

High visitor turnout for 10th Engineering Days anniversary

Engineering Days celebrated its 10th anniversary at the Trend Hotel Savoyen in Vienna, Austria, on 27 and 28 November 2017. The Engineering Days event sees itself as a discussion platform between those operating precast production facilities and the industry's leading technology companies. The three organising companies, Precast Software Engineering, Prilhofer Consulting and RIB SAA, were able to welcome more than 400 visitors from the sector on this occasion in Vienna.

As in previous years, so too with the 10th anniversary, the organisers had not spared any cost or trouble in putting together a top-level lecture and workshop programme. Simon Knapp from the well-known McKinsey & Company consultancy was enlisted for the opening lecture. He highlighted new challenges through increasing digitalisation in the construction industry and showed how medium-sized construction companies can feature amongst the winners in digitalisation. Following on from this were a series of talks around the topic of Smart Production – including a demonstration of one of the first augmented reality glasses on the market, “Innovations in production technologies” plus “Cutting-edge formwork techniques”.

Werner Gruber, eminent physicist and founder of Science Busters, rounded off the conference's first day with his lecture on “Psychology of digitalisation – concerning fears, pitfalls and remedies”. Participants had the opportunity of gaining information about new issues from as well as interacting personally with about 30 exhibitors from the industry during the breaks. As in former years, workshops were offered on various topics during the morning of the second day. These workshops were

held in five rounds, which took place in parallel, and made a lasting impression as regards practical matters such as the introduction of the first exoskeleton developed specifically for the industry.

Exoskeletons (external supporting structures) are man-machine systems combining human intelligence with a machine's strength by supporting or amplifying the carrier's movements.

Further talks were given in the afternoon on the subjects areas of: “Digitalisation in the construction industry” and “Growth in efficiency and productivity in precast component facilities”. In the course of this, the new IFC4precast data interface was launched which is to serve as a universal database for the precast industry and should help elevate the exchange of data within the sector to a new, more professional level in the coming years.

The number of visitors and positive feedback from participants at Engineering Days 2017 speak for themselves. The event was once again very well received and scored top marks with interesting speciality lectures and practice-driven workshops.

The next Engineering Days will take place in the usual two year rhythm during the fourth quarter of 2019. ■

FURTHER INFORMATION

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The organisers gave a warm welcome to more than 400 visitors in Vienna



More than 30 exhibitors participated in the Engineering Days