# AN INTRO TO GETTING DYNAMO TO TALK WITH RAM STRUCTURE USING THE API

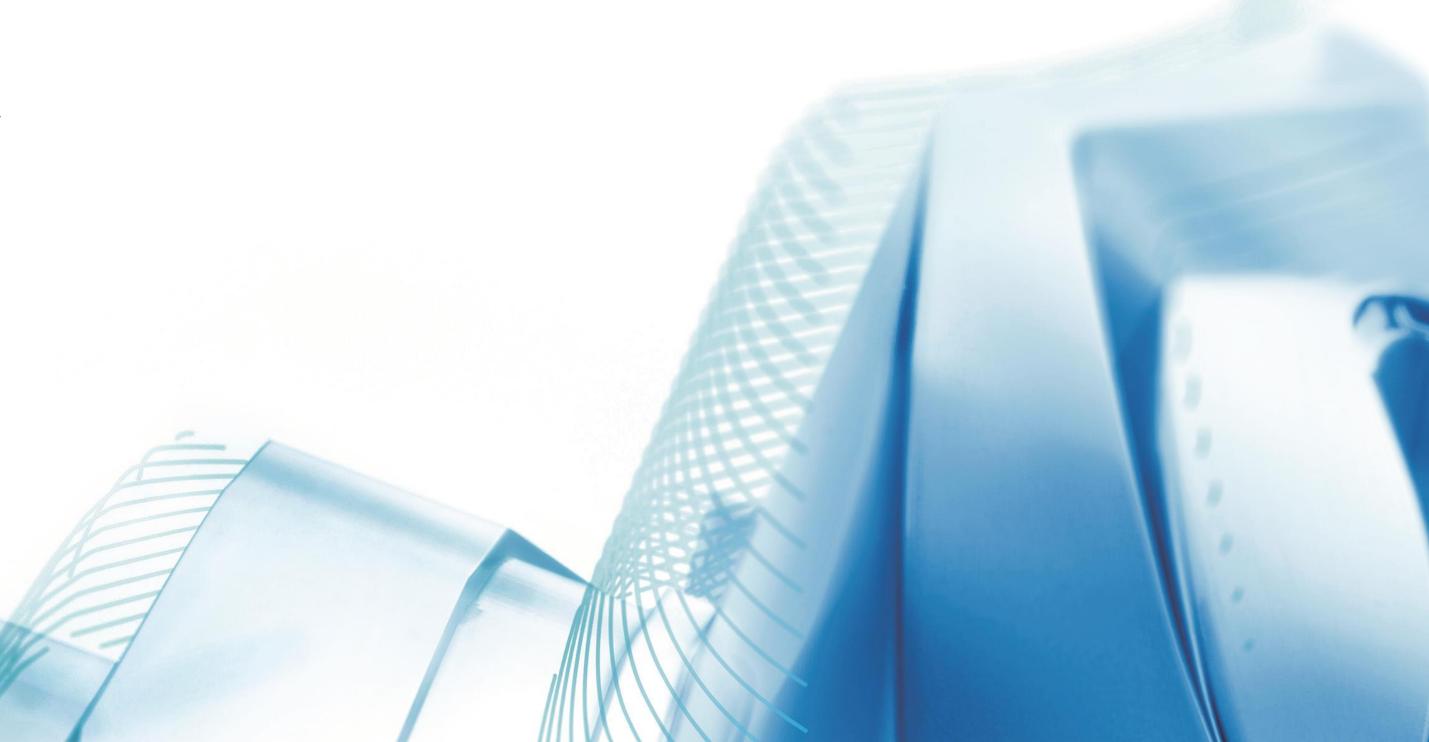
Marcello Sgambelluri S.E.

Director of Advanced Technology

Twitter: @marcellosgamb

Blog/Podcast/Comic: simplycomplex.org







### About the speaker

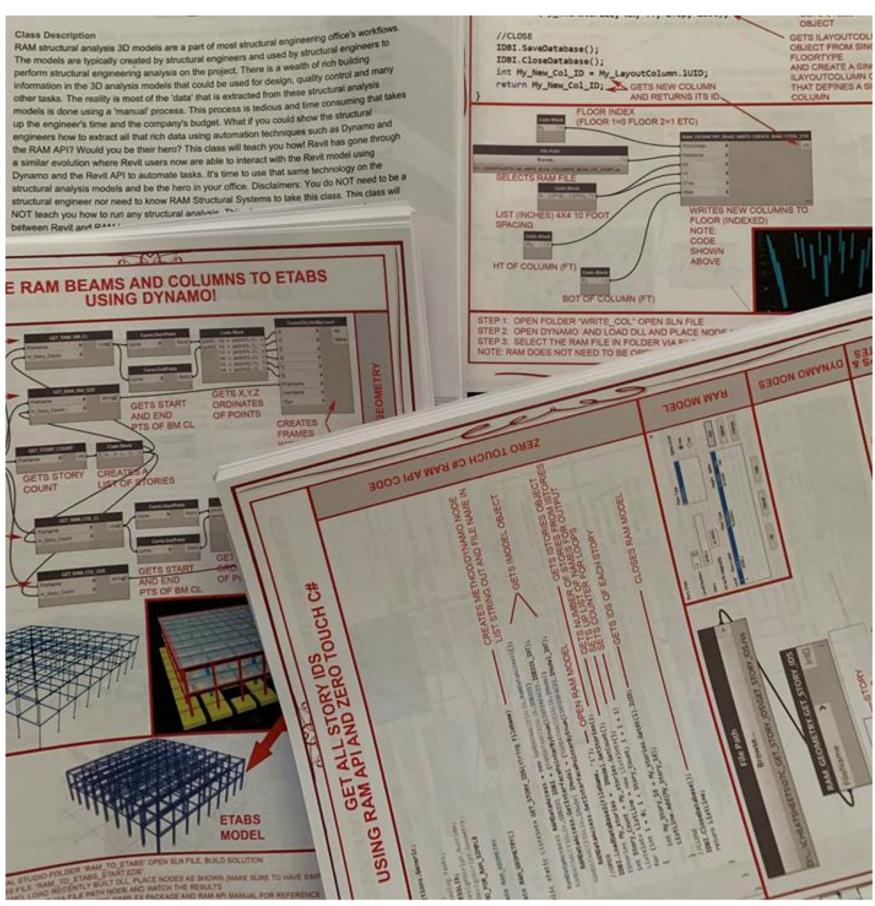
Marcello Sgambelluri S.E.

Director of Advanced Technology

Marcello has worked on many BIM projects over the last 20 years and continually speaks at Autodesk University and has received the 1st place speaker award a record 6 times between 2012 thru 2018.

Marcello Sgambelluri is a licensed civil and structural engineer and helps the AEC Community thru Training, Conferences, Blog, Podcast, Youtube, and Comics

https://www.simplycomplex.org/



Get Handouts And DataSet from the AU app or HERE

000 ZTSTARTER

\_\_001\_GET\_STORY\_COUNT

\_000RAM\_API\_ORGANIZATION\_CHART

\_\_003\_GET\_BEAM\_COL\_GEOMETRY\_N\_QA\_QC

001\_ZERO\_TOUCH\_BASICS\_STARTING\_A\_VISUAL\_STUDIO\_PROJECT

003\_ZERO\_TOUCH\_BASICS\_ANATOMY\_OF\_ZT\_NODE\_NO\_INPUT

004\_ZERO\_TOUCH\_BASICS\_ANATOMY\_OF\_ZT\_NODE\_INPUT

002\_ZERO\_TOUCH\_BASICS\_LOADING\_IN\_REFERENCES

\_\_002\_GET\_BEAM\_COLUMNS\_SIZES

\_\_004\_GET\_GRIDS\_AT\_COL\_TO\_EXCEL

\_006\_WRITE\_TO\_RAM\_FLOORTYPE

005\_ZERO\_TOUCH\_BASICS\_GET\_AGE

013\_EXTRACT\_LINES\_BEAM\_COLUMNS\_CODE

007\_RAM\_FILE\_ERROR\_FIX

009\_GET\_STORY\_NAMES

011\_GET\_NUM\_COLUMNS

019\_CHANGE\_BEAM\_LOC

021\_WRITE\_HOR\_BRACE

022\_WRITE\_VERT\_BRACE

024\_ETABS\_TO\_RAM\_COL\_BM

015\_GET\_BEAM\_COLUMNS\_IDS

O17\_GET\_BEAM\_COL\_IS\_GRAV\_LAT

010\_GET\_STORY\_IDS

018\_WRITE\_COL

020\_WRITE\_BEAM

025\_GET\_GRID

026\_WRITE\_GRID

028\_COLUMN\_FORCES

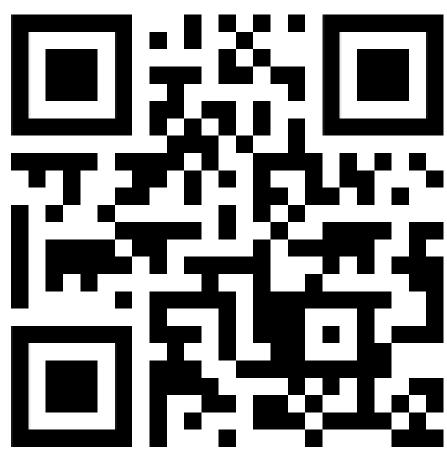
\_007\_RAM\_TO\_RAM\_VERTBRACE

\_\_008\_RAM\_TO\_ETABS\_COL\_BM

\_\_009\_REVIT\_TO\_RAM\_GRID

ETABS EXAMPLES

\_\_005\_BEAM\_DESIGN\_OUTPUT



https://a360.co/2MQuFPO

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MITS	

DATASET EVERY EXAMPLE+ SOURCE C# CODE

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7/5/2019 10:10 PM

7/14/2019 6:50 PM

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7/5/2019 10:11 PM

7/9/2019 6:36 PM

7/8/2019 6:34 PM

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File folder

## HANDOUTS

Short Version 36 Pgs Long Version 200 Pgs

## Session Description

RAM structural analysis 3D models are a part of most structural engineering office's workflows. There is a wealth of rich building information in the 3D analysis models that could be used for design, quality control and many other tasks. The reality is most of the 'data' that is extracted from these structural analysis models is done using a 'manual' process. This process is tedious and time consuming that takes up the engineer's time and the company's budget. What if you could show the structural engineers how to extract all that rich data using automation techniques such as Dynamo and the RAM API? Would you be their hero?

