Strong Growth Predicted for Global Scanning and 3D Modelling Market

Strong growth is predicted in the scanning and 3D modelling market, as nearly 4 out of 5 firms expect their business to expand over the next 12 months. This is one of the findings in a new survey of the laser scanning and 3D modelling industry. Sent to over 5,500 firms, the survey illuminates crucial industry data including average project profit margin, scanning/modelling best practices, profit margin degraders, hardware and software market share and more.

According to the survey, which was produced by industry newsletter *Workflow 4.0*, many firms are not only forecasting growth, but also expect a substantial business expansion. 43% of respondents predict their work will increase by between 21 and 100% within the next 12 months and 5.6% believe their business will double by next year.

AEC industry

Chris Scotton, CEO of ClearEdge3D, one of the sponsors of the survey, is not surprised by these results. In conversations with customers, nearly all say they are as busy as they have ever been, with some having to turn away work, he said. Sutton thinks we are finally seeing an inflection point in the adoption of scanning and modelling in the architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) industry.

Another important finding of the survey reveals the biggest profit margin degraders for AEC firms as long modelling hours and inefficient data processing. Almost 60% of companies point to one of these as their greatest profit margin killer. However, the survey notes that these are solvable problems and ranks software and hardware tools that help aid in creating workflow efficiencies.

The survey also uncovers the industry's average profit margin on projects (a critical benchmark for any firm), the best practices AEC leaders deem most important to success, which hardware/software manufacturers dominate the market, and more. A free copy of the survey results can be downloaded here.

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