



Knowledge Management Initiative

Collecting and centralizing architectural information

About

Callison Architecture specializes in designing built environments, including projects in retail, hospitality, healthcare, and mixed-use. Headquartered in Seattle, it has offices both domestically and abroad, and employs over 1,000 architects, designers and support staff worldwide.

Problem

Despite its large size and the complexity of its projects, Callison has never centralized its building information into a single dedicated location. This is problematic for architects and support staff looking for a quick snapshot of any given project, but must sift through data scattered across various internal servers, or have not been recorded at all.

Thus, the project recognizes the opportunity to assist in its knowledge organization efforts.

Solution

The project sets to create an authoritative repository. It can be divided into the following areas:

- Taxonomy: create relevant database fields for project information
- Discovery: identify ten projects to research. Collect and capture information from internal and external sources
- Modification: adjust project fields according to discovery results
- Beta: assist Callison team members in launching the first iteration of the project database

Next Steps

As an iterative process, the next steps include:

- User testing: select architects and support staff for trial beta mode
- UX recommendations: what works? What doesn't?
- New vs. legacy projects: creating different standards for projects entered retroactively and projects moving forward

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