

AI in the Built Environment Changing the Game



Architects, engineers, contractors and owner/operators have just begun to:

- Explore the opportunities offered by artificial intelligence (AI)
- Navigate the challenges of hype, misinformation, unreliable results and 'AI slop', and
- Turn to new AI-based solutions as well as their existing technology vendors for support.

To meet the unprecedented demands for housing and infrastructure, the built environment ecosystem must achieve significant improvements in quality, productivity, safety, and sustainability. Our thesis is that these improvements will only be possible through three key shifts in AEC industry practice related to AI:

- Developing a data strategy to harness historic and real-time performance data to drive generative results
- Targeting AI applications for time-savings and risk management to address the growing skill gap
- Adopting AI-driven upgrades to existing tools alongside experimenting with AI breakthroughs

Regarding the last point, the diagram below describes a mix of approaches that we're seeing the marketplace.

Artificial Intelligence Use Cases

Many software suppliers have begun using machine learning (ML) and other widely available solutions to enhance their own operations, often starting with customer support and tech dev, which represent a significant portion of their workforce and cost structure. This approach enables them to deliver equal or better functionality more cost-effectively while making better use of limited skilled resources

Others are offering AI-enabled capabilities as part of their customer-facing solutions.



SmartApp offers *Brena - AI Construction Assistant™* which provides generative AI suggestions for budgeting, scheduling, managing risk and construction, all imbedded in a unique, fully integrated platform with modules for finance, planning, safety and field operations.

A handful of firms have just begun to explore agentic AI which can autonomously make decisions and act to achieve specific goals with minimal human intervention; two leading-edge examples below:



Trunk Tools leverages structured and unstructured data across project documents like drawings, contracts, specs and submittals to increase jobsite efficiency and reduce the administrative burden by automating construction workflows.



Datagrid empowers contractors to build custom AI agents that connect data from various third-party software platforms, automating project management tasks and streamlining workflows. It boosts team output by executing tasks, not just assisting.

Helping technology companies evolve

Internal/Operational

LLM-based solutions to improve customer support, installation and training

AI-enabled software development tools to better leverage technology development resources

External/Customer





















Generative options, predictive analytics and other AI-enabled functionality built 'on top' or alongside to enhance existing SaaS solutions

Fundamentally new agentic AI solutions to address underlying complexity and interconnectedness of built environment issues and processes

10 More AI Solutions to Watch in 2025 and Beyond

Design		AI-powered geospatial solution creates accurate surveys and linework based on drone data. Used by government, power and telecommunication firms and their engineering partners to reduce time for conceptual designs	Co-Founders Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	David Morczinek/Adam Kersnowski Boston, MA 2017 PSG \$14.4M PE Growth October 2023
		Building design platform and AI-enabled space-planning solution to help architects do initial conceptual design.	Co-Founders Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	Ian Keough / Anthony Hauck Culver City, CA 2018 Brick&Mortar, Building Ventures \$5.5M Late Stage June 2023
		Real estate feasibility solution. AI-powered solution generates design options within constraints of given site for site planning, deal evaluation and concept iteration.	CEO/Co-Founder Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	Clifton Harness Dallas, TX 2016 Prologis, Parkway \$20M Series A June 2022
Plan		AI platform for schedule and resource optimization. Allows team to develop alternative construction sequencing to find the most cost-effective and risk-reducing alternative. Used in preconstruction/initial planning and during construction	CEO/Founder Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	Rene Marcos Menlo Park, CA 2013 Vanedge, Blackhorn \$47M Series C 2023
		AI-driven code compliance solution that automatically reviews construction plans for alignment with local building code requirements, streamlining approvals and reducing manual review time.	Co-Founders Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	Patrick Murphy / Patrick Hughes Miami, FL 2022 Govo Venture, Miami Angels \$2M Seed January 2025
		AI powered platform that can plan, de-risk and forecast projects. Uses data from over 750,000 projects, from schedules to scope documents to understand how projects have historically performed to identify relevant risks and opportunities on current projects.	CEO/Co-Founder Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	Dev Amratia London, UK 2017 GV, Pentech \$18M Series A March 2021
		AI-powered design/compliance solution. Accelerates process by integrating building and zoning code information together with product and assembly information from building materials.	Co-Founders Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	Scott Reynolds / Garrett Reynolds Austin, TX 2016 Building Ventures, Foundation \$3.5M Series A May 2023
Build		AI risk reduction platform for construction, empowering teams from bid to build to confidently make informed decisions that mitigate risk and deliver better project outcomes.	CEO/Co-Founder Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	Josh Levy Atlanta, GA 2018 Titanium, Fifth Wall, Nemetschek \$21.5M Series B October 2024
		Uses schedule data and AI to automate project controls, analyze performance, and predict risk in real time — streamlining decision-making to minimize delays, inefficiencies, and cost exposure across projects and portfolios in construction management.	CEO/Co-Founder Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	Michael Pink Atlanta, GA 2016 Building Ventures, GS Futures \$5.5M Series A May 2024
		AI-based water management solution aimed at preventing water damage on construction sites due to leaks and malfunctions.	CEO/Co-Founder Headquarters Founded Notable Investors Recent Transaction	Alon Geva New York, NY 2018 Insight Partners, Suffolk \$35M Series C August 2023

Notable AI Investor Transactions in 2025

Lead Investor	Target	Date	Target Description	Deal Type	Amount Raised ⁽¹⁾	Pre-Money Valuation ⁽¹⁾	Amount Raised To-Date ⁽¹⁾
 NEMETSCHEK GROUP	 Handoff	June 25	AI-based cost estimating solution for remodelers	Series A	\$5.7	\$82.0	\$22.9
 QUMRA CAPITAL	 BUILDDOTS	May 25	Construction management solution incl. AI-powered progress tracking	Series D	\$15.3	\$188.8	\$157.5
 ABN-AMRO	 converge	May 25	Smart concrete solution including AI-optimized concrete mixing	Later Stage	\$22.6	n/a	\$53.9
 ScOp venture capital	 SMART BÉRREL	May 25	Facial recognition and AI-based time-tracking for construction	Seed	\$5.9	\$26.1	\$11.8
 NAVITAS CAPITAL	 FIELD MATERIALS	Apr 25	AI-powered construction procurement solution	Series A	\$10.5	\$37.5	\$18.7
 OGG CLIMATE INVESTMENTS	 zeitview	Mar 25	AI image recognition-based asset inspection solution (fka Dronebase)	Later Stage	\$60.0	n/a	\$179.0
 etf	 nodes&links	Feb 25	AI-driven construction schedule/risk management solution	Later Stage	\$13.7	\$30.0	\$26.8
 PI LABS	 GENIA	Feb 25	AI-powered structural engineering design solution	Seed	\$3.0	n/a	\$3.1
 Prelude Ventures	 Augmenta	Feb 25	AI generative design tool	Seed	\$10.0	n/a	\$30.0
 SignalFire	 JOIST-AI	Jan 25	AI-powered marketing and pursuit enablement platform for AEC	Seed	\$4.0	n/a	\$4.0

Sources: Pitchbook, LinkedIn, company websites, press releases

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Select Built Environment Transactions

 Sale to  Construction Workforce Management Solution	 Strategic Investment by  Field Service/Construction Operations Management	 Sale to  Transportation/Infra Asset Management	 Sale to  Cloud BIM Construction Project Management	 Sale to  3D Modeling Automated Laser Scanning
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