



Total Building Design

TBD Engineering
Integrated Team
CPEP Reflection

Implementation of a web-based firm profile was a great way to showcase the partners, the process, and the product that we designed. We decided to go a little beyond the core CPEP requirements, and really take the viewer on a journey through not only our final documentation and deliverables, but also the process that we undertook to get there, in a similar format to our project proposal presentation. Though the CPEP site was a low priority throughout bulk of the thesis course, we had a good deal of time after the AEI conference to discuss, storyboard, and implement what we wanted to convey and how we wanted to convey it. Our final CPEP product, like our final design product, is a representation of the process we underwent throughout the design process—developing a team product, and then all working together to deliver what we needed, when we needed it.

However, there was a struggle in putting together our CPEP, largely due to the lack of updating that the requirements have seen with the birth of an integrated, team option that is entirely different from the individual process. The requirements are in dire need of at least updating to reflect the differences in the two options, or even an all-out revamping for the team-based option. We used a lot of latitude in pages such as the “building statistics,” but some items, such as the “user note,” are completely obsolete in the context of a design competition, where the project we were working with had no “original building designs and construction methodologies” to modify for them to be “the sole interpretation of (insert name here).” Additionally, we had no technical assignments, research proposals, or abstract. We spent just as much time figuring out what actually applied to us as we did developing the website, which is a great waste of time (muda, as two of our partners have professed to us all year).

While the website is a great way to show our process and our product, the CPEP program is in need of updating. Just as there is a push to move the industry forward and get past the notion that we already know the right way of doing things because we’ve done them that way for X number of years, a prescriptive set of requirements such as the six page packet we received for the CPEP is not necessarily applicable to a team option of the capstone project.