



RIBUNA AG USES REVU FOR EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE DATA MANAGEMENT

CHALLENGE

The engineers at Ribuna AG in Interlaken, Switzerland, are young, motivated and successful, as proven by the diversity and breadth of civil engineering and infrastructure projects handled by the company since it was established in early 2019. They use Bluebeam Revu from the moment they set up a project file, and the solution adds an incredible dimension to digital collaboration, within the team itself and with external partners.

End-to-end digital planning requires end-to-end management of digital planning and data, and Ribuna AG saw this as an important foundation for its new engineering company. The company needed to react fast when it came to Oberried Station on Lake Brienz: in just a few weeks, it switched to a decentralised approach for the project, with teams working from home. This was essential as the project kicked off right in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic – and planning simply couldn't grind to a halt. The engineers at Ribuna opted for Bluebeam Revu to guarantee a fast, digital process keeping errors to a minimum. The integrated software makes structured interaction possible at every planning and coordination stage, as well as saving time and paper on a sustainable basis.

SOLUTION

Ribuna has worked with Nemetschek sister brand Allplan Engineering since it was established and its history with Bluebeam goes back nearly as far. When it investigated and tested out Revu features and potential applications, it quickly realised how perfect it was for its requirements. Connectivity between everyone involved in the planning process is an important factor, and with Revu the company can create routines for crucial planning approvals from the client or specialist planners, track comments and complete design reviews quickly and faultlessly. The result is a high level of security and transparency for the project coordinator and the team.

Ribuna AG is committed to using Bluebeam Revu in the long term. Handling projects on a decentralised basis will continue to be important in the future and project partners are already working from home in various locations. Bluebeam Revu involves everyone to guarantee planning is extremely reliable, minimises the amount of time spent on the project and optimises planning results.

BENEFITS

- Significant time saved when reviewing and coordinating designs
- Maximum flexibility in processing PDF data sets
- Quick and efficient coordination phases
- Minimal error rates thanks to digital workflows throughout
- Efficient document management in Bluebeam Revu
- Savings totalling thousands of Swiss francs thanks to minimal printing and paper costs
- Sustainable approach using 20%-50% less paper
- Rapid integration into new systems such as a home office or decentralised working

“Bluebeam Revu has played playing a special role at Oberried Station. Despite Covid-19 and working from home, we were quickly able to move the project teams to a digital and decentralised approach. When it comes to software that supports paperless working, we chose Revu, just as we did when we were in the office.”

Andreas Blatter
Managing Director
Ribuna

Continuous processes without analogue breakdowns

High-quality planning and construction work demands digital processes that are as standardised as possible, with no aggravating analogue breakdowns. Every construction project handled by the 17-person Ribuna AG team is unique, so the only things that can be standardised in these projects' implementation are recurring construction elements and details. The obvious approach was therefore to pay even closer attention to procedures and processes in other areas, identifying where scarce time and other valuable resources can be saved.

Finding the biggest potential wastes of time in the office didn't take long, as internal work processes can waste huge amounts of time, particularly with complex construction tasks and intricate project coordination. This is where the engineers at Ribuna decided to start, by finding digital tools that would make processes more efficient and help to minimise the potential for errors by optimising and standardising processes.

Digitalisation and digitisation maximise efficiency

The speed at which Ribuna has become an agile new player in a market full of successful general planning and engineering practices is impressive. Although the company was established just two years ago, it already boasts plenty of successful projects in infrastructure construction, bridge renovations, civil engineering construction and roads and hydraulic construction.



Alongside staffing expertise and planning experience, consistent digitalisation and digitisation of every process – right from the start – was a crucial factor in the company's rapid success in acquiring customers and working with project partners. To make this possible, the four Ribuna partners got together beforehand and analysed the advantages and disadvantages of how things were done in their old company and before the buyout. This quickly identified that creating efficient internal and external project processes would be important for operating with a streamlined yet capable number of employees in the engineering practice.

Nemetschek sister company supports implementation

When the Ribuna engineers were researching the market for a suitable tool that would optimise both internal processes and interaction with external project partners to create a proven planning and construction process that would be both transparent and reliable, they came across Bluebeam Revu. The company has worked with Allplan Engineering since it was first set up, so Allplan quickly introduced them to its sister company Bluebeam. The software provider guided and advised the engineers through the entire implementation process and provided extensive technical support.

