Point Cloud Data to Optimize Construction Progress Tracking

A solution to quickly and easily measure the progress of a construction project has been presented by GeoSLAM, a leading simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM) technology company. After working closely with the construction industry for almost a decade, and running an extensive pilot with UK construction and property service company Willmott Dixon, GeoSLAM has launched Construction Progress to streamline the monitoring of projects through generated point cloud data.

The solution is developed to help construction companies understand their progress by speeding up an inherently manual process. Utilizing an easy-to-use handheld scanner, information collection and progress results (expressed as a percentage complete, with coloured digital images showing the latest project updates) are available both on-site and at head office within minutes.

Point clouds to avoid costly delays

The data collected is automatically processed, generating a point cloud that is compared to a CAD model displaying easy-to-understand changes on site by date and time. Being able to see the progress of a project gives site teams and head office clear and objective visibility of progress, helping to avoid missed milestones in the build or costly delays.

Explaining the launch of the software, GeoSLAM CEO Graham Hunter said: “We have always advocated for the importance of technology to any business, but even more so today, automated tools like Construction Progress are vital to the longevity of construction companies in particular. “This is something completely new for the sector, and we’re delighted that one of the country’s leading construction and property service companies, Willmott Dixon, is successfully using GeoSLAM Construction Progress.”

With the global population predicted to hit 9 billion by 2050 the demand for construction has never been greater. Facing increased pressure to help ‘level-up’ the economy, automated tracking of progress will support the industry to build in a quicker, more sustainable way.

Innovation however, is needed to meet the challenge. Graham adds: “The outlook for the sector, with such exponential growth forecast even into 2022, is an exciting prospect, but one that needs the right tools to face head on. I am confident that Construction Progress will help alleviate some of the pressure construction firms may face in the coming months, with a solution that doesn’t require outsourcing or technical expertise.”

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