ABSTRACT

The concept of 'Unbounded Workplaces' is a relatively new idea. Since the invention of the notebook-computer and PDA (Personal Digital Assistant), the idea of working virtually anywhere off your lap or off your wrist is now possible. Another idea that has sparked off in parallel with this change is computerised conferencing.

The architectural profession in general does not appear to be exploiting the apparent potential of today's computer systems as compared to the other professions, like engineering, law, accountancy and medicine. The stigma of computers being a rigid and stiff machine is still inherent in our minds. Computers in an architectural office has predominantly been used as drafting machines for drawings preconceived designs.

This dissertation attempts to show that computers may become the source of a special and new form of inspiration in the architectural community, to enable the architect to work in an 'office with no walls'.

The format of this discussion is first to go through some of the existing situations facing architecture firms in Singapore and then examining this in terms of the new technology of computer conferencing and collaboration through analysis and a case study.