This class will NOT discuss any links between Revit and RAM because this class WILL focus on how to 'extract' EXISTING data from EXISTING RAM models.

### Learning Objectives

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- 1. Understand how the RAM API works from looking up the correct function to navigating the exposed database
- 2. Learn how to create dynamo custom nodes using zero touch C#
- 3. Learn how to create, modify, and extract data from existing RAM SS Models using the API with C# dynamo custom nodes
- 4. Learn how to share your Tekla API knowledge with contractors and become their hero

THIS CLASS WILL NOT FOCUS ON HOW TO PASS MODELS BETWEEN REVIT AND RAM SS WILL SHOW C# PROGRAMMING BUT NOT FOR EVERY EXAMPLE

This is You AT YOUR OFFICE

After this Class

"The RAM
Superhero"



## This CLASS uses the following versions

RAM 15\*

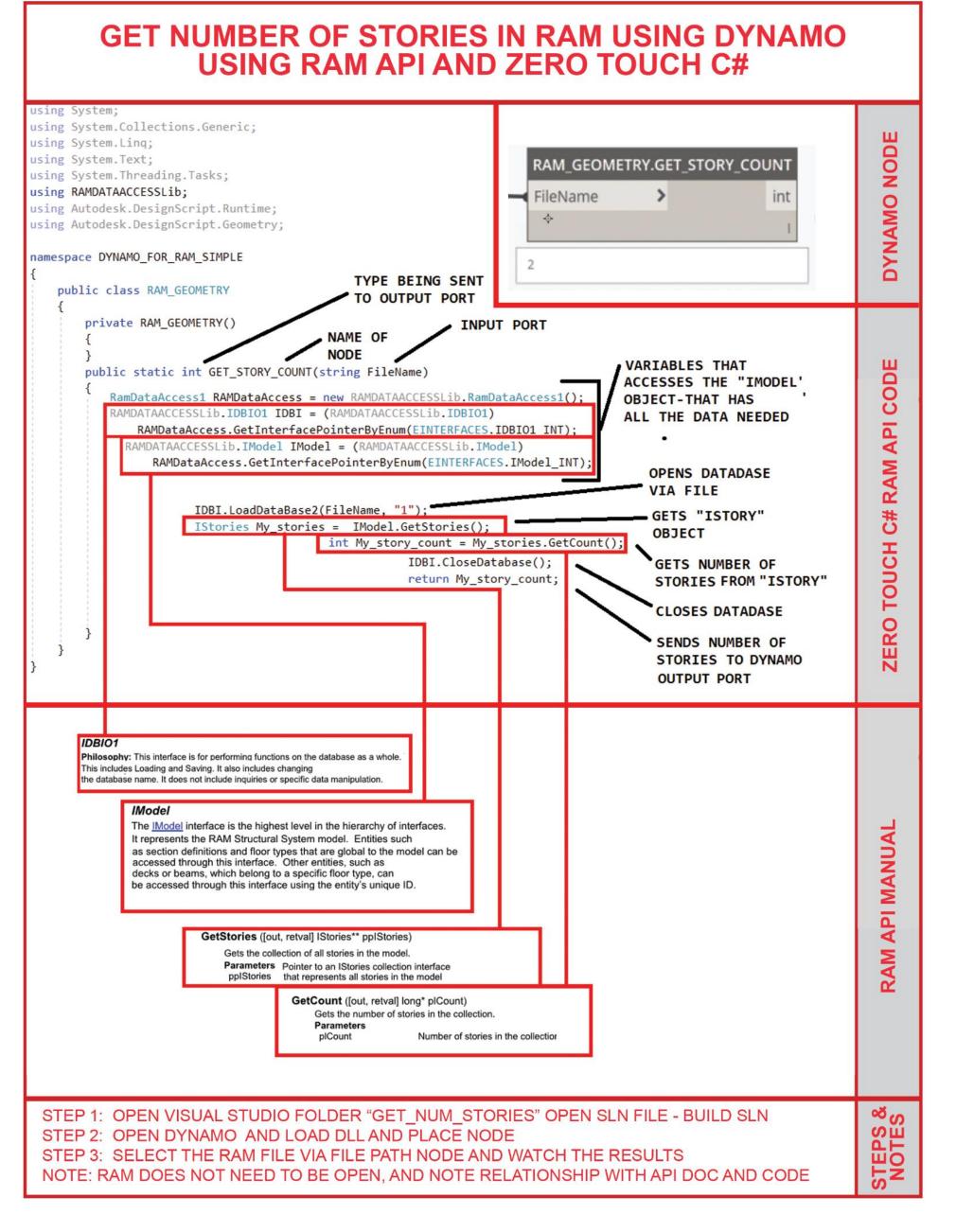
ETABS 17

Dynamo 1.3.3 OR Dynamo 2.X OK

Revit 2019 OR Revit 2020 OK

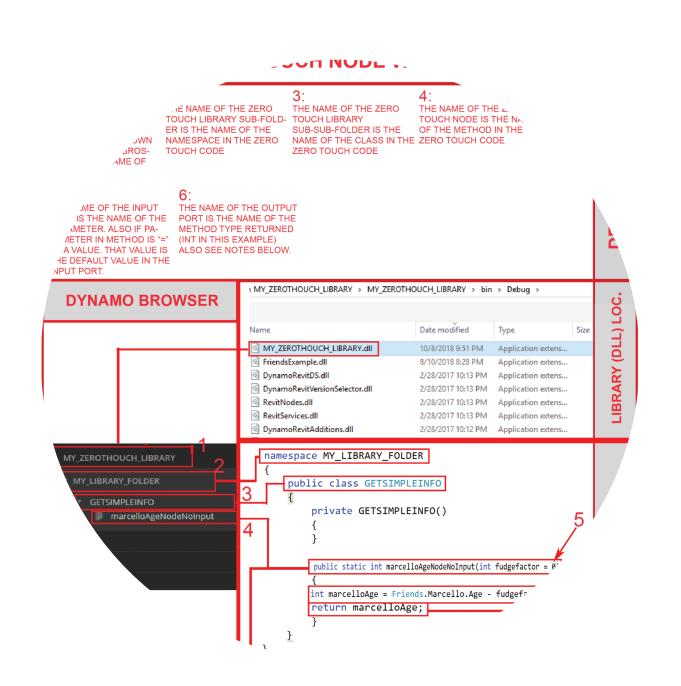
Dynamo Simplex Package 2019.X

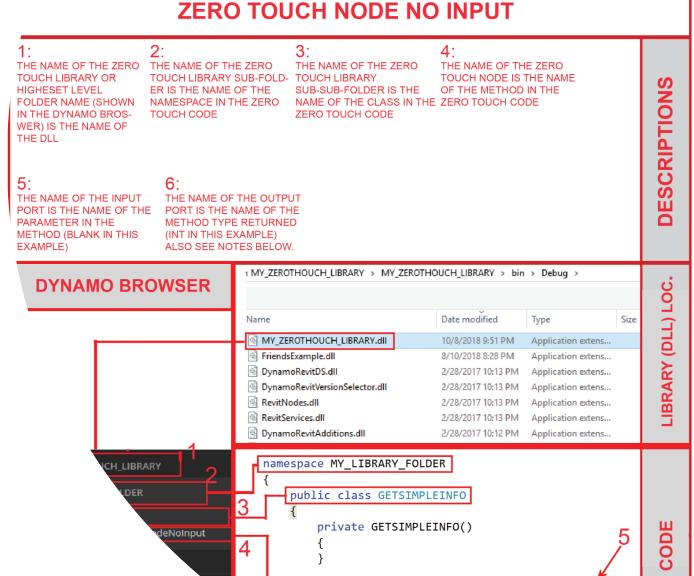
Note: RAM 16 out next month on SIMPLEX



## CHEATSHEET FORMAT!



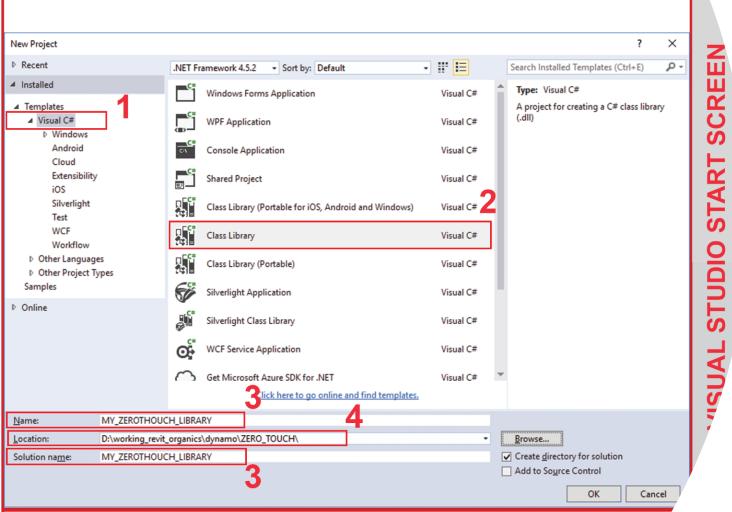




public static int marcelloAgeNodeNoInput(

int marcelloAge = Friends.Marcello.Age;

