CLM impresses with Trimble Construction live demonstration

An impressive array of Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) positioning control solutions for the building and construction industry was recently demonstrated in a three-day live construction site preparation setting by CLM Positioning Solutions, the sole distributor of Trimble Construction products in southern Africa.

The full range of Trimble products from Site Positioning Systems, Grade Control Systems, Laser Machine Control Systems to Surveying Instruments was in place mounted appropriately on various construction machines, such as graders, excavators, dozers and dump trucks, or set up as ground or stationary mounts as required.

"We have flown in Trimble specialists from all over the world to demonstrate these products and their capabilities in fine detail," said Mark Smith, managing director of CLM Positioning Solutions. "The benefits offered by the Trimble systems in terms of productivity gains, accuracy of work and cost saving are very significant," he continued.

Also present for the event was Andrew Caldwell, Trimble Construction's regional manager for the UK, Ireland, Middle East and Africa. "Trimble offers the most complete range of site positioning solutions for the construction site," said Caldwell "including GPS rovers, GPS base stations, precision GPS, location GPS, robotic total stations and reflectorless pole or vehicle mounted target. Mobile units can be installed on machines from any manufacturer and many machines can be ordered 'Trimble ready'."

All equipment demonstrated can be fully integrated to a comprehensive centralised site management system, enabling reporting, design updates and system control from any position on the globe.

"At Trimble we have extensive experience in developing positioning products for the harsh construction environment. Our products are deployed at construction sites and installed on construction vehicles throughout the world."

"These systems give customers more control over their construction site through all phases of the construction process. They streamline work processes, minimise downtime and re-work which increases productivity and profitability for the contractor," he said.

Data synchronisation

- Digital design automatically sent to the field and updated by the site solution
- Production and machine data can be accessed from the office

Where do the savings come from?

Lower operating costs

- Get to grade faster – save machine hours
- More accurate – reduced material usage
- Correct design in the field – eliminate rework
- 3D implementation – eliminate stakes, string-lines

Less downtime

- Operators know where to go
- No waiting on subcontractors
- No waiting on grade checking

"We've literally cut our rework by 70% using the GPS system," said a spokesman for one of the larger construction companies. ■

Designed for use in harsh construction environments, the Trimble CB450 Control Box brings an enhanced user experience to the excavator operator and makes it easier to achieve the desired depth and slope with less fatigue and reduced rework

The automatic control of the blade with Trimble GCS900 with Universal Total Station or with Laser augmentation maximises motor grader performance. Whether grading simple pads and slopes or complex design surfaces and alignments the operator can get to grade at high speeds, without sacrificing grade control accuracy or quality of the final graded surface

At the Trimble Construction LIVE event, the customer had the opportunity to talk with technical experts from CLM and Trimble at each station of the 10 stations to get an in depth look at Site Positioning Systems, 2D and 3D Grade Control Systems and Trimble Fleet Management Solutions

CLM Positioning Solutions is headquartered in Johannesburg and offers a complete range of positioning solutions for the construction market including: design and data preparation, earthmoving grade control, site positioning, general and interior building and asset management.

The new state-of-the-art Trimble CB460 Control Box greatly enhances the operator experience on all GCS900 equipped machine types with more power, more memory, and a large seven-inch screen display of 3D profile information, grade guidance, and warnings. As the premium display in the GCS900 portfolio, it can be configured for operation in 2D or 3D mode based on the requirements of the contractor