

THE SURVEYOR OF THE FUTURE



With the digital revolution affecting all aspects of our industry from the rapid adoption of Building Information Modelling (BIM) to the increasing demand for more digitally automated tools, what does the future hold for surveyors?

By taking the principles and practice learnt through BIM, moving to more digitally minded processes companies can reduce the mistakes and costly errors that blight today's industry.

After decades spent mapping and positioning the world around us, our industry faces a new challenge, controlling the dynamic links between this digital and real world. Data collection and its interpretation must keep pace with the environment in which it was captured and the changes that occur daily. Decisions can no longer rely solely on its positional accuracy but on the actuality of data: the factor of time.

Wearable reality capture systems enable rapid recording and documentation of entire construction sites within a few hours, delivering supportive multiple sensor data for 4D(time), 5D(cost) and 6D(operations) processes. Having a comprehensive digital history map of the construction site and its related progress improves project awareness and aids in change management in an authoritative manner.

The adoption of more digitally enabled workflows can be seen in many parts of our industry. The exchange of traditional tape measures for digital laser distance measurement devices or DISTOs is just one example. The ability to record much larger distances in a digital format, and with a connection to a SMART device, DISTOs provide the user with a trusted and reliable digital data-set.

Technology like this is only an enabler for change and relies on a wider culture shift and simultaneous changes in the people that use it, and the process in which it sits. The digital revolution, along with BIM, will drive this change and improve the way we construct our built environment.

Interesting readings to prepare yourself:

<http://leica-geosystems.com/en-gb/about-us/local-content/emea/the-shift-to-digital-construction>

<http://leica-geosystems.com/en-gb/about-us/local-content/emea/en-gb/bimwhitepaper>

Two speakers from Leica Geosystems:



Steven Cairns
TPS / GNSS Solutions Specialist



Alessandro Nuzzo
Mobile Mapping Manager