

Press release

BIM : Building twice is more efficient

Presentation of SPIE GmbH on digital models at the VDI symposium

Düsseldorf, May 9th, 2017 – *Building information modelling, or BIM for short, is the big trend in the real estate industry as part of the general digitalisation trend. All steps – from planning to construction to subsequent operation – are recorded in a digital model. The 2nd VDI symposium on “BIM in Building Technology” on 16th and 17th May in Düsseldorf shows how much has been achieved in practice. Andreas Wokittel from SPIE GmbH enhances the event with practical experience. In his presentation, he explains what you need to pay attention to in order to make optimal use of this helpful method. After all, BIM makes it possible to save a lot of money in the operational phase of buildings and facilities.*

“Building information modelling” means building twice: first building a virtual representation digitally and then constructing the planned building in reality. At the symposium, the latest developments and potential future applications are discussed – particularly with regard to user friendliness. The symposium is attended by software developers, architects, technical building equipment providers, representatives from public authorities as well as by scientists.

Andreas Wokittel, member of the management of the multi-technical services provider SPIE and chairman of the VDI Society for Construction and Building Technology, takes a critical view of the enterprises opting for status quo: *“Data created in the planning and construction phase must not be lost in the future.”* And it is important to ensure that data can be imported and exported easily – *“data must be able to talk to each other”*. This is not yet the case in practice, as different programmes are used. If something changes in subsequent construction, this often is not recorded in the documents in the same language as previously used. And that makes the facility manager’s job more difficult.

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BIM thus not only provides support with planning and technical configuration, but is also particularly intended to save time and money while also improving quality in the use phase of buildings, which often lasts decades – for example, in subsequent maintenance.

Always keeping an eye on cost effectiveness

Even just changing a light bulb can be laborious: First you need to unscrew the bulb, then look for the right replacement part in the storage area, and only then you can replace it. BIM makes these processes faster. By looking at an app, the technician can find out in advance what type of bulb is needed and can then directly bring along the replacement part. This saves time and resources. “*Cost effectiveness is an important issue for property owners. We always keep an eye on this for our customers. For this reason, we recommend involving facility management consultants in the project development and planning stage already,*” advises Wokittel.

About SPIE GmbH

SPIE GmbH, a subsidiary of the SPIE group, the independent European leader in multi-technical services in the areas of energy and communications, is the service- and industry-defining multi-technology provider in Germany, other German-speaking countries and Central Europe. The range of services includes technical services for buildings, plants and infrastructures, from planning and construction, to operation and maintenance. SPIE GmbH’s solutions sustainably reduce customers’ operating costs and their CO2 emissions by a total of 160,000 tons annually.

With 38,000 employees working from close to 600 sites in 38 countries, SPIE achieved in 2016 consolidated revenues of €5.1 billion and consolidated EBITA of €352 million.

In its “Germany and Central Europe” segment, with more than 6,500 employees working at over 90 sites, the SPIE group generated revenues of €927 million in 2016.

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