

Bluesky Data Used to Model Major Infrastructure Projects



Aerial photography and computer-generated models of buildings and trees from Bluesky, UK, are helping specialist graphics company 3D Web Technologies (3DW) create interactive 3D visualisations. The highly detailed models have been used to support planning applications and consultations for some of the UK's largest infrastructure projects. The models help by improving communication and enhancing the understanding of the impact of projects such as wind and solar farms, power lines and power stations, as well as housing and regeneration projects.

By using Bluesky's high-resolution aerial photography, National Tree Map data, 3D building models as well as Ordnance Survey map data it is possible to efficiently create models of a proposed development, commented Kangjie Zhao, development director at

3DW. The Bluesky data helps the company to better represent the real-world environment or site to its true likeness, which in turns helps clients communicate their plans more effectively and efficiently.

3DW uses the Bluesky data within its proprietary 3D modelling software. Terrain models are used to generate a 3D mesh of the Earth's surface onto which the Bluesky aerial images and Ordnance Survey map layers are overlaid. 3DW has also developed a specialist tool that allows Bluesky's National Tree Map data and 3D building models to be read directly into the 3D model.

3DW is a specialist developer of interactive 3D visualisations. For almost 20 years the company has supported leading energy companies, such as National Grid, EDF Energy, Vattenfall and DONG Energy. The company provides innovative applications which have effectively enhanced the design, planning and consultation activities associated with major energy infrastructure projects.