

PRESS RELEASE

First international Lake Constance 5D-Conference: A success story!

Constance, Germany. May 24th of 2012 – The first international 5D Conference premiered on the 21st and 22nd of May 2012 at the University of Applied Sciences in Constance. Even though this was the first of its kind, this co-effort of the University of Applied Sciences (HTWG) and the 5D-initiative already resulted in an astonishing success: more than 250 international participants from all over the world presented and discussed upon their best practices, application challenges and on how to introduce BIM/VDC/5D in a construction company.

Inspiring welcome addresses were given by Dr. Kai Handel, President of the HTWG, Prof. Dr. Horst Werkle, Dean of the Faculty of Construction Engineering HTWG, Mr Klaus Pöllath, Vice-President of the German Construction Industry Federation and Menno de Jonge, Vice-President of ENCORD. They elaborated on the importance of cooperation between industry sectors and the necessity of collaboration with universities.

Keynote speaker Prof. Dr. Martin Fischer of the CIFE institute at Stanford University, California, gave an exquisite overview of the developments in 5D-research and their possible practical application on construction projects. Chairman of the 5D-initiative, Konstantinos Kessoudis, endorsed construction companies to take a strategic approach in the implementation of BIM/VDC/5D and clarified the necessity of such a strategic approach also within the 5D-initiative to further and improve currently available solutions.

Practical application and illustrative implementation examples of BIM/VDC/5D were shown on the second day by well-selected international companies with an extensive experience in this area: Bouygues Travaux Publics (France), The Sunway Group (Malaysia), Oger International Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates), The Boldt Company (US), Royal BAM Group (The Netherlands), Ballast Nedam (The Netherlands), Ed. ZÜBLIN AG/ STRABAG SE (Germany/Austria), Max BÖGL (Germany) and last but not least CCC (Greece).

Apart from being enthusiastic about the relevance of the conference content, participants also greatly enjoyed the openness of the conference and the well organised opportunities for interaction and exchange of ideas. The beautiful location, the historic structure, the élan of openness and willingness of participants to engage in discussions on the terrace in-between and also during the conference presentations, all contributed to an amazing atmosphere. Also unforgettable of course was the boat trip with dinner and live-music and a caipirinha-bar on Lake Constance.

In his closing remarks Prof. Dr. Uwe Rickers expressed his gratitude to the attendees and participants of the conference. Special thanks went out to the 5D-initiative as co-organiser and the main sponsors PERI GmbH, RIB Software AG, Trimble Ltd. and the exhibitors. He also expressed, that given the positive feedback of the conference and the greatly praised meeting venue, future conferences were likely to be held at Constance again.

As a result of the fruitful collaboration between the University of Applied Sciences (HTWG) and the 5D-initiative, a constructive and sustainable cooperation has been initiated to further research and development and bring research and practical application closer together.