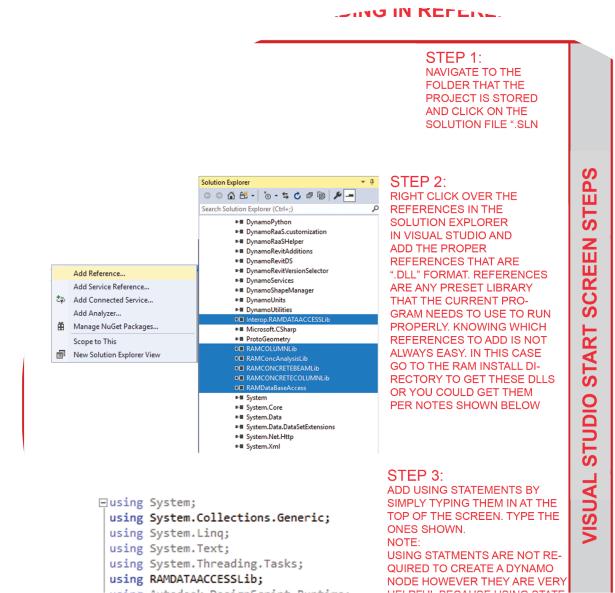
eturn marcelloAge;



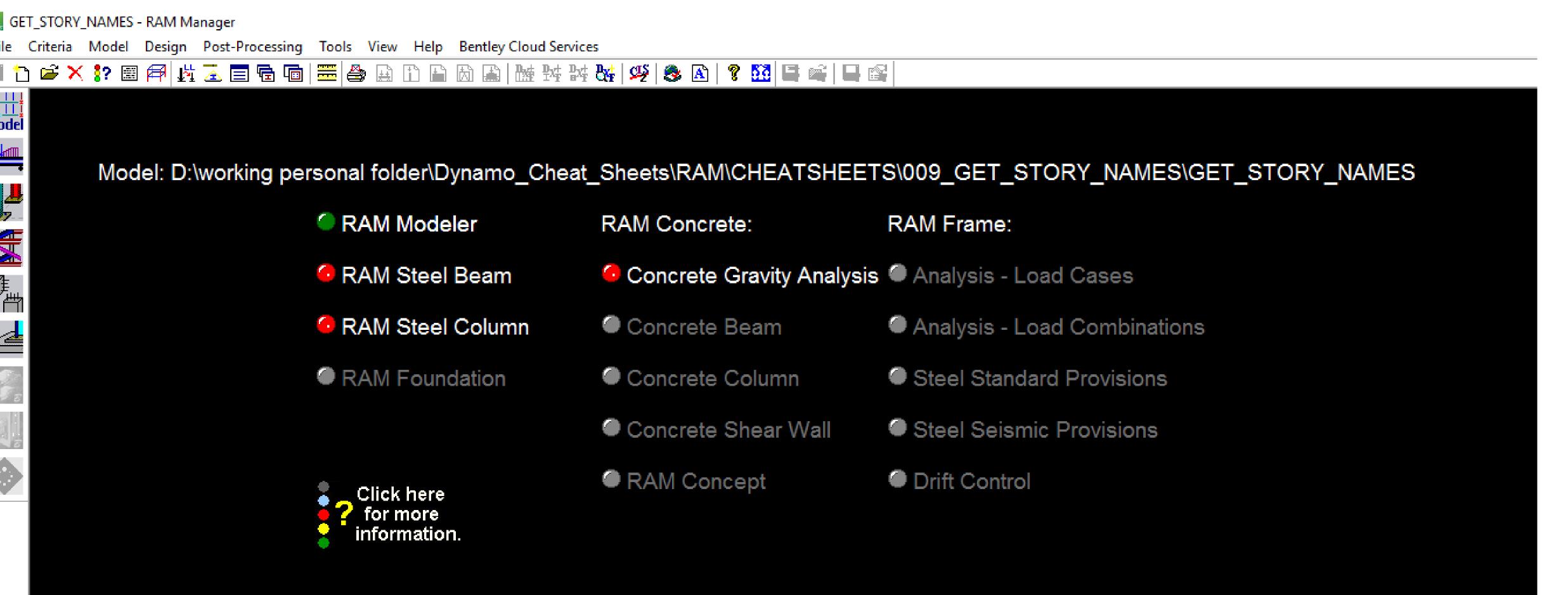
UNDERSTANDING THE STRUCTURE OF THE ZERO TOUCH PROJECT IS IMPORTANT AS IT WILL

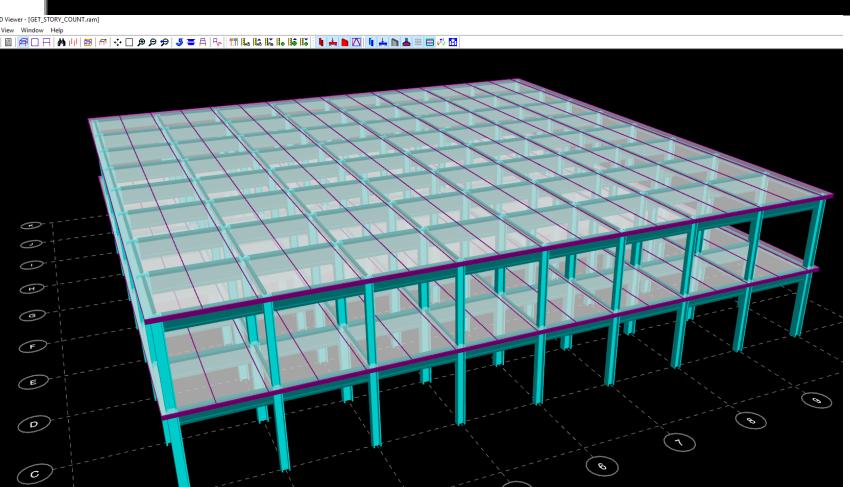
ZERO TOUCH BASICS

(ZT = just a fancy way of saying custom dynamo nodes created with C#)



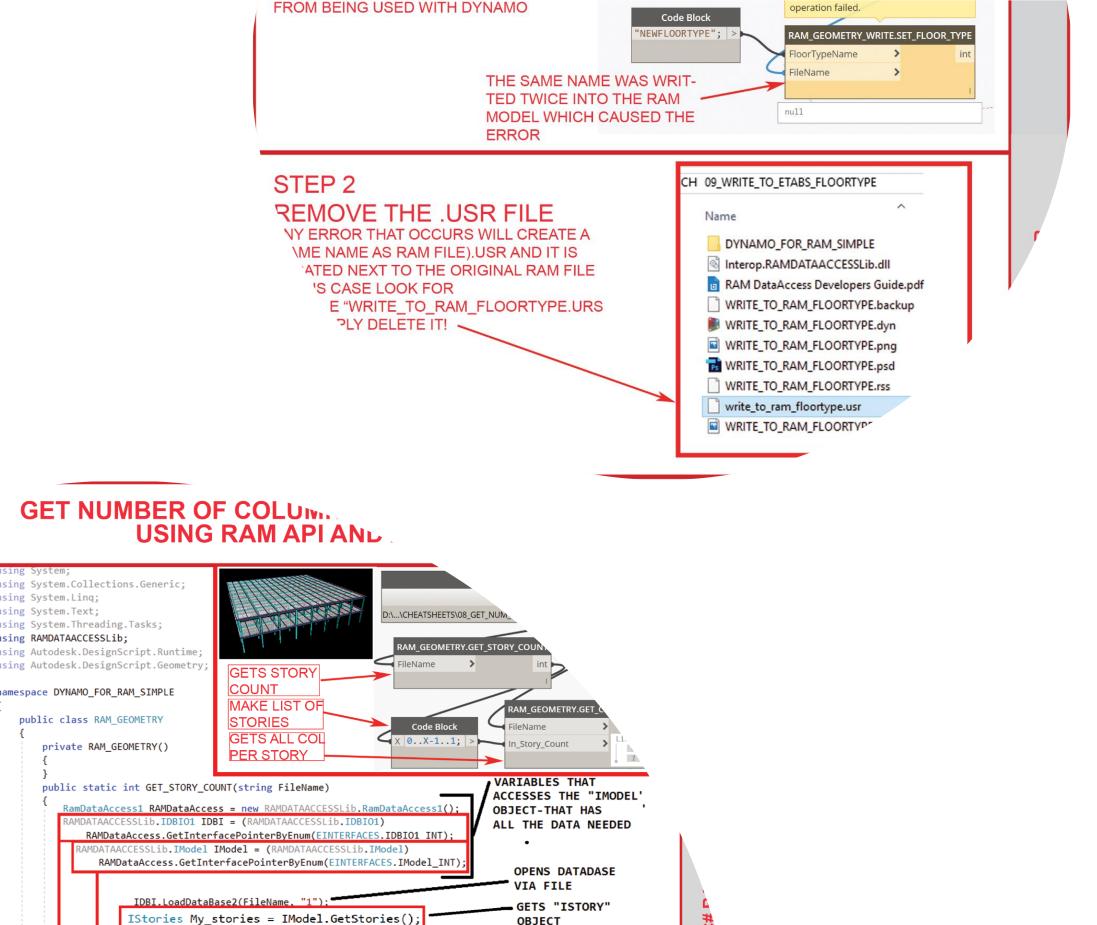
ZEROTOUCH EXAMPLE (starter)





## RAM BASICS

RAM Structural System is an integrated three-dimensional static and dynamic structural analysis and design program owned by Bentley. With Very rigid modelling rules and w/ superior post processing!



