

REAL ESTATE WEEKLY

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3D puts project in perspective

Ziggurat Systems provided 3D modeling and coordination for the contemporary eight-story, 20,000 s/f Sperone Westwater Gallery at 257 Bowery Street in New York City. Ziggurat co-ordination experts converted the gallery's construction documents from a 2D format into a 3D model of the building. The model helped designers to visualize their systems and perform feasibility studies from the early design stages.

Engineers and designers working on the project were not required to change any work habits, learn new technology or buy new software or hardware.

Once the 3D model was created, the Ziggurat team ran clash detection analysis and identified design conflicts between the Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (MEP), Structural and Architectural systems.

Ziggurat was able to resolve design conflicts early in the design phase and reduce the number of Requests for Information (RFI).

In performing a Space Management analysis, Ziggurat assisted in identifying the space required in ceiling plenums to accommodate all of the building's piping as well as determine optimal reflected ceiling heights.

The Ziggurat team also highlighted areas where structure or mechanical design changes were required. Once shop drawings were developed for the structure, Ziggurat proceeded to analyze the building model and identify all hits, which were presented and resolved easily. The gallery is designed by Norman Foster and contains a 20 x 13 foot moving red elevator art exhibition. The exhibition can be seen through the building's glass façade, composed of two layers to reduce outside temperature and noise.