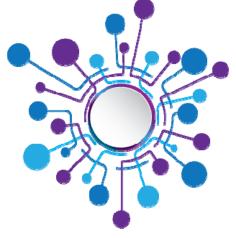
#### Crawl...Walk...Run...



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SYSTEM TOOLS "Expert User Systems"



**DELIVERABLES** "Quality Output"



### So...How do you get started?



- developer.tekla.com
- Get API references, programming guides & exercises, code examples, and more
- Post questions and share best practices
- Find development experts like...







# Also...Get with the program!

• Join the Tekla Partner Program



- Tekla Partners Program Suite
- Access to full support
- Permission to sell your Tekla apps
- Possibility to reach Tekla users around the world





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#### **Questions for the 'Stooges'?**

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