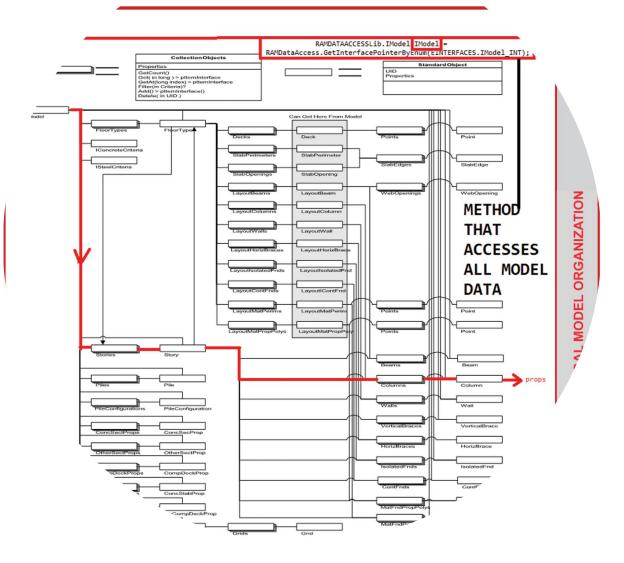
**GETS NUMBER OF** STORIES FROM "ISTORY"

**OUTPUT PORT** 

return Column\_Count; —— SENDS DYNAMO

**─** GETS "ISTORY" OBJECT

#### J RAM API ORGANIZATION Co.



## RAMAPI BASICS

STEP 1: OPEN VISUAL STUDIO FOLDER "GET\_NUM\_COLUMNS" OPEN SLN FILE - BUILD SLN STEP 2: OPEN DYNAMO AND LOAD DLL AND PLACE NODES

Number of stories in the collection

STEP 3: SELECT THE RAM FILE VIA FILE PATH NODE AND WATCH THE RESULTS

GetCount ([out, retval] long\* plCount)

int My\_story\_count = My\_stories.GetCount()

int Column\_Count = My\_Columns.GetCount();

GETS ICOLUMNS OBJECT AT

Philosophy: This interface is for performing functions on the database as a whole

The IModel interface is the highest level in the hierarchy of interfaces.

as section definitions and floor types that are global to the model can be

Gets the collection of all stories in the model. Parameters Pointer to an IStories collection interface pplStories that represents all stories in the model

It represents the RAM Structural System model. Entities such

decks or beams, which belong to a specific floor type, be accessed through this interface using the entity's unique ID.

This includes Loading and Saving. It also includes changing he database name. It does not include inquiries or specific data manipulatio

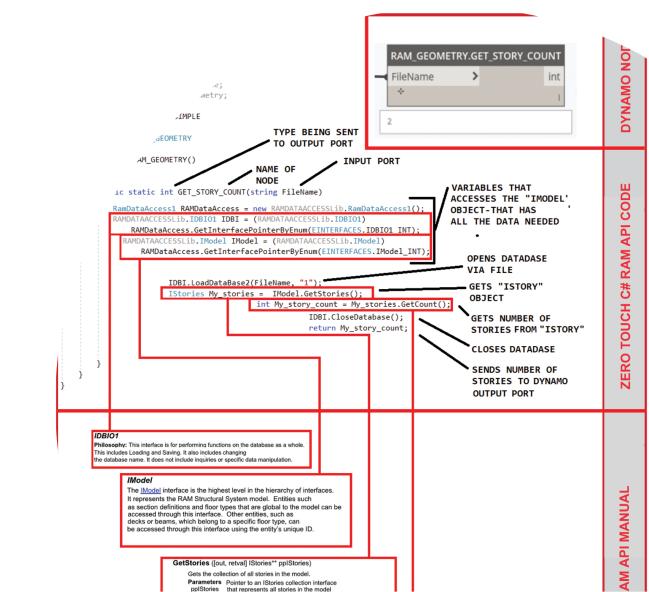
IColumns My\_Columns = My\_Story.GetColumns();

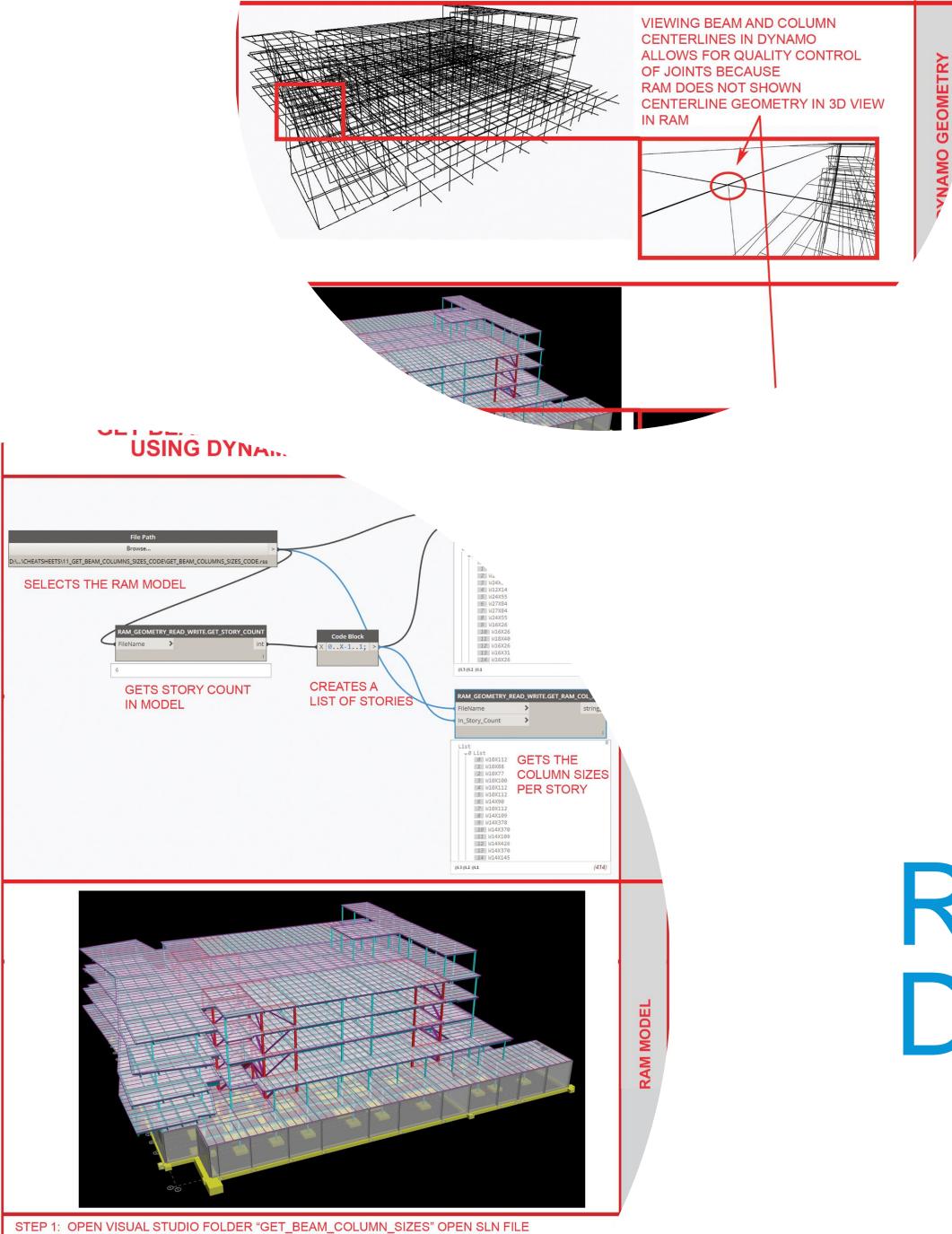
ory My\_Story = My\_stories.GetAt(In\_Story\_Count);

ing System.Lina: ing System.Text;

#### CONVERT BEAMS AND COLUMNS FROM RAM TO DYNAMO LINES USING RAM API AND C#

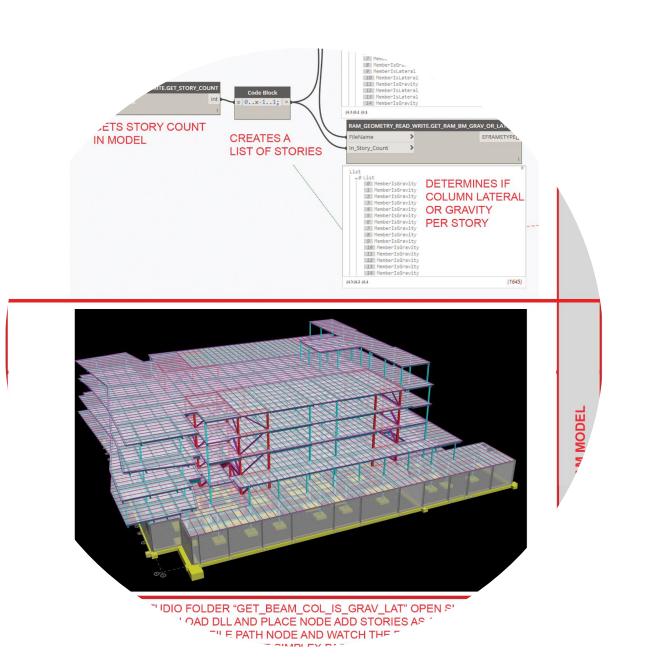


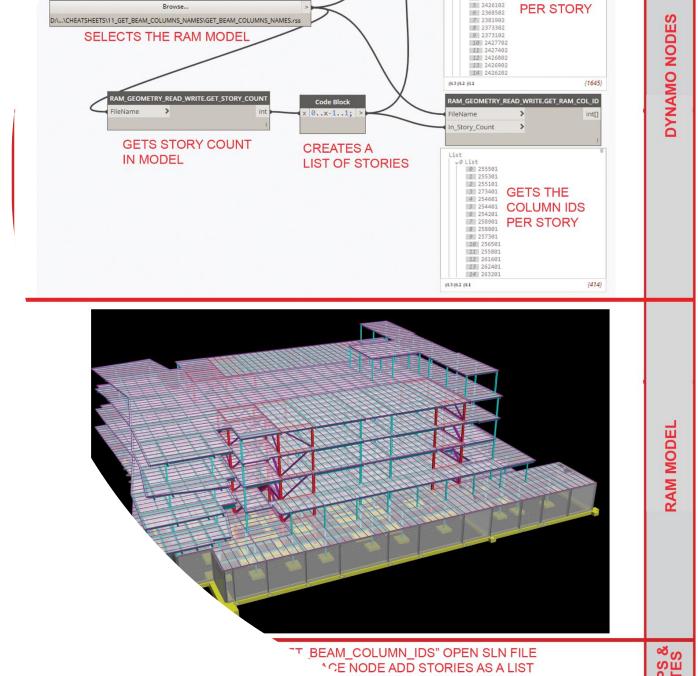




STEP 2: OPEN DYNAMO AND LOAD DLL AND PLACE NODE ADD STORIES AS A LIST STEP 3: SELECT THE RAM FILE VIA FILE PATH NODE AND WATCH THE RESULTS

