



Bentley puts spotlight on London

Bentley Systems opened the doors to its new UK headquarters this month with an event hosted by CEO Greg Bentley and COO Malcolm Walter. The new premises, located in the former Barclay's Bank headquarters building in the City of London, was designed by the interdisciplinary design practice, BDP, and is expected to achieve a "Very Good" BREEAM rating and "Silver" LEED certification, standards used to assess Green Building design.

The new office overlooks a number of landmark structures, including 30 St Mary Axe (the Gherkin), London City Hall, the London Eye, and the O2 Arena, which were designed with the help of Bentley's information modelling and collaboration software. But while the central London location is arguably about promoting the key role Bentley plays in the City's architecture, there was no doubt that Bentley's executive team was in town to talk about infrastructure.

COO Malcolm Walter highlighted a number of projects that are currently making use of Bentley's information modelling software and its ProjectWise project team collaboration and work-sharing platform. These include Crossrail, the largest construction project in Europe, and the Thames Tideway Tunnel, a massive engineering project which aims to improve the water quality of the River Thames for future generations.

Greg Bentley put Bentley's UK infrastructure vision in context during his keynote address, "Our expanded investment in London is consistent with the UK's aggressive commitment to continued sustainable infrastructure development to underpin its long-term economic growth," he said. "The UK is leading the world in implementing best practices for the use of digital infrastructure to manage the lifecycle of physical infrastructure, and its new National Infrastructure Plan sets the stage for accelerating these efforts going forward. Its goals include reducing public sector construction costs and continued emphasis on private sector investment in infrastructure.

"The Government Construction Strategy of May 2011 clearly recognises that the keys for achieving these objectives are 'fully collaborative 3D building information modelling' and 'integrated solutions' – Bentley hallmarks."

Mr. Bentley then highlighted three new software and service offerings from Bentley Systems. The ProjectWise Business Process Template for BS 1192 is designed to let organisations



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institutionalise work processes involving content managed by ProjectWise in compliance with British Standard BS 1192 practices for improved collaboration.

Roadworks Online (www.roadworksonline.org.uk), a new portal service, delivered using Exor software within AssetWise, provides for the graphics-based display of live information on road works from local authorities and utilities. Its purpose is to inform the public of work currently being undertaken, why it's being done, and by which organisations.

Intelligent Trench Service is a portal-based service that incorporates the Intelligent Trench underground mapping solution from Bentley, 3M, Trac-ID, and Infotec, which is now combined with PelicanCorp's beforeUdig service to provide what Bentley describes as the most complete and accurate national record-sharing service for underground assets in the UK.

Richard Cowley, interior design associate, BDP, then delivered a presentation on the sustainability strategies used in the design of the new headquarters. Its energy efficiencies and environmentally friendly attributes include special lighting with daylight-linked dimming controls, localised controls for heating and cooling that take advantage of advanced sensor technology to feed occupancy data into the building management system, water-efficient appliances, and much more.

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