

Date

Tuesday 17 July 2007

Title of session

Plenary: New Technologies - Disruptive or Enabling?

Name of presenter/chair

Chair: Brendan Boyle, Chief Executive, Land Information New Zealand

Presenter: LaVonne Frazier, Director of the Connected Site, Engineering and Construction Division, Trimble

Rapporteurs

Colin Henderson, Ordnance Survey and Selena Patton, Defence Geographic Centre

Presentation title: The Connected Site – An Industry moves into the Future

At the heart of this presentation is the proposition that the power of AND, rather than the limitations of OR, should be explored more closely. The construction industry has not kept pace with the transformation through new technology of other industries. Other industries have embraced new technology while the construction industry has relied on scale factors, working faster and growing bigger. The industry has now acknowledged the need to pursue and develop new technology.

Traditionally the construction industry is segmented, operated by separate companies for planning, survey, design, build and maintenance. Each segment requiring the same plans but in different formats. For instance, you might need a 3D map for planning and a 2D map for site survey, the design might be in 3D but the build is split into simpler 2D sections. With these datasets now on the same platform the need for duplication of work is reduced, saving between 20-50% of costs. Design and build as a single operation is becoming more common in the market place. This is mainly as a result of new technologies that enhance productivity such as satellite positioning systems, VRS infrastructure, laser scanning and wireless communications.

The challenge facing the construction industry is to create a connected site where the three main components; the platform, the site and the process are seamlessly integrated. The benefits of a connected site are increased accuracy, increased productivity through greater operator availability, and a reduction or even elimination of mistakes.

Questions	Answers