NOTE: RAM DOES NOT NEED TO BE OPEN. SEE SIMPLEX PACKAGE AND RAM API MANUAL





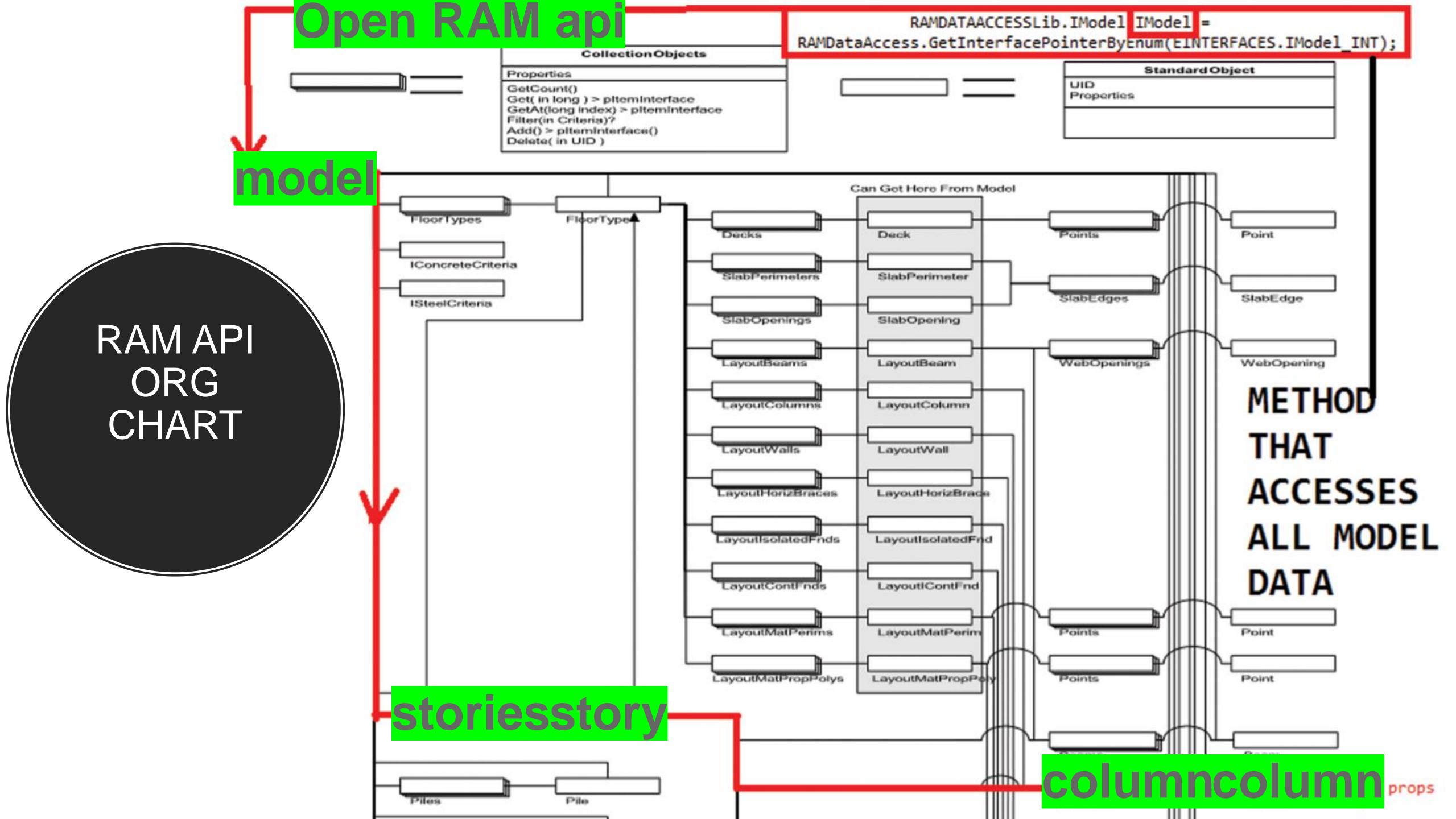
ND WATCH THE RESULTS

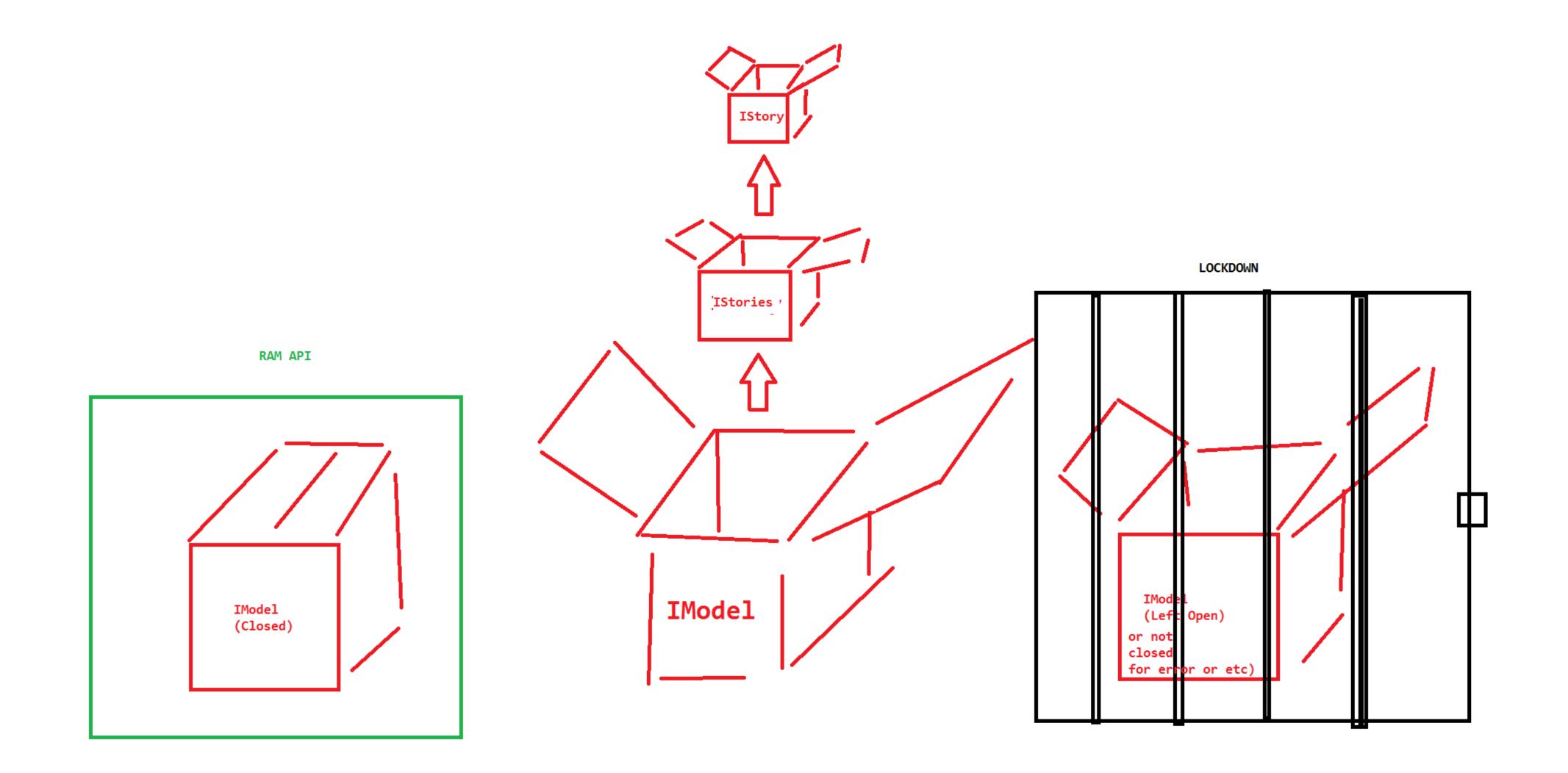
YAGE AND RAM API MANUAL

**GETS THE** 

**BEAM IDS** 

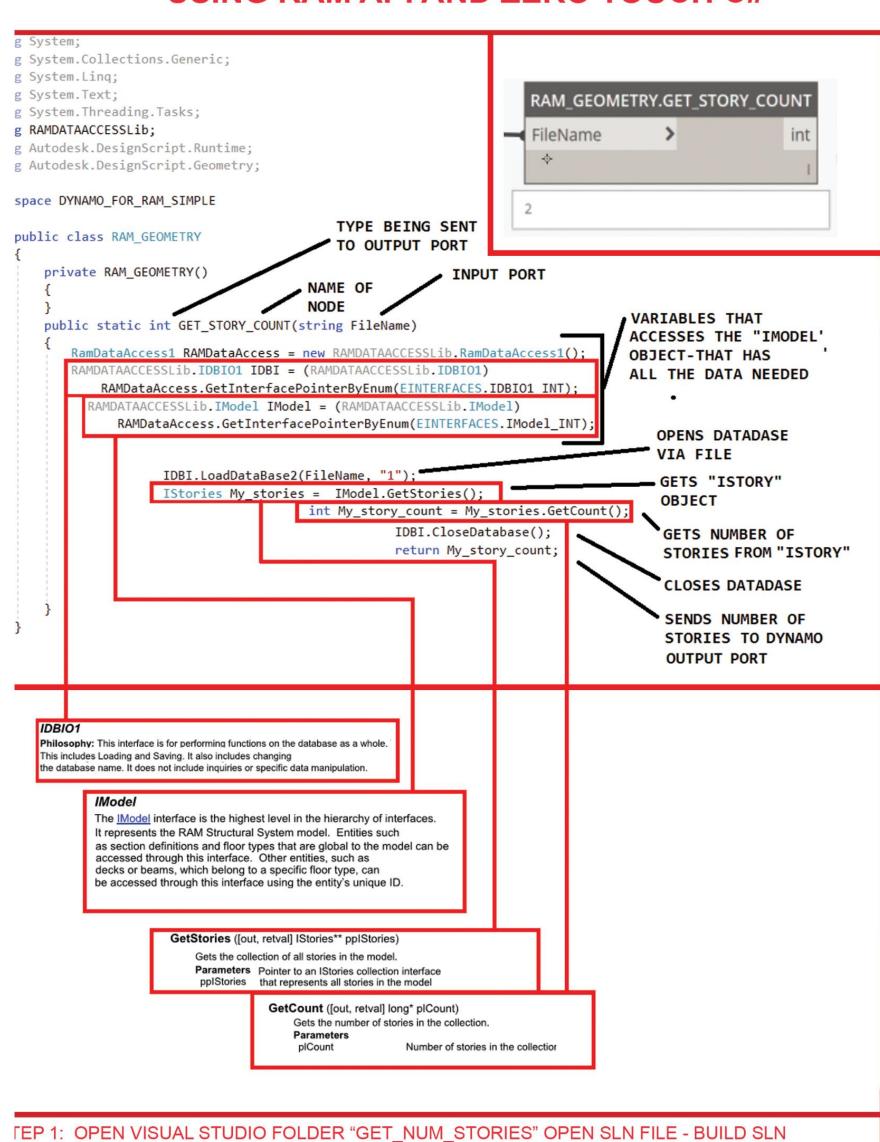