Pandemic drives digital transformation

Digitised and digitalised processes became hugely important in 2020. One of the drivers behind this – which nobody had imagined earlier on in the year – was the COVID-19 pandemic. Within just a few short weeks, ongoing projects had to move to a decentralised approach and teams of colleagues switched to working from home. Planning quality, on the other hand, could not be allowed to suffer, as almost every construction site continued operating without any great restrictions.

“Now we only print out plans if we really need to. Depending on the project's complexity, I estimate that we have reduced the amount of paper we use by between 20%-50%.”

Andreas Blatter
Managing Director
Ribuna

Oberried Station: collaborating digitally

The Ribuna engineers in Interlaken were also faced with the challenge of this unique pandemic situation. One of the projects that very rapidly switched to a paperless system from team members' home offices was Oberried Station on Lake Brienz. This is an important intersection in the Swiss Zentralbahn rail network and links Interlaken, Lucerne and Engelberg, so the station has been particularly significant for more than 100 years. Ribuna is responsible for the general planning of the station's complete refurbishment and making it fully accessible. The project started in summer 2020 and preliminary work is currently underway on the tracks and in the station buildings. Construction is scheduled to run from December 2021 to April 2022, when the station will be put back into service. The total project cost is CHF 10 million.

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the project teams to a digital and decentralised approach. When it comes to software that supports paperless working, we chose Revu, just as we did when we were in the office," said Ribuna Managing Director Andreas Blatter. "Also, if plans have to be discussed within the team, they are clearly displayed on large screens in the Ribuna AG conference room. With a computer connection and Bluebeam Revu, any changes can be made while the discussion is in progress."



Optimal transparency and document tracking

When the Ribuna team investigated and tested out the Bluebeam Revu features and potential applications, it quickly realised how perfect it was for Ribuna AG's requirements.

An important benefit is connectivity between everyone involved in the planning process: all the team members can access, correct and annotate project data and plans in real time, anytime and from anywhere, and return them to project partners. With Bluebeam Revu, the team can create routines for crucial planning approvals from the client or specialist planners, track comments and complete design reviews quickly and faultlessly. Permissions can also be amended flexibly right from the start of the planning process, which means that everyone who needs to receive information at a specific point in the project receives it right on time, so that the team can return it with their approvals or annotations. The result is a high level of security and transparency for the project coordinator and the Ribuna team. Coworkers in Interlaken can see the processing or approval status at all times and can track the progress of problems in minute detail.

Precision with standardised data sets

The many features and process-optimising tools in Bluebeam Revu were not the only decisive factors when Ribuna AG chose the software, however. The extensive functions for handling PDF data sets were far more important to them, as Andreas Blatter, design engineer and executive, explains: "Our project partners send us so many sheet sets and they all use their own CAD or BIM software. Using Revu means we can use a standardised PDF data set to check the plans and, for example, draw up service specifications for

construction service tenders. We can do that thanks to a very precise, scaled measuring tool in the programme."

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Extensive tools for editing PDFs

The range of tools for editing PDF data sets are another benefit. Making changes to plans isn't a problem; annotations can be added to the document itself and then emailed to the relevant planning partners or linked as information on a project platform used by everyone. Said Andreas Blatter: "We hold the projects centrally on an internal server and all the team members access them there directly. There is a whole host of features, including the stamp function that enables us to document that design changes and other important details have definitely been viewed by the relevant project partners. And now we only print out plans if we really need to. Depending on the project's complexity, I estimate that we have reduced the amount of paper we use by between 20%-50%."



About Bluebeam

Bluebeam develops innovative technology solutions that set the standard in project efficiency and collaboration for architecture, engineering and construction professionals worldwide. Our award-winning PDF-based software, Bluebeam Revu, continues to serve as an industry-leading annotation and collaboration solution that connects all projects and teams, increasing productivity while saving both time and money. Founded in Pasadena, California, Bluebeam has grown to include additional offices in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Denmark and Sweden.

Bluebeam is part of the Nemetschek Group.

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