

Allies and Morrison

Head of Design Technology

Allies and Morrison is an award-winning architectural design and urban planning practice based in its own purpose-built studios in Bankside, London with studios in Cambridge, Liverpool, Manchester and Dublin and internationally in Toronto and Jeddah. Our current projects include masterplans, new homes, cultural, education, health, retail, hotel and office buildings for institutional, public and private clients.

We are looking for an experienced thought leader who has the skills and enthusiasm to further develop, refine and implement our design technology roadmap, engaging stakeholders at all levels, whilst providing practical and technical guidance to our project teams and clients. As well as directing a team of BIM and information management specialists across a wide project portfolio, the Head of DT will play a crucial role in engaging with clients and collaborators to develop approaches to technology integration on masterplanning, building, interiors and landscape projects.

Strategy and Leadership:

- Develop and implement the Design Technology roadmap to ensure alignment with the practice's strategy and international portfolio.
- Lead and mentor a central team of BIM, computation, GIS, and information management specialists.
- Engage with clients and collaborators to develop collaborative approaches to technology integration on masterplanning, building, interiors and landscape projects.
- Lead the evaluation of emerging technologies and present strategic recommendations to the partnership that are aligned with our practice goals.
- Lead the provision of information management services across the project portfolio while nurturing existing and new client relationships to identify and secure business opportunities.
- Plan and manage the Design Technology budget and bidding to drive a progressive approach to technology in design, balancing innovation with reliability and scalability.

Standards and Governance:

- Establish and maintain practice-wide standards for modelling, information exchange, AI integration, data management and code development.
- Ensure platform adherence to the IT policies and contribute to the practice of cybersecurity and business continuity planning.
- Work closely with the Head of IT to ensure that hardware and software infrastructure align with design technology applications and practice security standards.
- Manage the procurement of software licences, review legal terms of agreement and actively manage licence usage.
- Liaise with Legal and Technical teams regarding contractual and legal appointments.
- Establish project briefs for external consultants and review deliverables throughout their appointment.
- Oversee the delivery of projects in accordance with our ISO19650 information management accreditation.

Design Workflow Optimisation and Automation:

- Lead a team tasked with optimising design workflows, automating repetitive tasks, and embedding environmental analysis in the design process.
- Interrogate longstanding practice workflows and support the development of new AI-driven approaches, where appropriate.
- Lead workflow automation strategies through the development of in-house tools and visual programming (Grasshopper/Dynamo) scripts.
- Coordinate the development and maintenance of Revit and Rhino content, templates, and libraries across all projects.
- Manage the practice's GitHub code repositories and coordinate cross-platform code development.

Training and Support:

- Coordinate the delivery of internal training materials, skill-development workshops, and concise documentation that clearly communicates our approach to design technology.
- Monitor skills development across the Design Technology team and the wider practice, managing a robust training and development programme to ensure the practice maintains its leading position at the forefront of industry technology.
- Coordinate project technology initiation meetings with teams at regular intervals.
- Lead a team providing front-line software support to our project teams across all studios.
- Oversee the evolution of technology capabilities, including BIM, computation, data management, and environmental analysis.
- Lead and contribute to R&D initiatives, ensuring efforts align with practice goals and provide measurable benefits.
- Collaborate with our internal sustainability, GIS, research and technical teams to develop progressive approaches to design.
- Engage with academia and external collaborators on research and participate in industry networks to maintain a strong presence within the AEC sector.

Essential Skills and Experience

- Proven experience leading a team of technology specialists within an architectural practice on large-scale complex projects.
- Demonstrated ability to manage budgets and deliver long-term ROI on technology investments.
- Experience contributing to bid submissions, resource profiles and fee proposal development.
- A detailed understanding of ISO19650 principles and delivery.
- Deep technical knowledge of Autodesk platforms, including Revit, ACC Docs (Forma) and Recap. Experience with Autodesk API would be advantageous.
- Strong experience delivering projects with Rhino and Grasshopper, including expertise in Revit-Rhino interoperability workflows.
- Experience with model analysis tools such as Navisworks and Solibri.
- Experience working collaboratively with programming languages and platforms such as GitHub.
- Experience working with AI-supported code generation and integrating AI Large Language Models (LLMs).

- Experience with data visualisation tools such as Power BI to track project performance, sustainability goals and client-related data.
- Experience with environmental analysis packages (e.g., Ladybug, Honeybee, Radiance) and familiarity with carbon modelling and building performance simulation workflows.
- Exceptional communication skills, including the ability to translate complex technical concepts for non-technical stakeholders (partners and clients).
- Experience contributing to and leading a variety of workshops and meetings.
- Strong desire to explore emerging technologies, with a dedication to self-learning and research.

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