## RAMAPI READ DATA





## Open box analogy

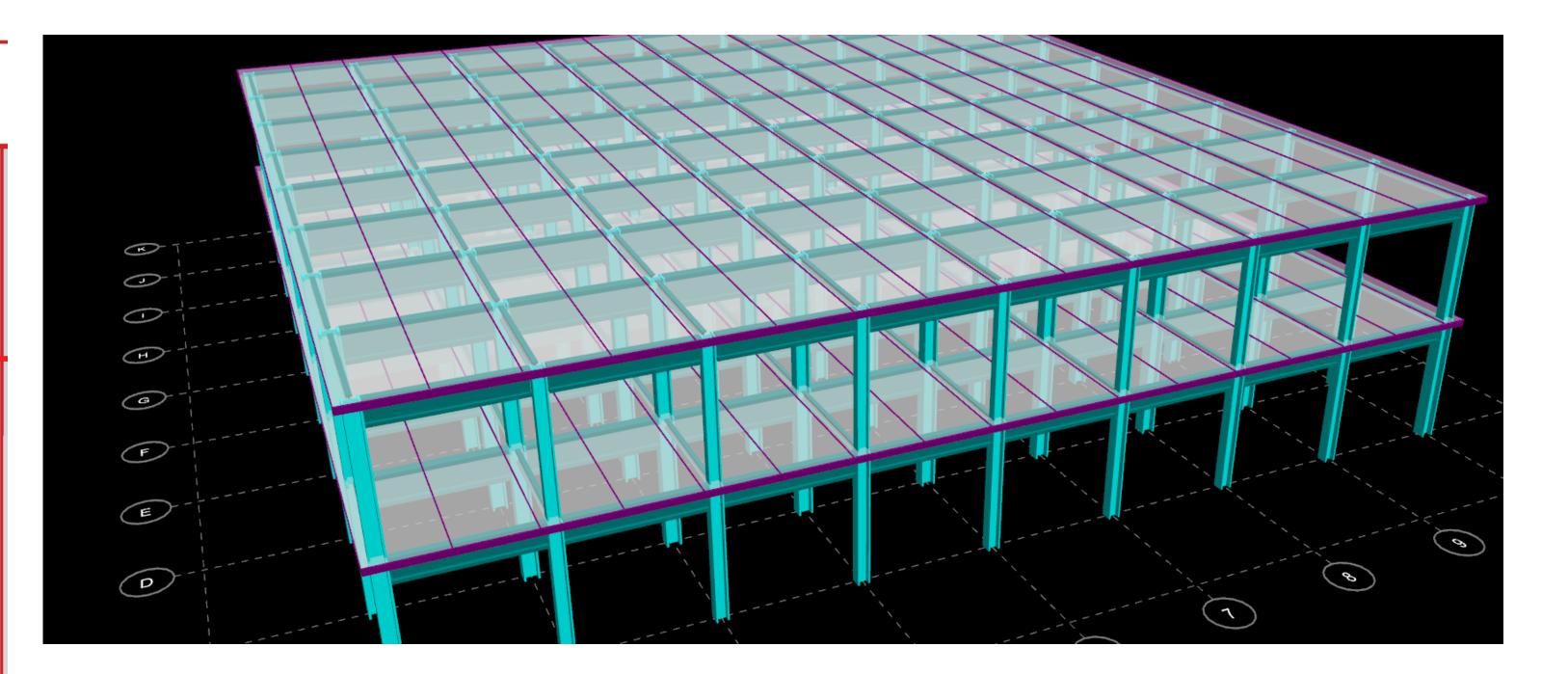
#### GET NUMBER OF STORIES IN RAM USING DYNAMO USING RAM API AND ZERO TOUCH C#



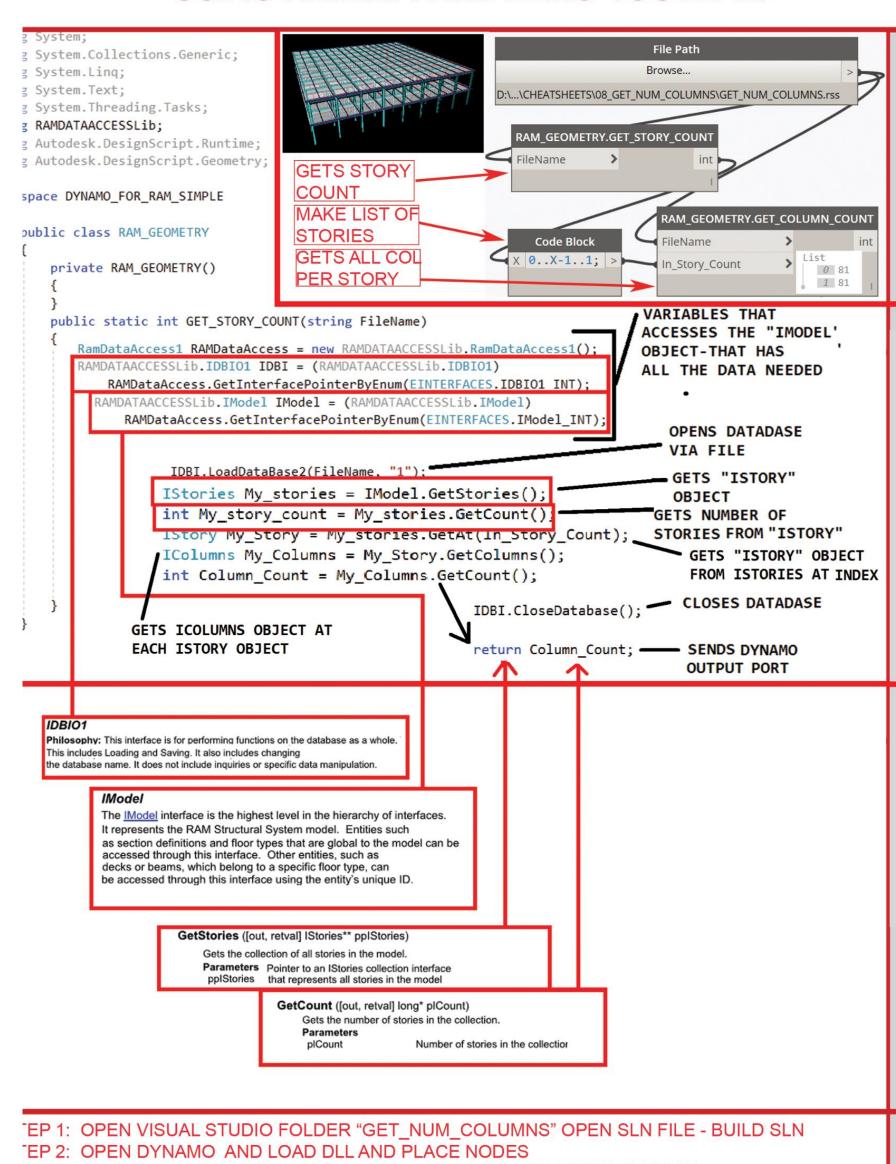
TEP 2: OPEN DYNAMO AND LOAD DLL AND PLACE NODE

