Experts for project software bring Fraunhofer on board

think project!, the provider of the project platform by the same name and expert for cross-enterprise collaboration, has developed a solution for the quick utilization of digital building data. In terms of visualization, think project! is now supported by Fraunhofer IGD.

(Munich/Darmstadt) The use of digital building models (Building Information Modelling, BIM) facilitates work on major construction projects significantly and also helps keep an overview of maintenance tasks. think project! customers have been using the software platform by the same name to exchange 3D building models for several years. With their new solution, think project! now takes it a step further by allowing access to, coordination and reviewing of digital disciplinary models – all via an internet browser.

For painstakingly produced building models to be usable by all project partners, BIM data must be easily visualized even without any specialized software. With its new solution for BIM Collaboration, think project! has made it possible to read and convert the digital model data into a standard format (IFC), visualizing them directly in an internet browser. For the graphical representation of the geometry data in the browser, think project! has brought on board Fraunhofer IGD, the world’s leading research institution for applied visual computing.

“BIM involves very large amounts of data”, explains Dr. Johannes Behr of Fraunhofer IGD. “Making these accessible via the internet or on a smartphone has been a very interesting research project for us.” The Fraunhofer researchers are contributing their X3DOM software platform to the cooperation. X3DOM is a public, freely available and, most of all, simple method for spatial representation via the internet. Using X3DOM, it’s possible to quickly and easily realize large and complex digital 3D architecture models. Together with think project! as a research partner, Dr.
Behr’s team has developed a solution for the visualization of BIM data tailored to the structural, industrial and plant engineering sectors.

“In Fraunhofer IGD, we’ve found an organization that, despite the massive data volumes involved, will consistently work with us to break new ground in browser-based solutions for BIM Collaboration, thus supporting our core competence of refining, intelligently managing and exchanging data on a project-wide basis”, emphasizes Sven-Eric Schapke, Business Development Manager BIM at think project!. “This way, we can remain true to our concept of an integrated internet platform.”

Further information:

http://www.x3dom.org/

think project! is a cloud solution geared towards the requirements in structural, civil, industrial and plant engineering for the cross-enterprise collaboration in projects.

Founded in Munich in 2000, think project! GmbH markets the think project! cross-enterprise collaboration solution in Germany and internationally via its subsidiary think project! International GmbH & Co. KG. think project! International GmbH & Co. KG in Berlin is responsible for product development. The secure operation of the think project! cloud is carried out by several professional computing centers within Germany. Since February 2014, think project! GmbH and its subsidiary company think project! International GmbH & Co. KG have been certified according to ISO/IEC 27001, the internationally recognized standard for the security of information and IT environments.

More than 20 sectors are supported by think project!, including general contractors, the energy and automotive industries, and all levels of government. think project! is available in 21 languages and is used by over 100,000 users across 8,000 projects in 40 countries.
As the parent company of the think project! Group, think project! GmbH holds shares in other companies offering complementary solutions and services in Germany and internationally. Today, think project! is the market leader for cross-enterprise collaboration in Germany and Europe and the number two worldwide.

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Profile

Fraunhofer IGD is the world’s leading institute for applied research in Visual Computing. Visual Computing is image- and model-based information technology and includes computer graphics and computer vision, as well as virtual and augmented reality.

In simple terms, the Fraunhofer researchers in Darmstadt, Rostock, Graz, and Singapore are turning images into information and extracting information from images. In cooperation with its partners, technical solutions and market-relevant products are created.

Prototypes and integrated solutions are developed in accordance with customized requirements. In doing so, Fraunhofer IGD places users at the forefront, providing them with technical solutions to facilitate computer work and make it more efficient.

Owing to its numerous innovations, Fraunhofer IGD raises man-machine interaction to a new level. Man is able to work in a more result-oriented and effective way by means of the computer and visual-computing developments. Fraunhofer IGD has more than 200 employees and budget amounts over 19 million euros.