TEP 3: SELECT THE RAM FILE VIA FILE PATH NODE AND WATCH THE RESULTS

OTE: RAM DOES NOT NEED TO BE OPEN, AND NOTE RELATIONSHIP WITH API DOC AND CODE

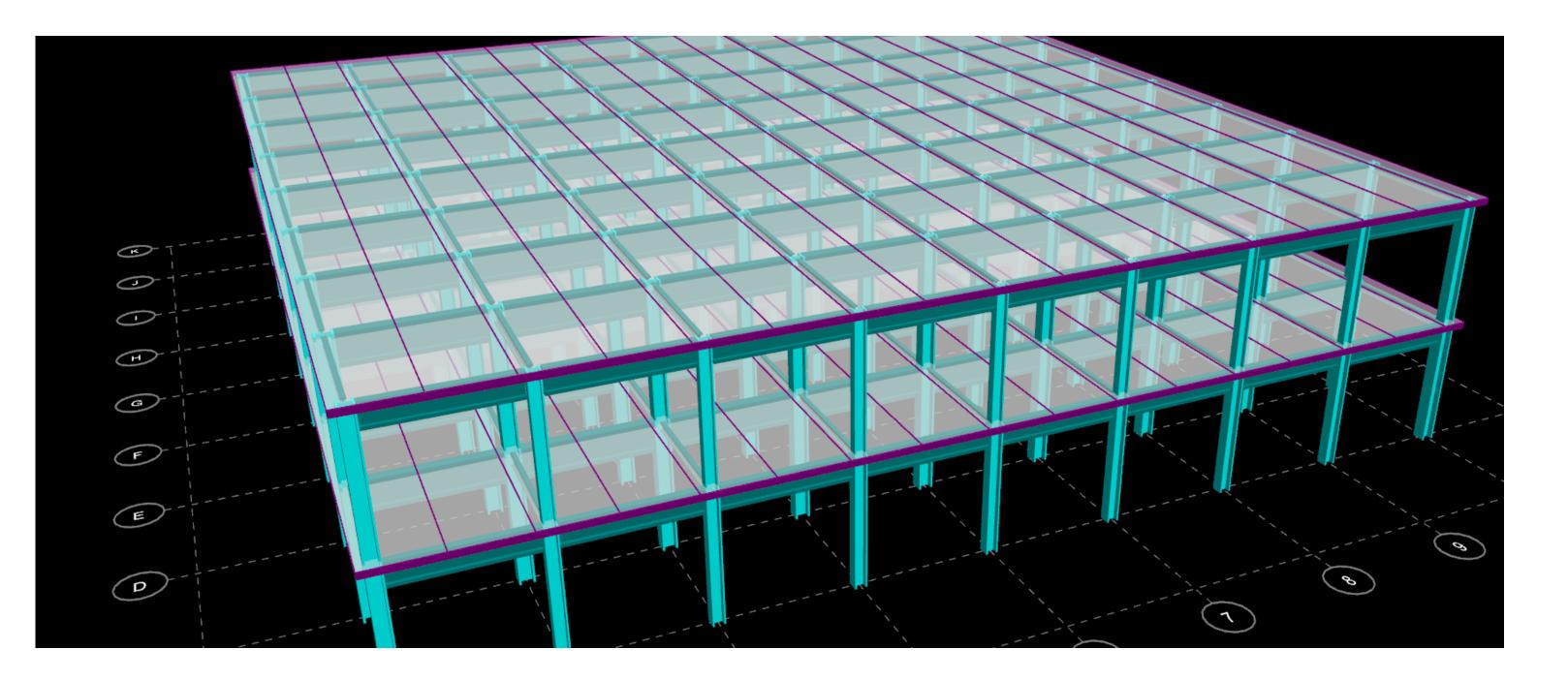


#### GET NUMBER OF COLUMNS/STORY IN RAM VIA DYNAM USING RAM API AND ZERO TOUCH C#



TEP 3: SELECT THE RAM FILE VIA FILE PATH NODE AND WATCH THE RESULTS

DTE: RAM DOES NOT NEED TO BE OPEN, AND NOTE RELATIONSHIP WITH API DOC AND CODE



#### GET COLUMN AND BEAM CENTERLINES FROM RAM AND CONVERT TO DYNAMO LINES RAM GEOMETRY READ WRITE.GET RAM BM CL File Path Browse... In\_Story\_Count D:\...\CHEATSHEETS\14\_GET\_BEAM\_COL\_GEOMETRY\_N\_QA\_QC\GET\_BEAM\_COL\_GEOMETRY.rss NODES SELECTS THE RAM MODEL **GETS COL LINE** AND CONVERTS GETS BM LINE AND CONVERTS TO DYNAMO LINE DYNAMO RAM\_GEOMETRY\_READ\_WRITE.GET\_STORY\_COUNT Code Block TO DYNAMO LINE PER STORY ( 0..X-1..1; PER STORY RAM\_GEOMETRY\_READ\_WRITE.GET\_RAM\_COL\_CL GETS STORY COUNT **CREATES A** IN MODEL LIST OF STORIES In\_Story\_Count VIEWING BEAM AND COLUMN CENTERLINES IN DYNAMO ALLOWS FOR QUALITY CONTROL GEOMETRY OF JOINTS BECAUSE RAM DOES NOT SHOWN CENTERLINE GEOMETRY IN 3D VIEW IN RAM DYNAMO MODEL RAM STEPS & NOTES STEP 1: OPEN VISUAL STUDIO FOLDER "GET\_BEAM\_COL\_GEOMETRY" OPEN SLN FILE STEP 2: OPEN DYNAMO AND LOAD DLL AND PLACE NODE ADD STORIES AS A LIST STEP 3: SELECT THE RAM FILE VIA FILE PATH NODE AND WATCH THE RESULTS NOTE: RAM DOES NOT NEED TO BE OPEN. SEE SIMPLEX PACKAGE AND RAM API MANUAL

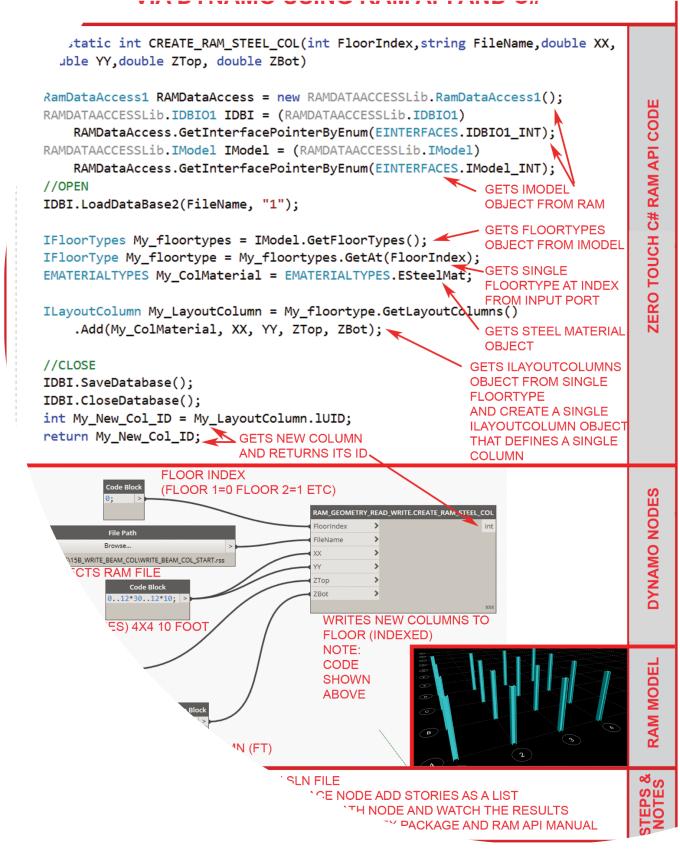
#### WRITES HORIZONTAL BIN. VIA DYNAMO USING RAM AI

```
atic int CREATE_RAM_STEEL_BRACE(int FloorIndex, string Filen
StartSupportX, double StartSupportY,
StartSupportZ, double EndSupportX, double EndSupportY,
taAccess1 RAMDataAccess = new RAMDATAACCESSLib.RamDataAccess1();
FAACCESSLib.IDBIO1 IDBI = (RAMDATAACCESSLib.IDBIO1)
AMDataAccess.GetInterfacePointerByEnum(EINTERFACES.IDBIO1_INT);
FAACCESSLib.IModel IModel = (RAMDATAACCESSLib.IModel)
AMDataAccess.GetInterfacePointerByEnum(EINTERFACES.IModel_INT);
                                                          GETS IMODEL
LoadDataBase2(FileName, "1");
                                                          OBJECT FROM RAM
                                                          GETS FLOORTYPES
rTypes My_floortypes = IModel.GetFloorTypes();
                                                          OBJECT FROM IMODEL
Type My_floortype = My_floortypes.GetAt(FloorIndex);
RIALTYPES My_BmMaterial = EMATERIALTYPES.ESteelMat; GETS SINGLE
                                                          FLOORTYPE AT INDEX
utHorizBrace My_LayoutBrace = My_floortype.
                                                          FROM INPUT PORT
etLayoutHorizBraces().Add(My_BmMaterial,
                                                          GETS STEEL MATERIAL
tartSupportX, StartSupportY,
                                                          OBJECT
tartSupportZ, EndSupportX, EndSupportY, EndSupportZ);
                                                        GETS ILAYOUTBRACE
                                                        OBJECT FROM SINGLE
SaveDatabase();
                                                        FLOORTYPE
CloseDatabase();
                                                        AND CREATE A SINGLE
/_New_Brace_ID = My_LayoutBrace.lUID;
                                                        ILAYOUTBRACE OBJECT
n My_New_Brace_ID; ____ GETS NEW BEAM
                                                        THAT DEFINES A SINGLE
                      AND RETURNS ITS ID
                                                        BRACE
WRITE_BRACE\WRITE_BRACE_START_test.rss
                     AM_GEOMETRY_READ_WRITE.CREATE_RAM_STEEL_BRACI
                                                 WRITES NEW
                                                BRACE TO
    FLOOR INDEX
                                                FLOOR (INDEXED)
                                                AND OUTPUTS
                                                NEW BRACE ID
                                                NOTE: CODE
                                                SHOWN ABOVE
```

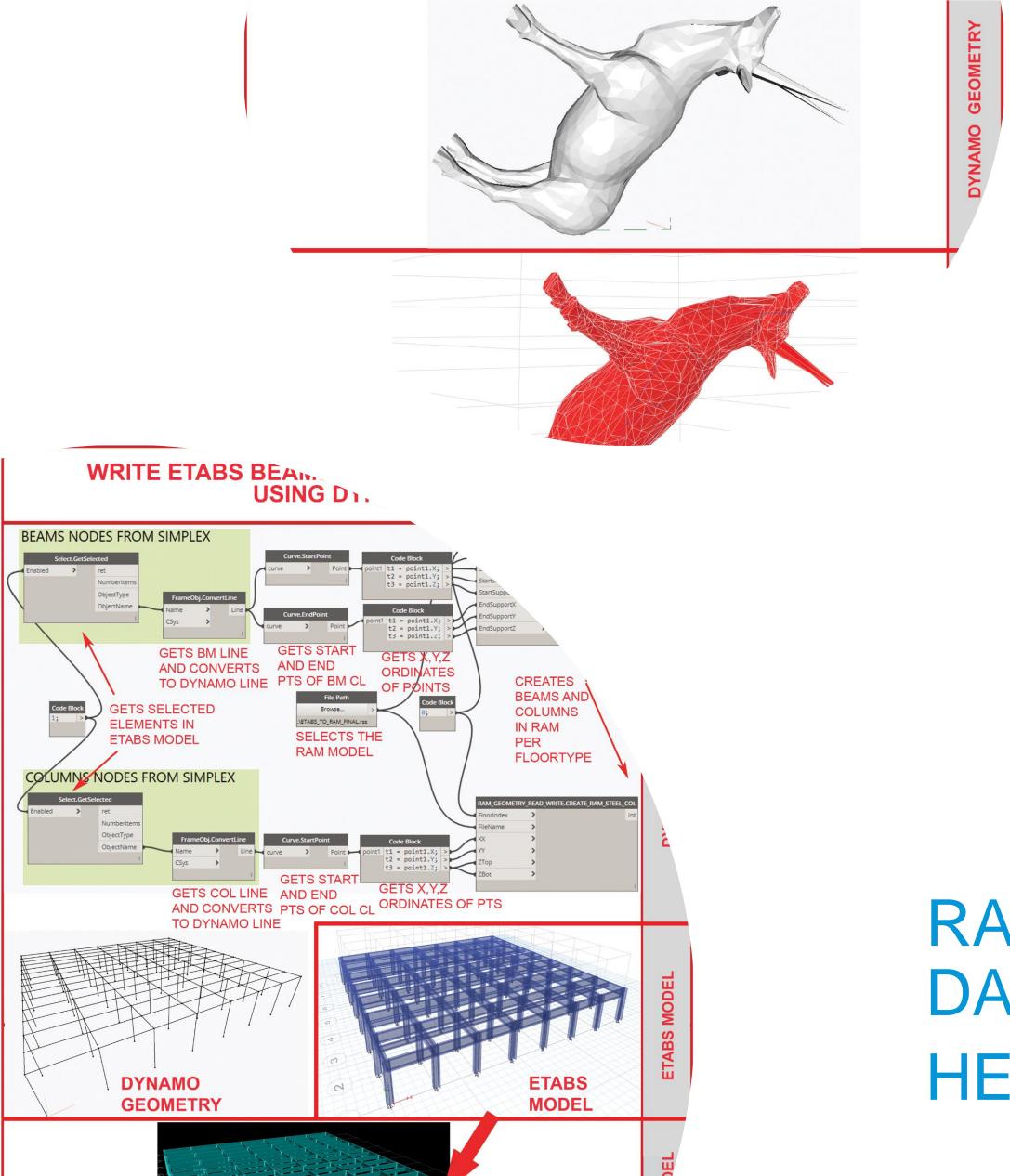
PEN FOLDER "WRITE\_BRACE" OPEN SLN FILE
PEN DYNAMO AND LOAD DLL AND PLACE NODE ADD STOP!
ELECT THE RAM FILE IN FOLDER VIA FILE PATH NODE!

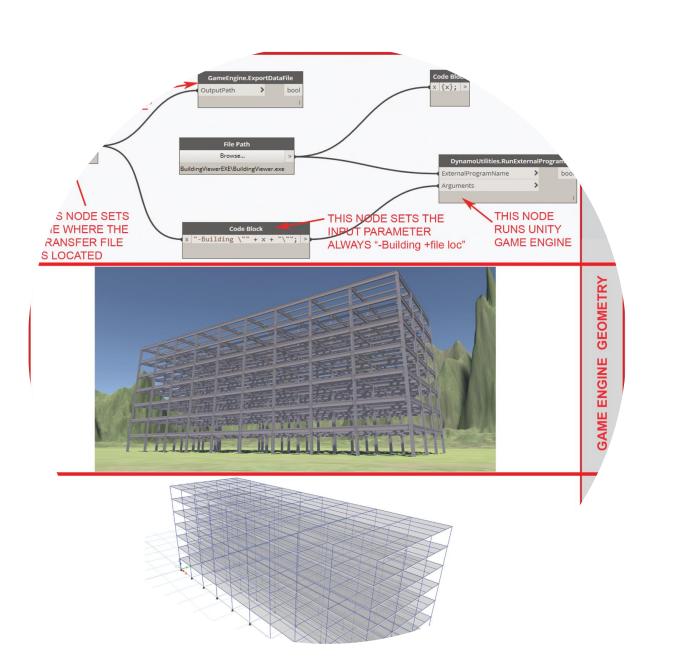
OES NOT NEED TO BE OPEN. ALSO SEE SIMP!

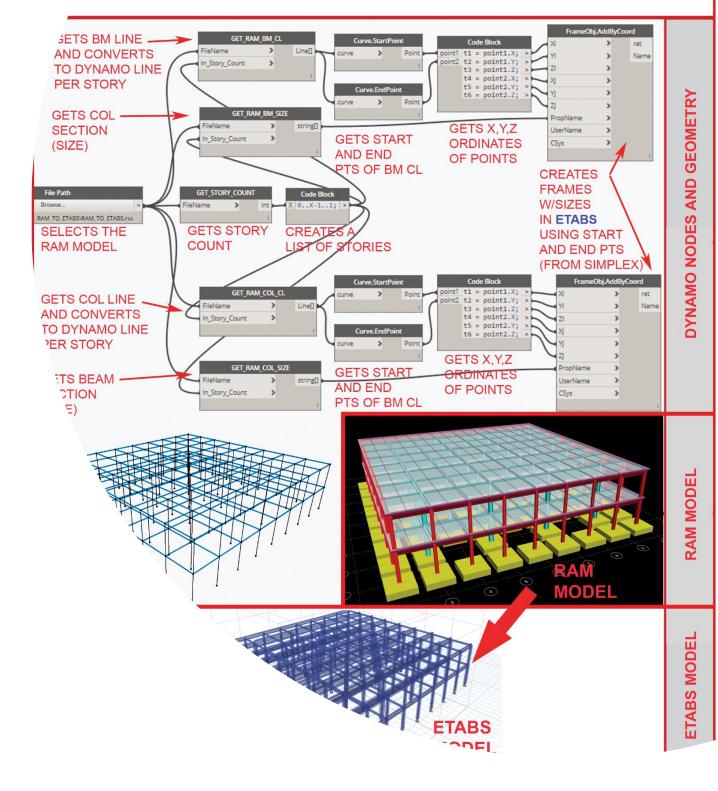
```
.o.IDBIO1 IDBI = (RAMDATAACCESSLib.IDBIO1)
            .ccess.GetInterfacePointerByEnum(EINTERFACES.IDBIO1_INT);
         JESSLib.IModel IModel = (RAMDATAACCESSLib.IModel)
       DataAccess.GetInterfacePointerByEnum(EINTERFACES.IModel_INT);
                                                              OBJECT FROM RAM
   f.LoadDataBase2(FileName, "1");
                                                              GETS FLOORTYPES
ffloorTypes My_floortypes = IModel.GetFloorTypes();
                                                              OBJECT FROM IMODE
IFloorType My_floortype = My_floortypes.GetAt(FloorIndex);
GETS SINGLE
EMATERIALTYPES My_BmMaterial = EMATERIALTYPES.ESteelMat;
                                                              FLOORTYPE AT INDEX
                                                              FROM INPUT PORT
ILayoutBeam My_LayoutBeam = My_floortype.GetLayoutBeams()
     .Add(My_BmMaterial, StartSupportX, StartSupportY,
                                                              GETS STEEL MATERIAL
    StartSupportZ, EndSupportX, EndSupportY, EndSupportZ);
                                                            GETS ILAYOUTBEAMS
                                                            OBJECT FROM SINGLE
IDBI.SaveDatabase();
IDBI.CloseDatabase();
                                                            AND CREATE A SINGLE
int My_New_Beam_ID = My_LayoutBeam.lUID;
                                                            ILAYOUTBEAM OBJECT
return My_New_Beam_ID; ____ GETS NEW BEAM
                                                            THAT DEFINES A SINGLE
                                      AND PLACES
```



## RAMAPI WRITE DATA







## RAM API TRANSFER DATA TO OTHER DATABASES HELLO ETABS AND BEYOND

TEP 1: OPEN FOLDER "ETABS\_TO\_RAM" OPEN SLN FILE, BUILD SOLUTIO

STEP 2: OPEN FOLDER ETABS\_TO\_RAM\_START.EDB"

STEP 3: OPEN DYNAMO, LOAD RECENTLY BUILT DLL, PLACE NODES AS SHOWN (MAKE SURE TO HAVE SIMPLEX INSTAL)

STEP 4: SELECT THE RAM FILE VIA FILE PATH NODE AND WATCH THE RESULTS

## This is You After this Class





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