



BENTLEY BE CONFERENCE 2006

UNDER THE THEME 'IT'S TIME FOR LEARNING' THE ANNUAL BENTLEY BE CONFERENCE WAS HELD IN CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA WITH ABOUT 2000 IN ATTENDANCE. WITH A PRONOUNCED MOTOR RACING THEME, DUE IN PART TO THE MOTOR RACING SPIRIT OF THE CITY, THE PROGRAM PROVIDED BENTLEY PRODUCT USERS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE AND LEARN MORE ABOUT EACH OF THE COMPANY DIVISIONS - BUILDING, CIVIL, GEOSPATIAL AND PLANT.

Tony Flynn, chief marketing director at Bentley initiated the show with his opening comments, suggesting that there was "much work to do" in reference to building the world's infrastructure. He said, "we believe that learning is a subscription business" (the company derives two-thirds of its overall revenue from subscriptions) in support of the company's online and classroom education programs. I wondered if the audience agreed that learning was a subscription business, although most would support the view expressed, that a well trained organisation was the goal and would improve efficiency. In a program with over 600 sessions, 300 training courses with 80 specifically addressing technology, there was ample opportunity to learn at Bentley BE 2006.

In the second address, Greg Bentley, CEO indicated that more and better technology was now available and that a need existed to share practices using that technology. "We need to recognise that quality of life depends on infrastructure." He pointed out the number of employee's (44 PhD, 515 MSc.) with advanced education at Bentley before stating, "our work is about converging assets" and "each project in an enterprise is unique." In his words, projects are constellations of organisations that work and share information between them, a concept that depends, as we would later learn, on maintaining native data formats and recognising local workflows. Thus the quest becomes one of integrating these organisations information – interoperability.

The highlight of the show was the announcement of the new

MicroStation V8 XM Edition which includes,

- Reference Enhancements: The ability to attach a PDF reference to a design file
- Element Templates: Integrate CAD standards with MicroStation tasks
- ProjectWise StartPoint: Built-in technology providing an entry-level collaboration tool
- Link Sets: For managing and navigating relationships of content within files
- DirectX Graphics System: A new display subsystem leveraging Microsoft DirectX technologies
- Element Transparency and Display Priority: Added design, drafting, mapping, and visualization capabilities
- PANTONE and RAL Color Systems: 24-bit color support
- Keyboard Position Assignments: Patented keyboard position assignment
- 3D Modeling Advancements: Creation of parametric 3D geometry
- Visualization and Animation: Improved visualization capabilities for photo-realistic rendering Microsoft Designed for XP Logo
- Compliance: New installers

Upon listening to several presentations pertaining to this product, it appeared that a higher level of ProjectWise capabilities were being included into the product, thus enabling higher levels of sharing and data access throughout an organisation.

Bentley Systems also unveiled ProjectWise StartPoint, an entry-level



collaboration tool, based on Microsoft Office SharePoint technologies, for MicroStation and AutoCAD users. It aims to provide direct access to SharePoint platform collaboration tools from within MicroStation, MicroStation PowerDraft, and AutoCAD and makes SharePoint technologies aware of relationships critical in CAD files, allowing AEC users to use SharePoint for their entire project.

As Kurt DelBene, corporate vice president, Microsoft Office Server Group, Microsoft Corp. said, "Bentley has a wealth of expertise spanning the AEC and operations verticals. By combining ProjectWise with SharePoint-based technologies to manage CAD content, project data, and Office documents, there's an amazing amount of capability and enhanced



productivity that Bentley and Microsoft can together bring to users in the infrastructure community."

Given each of these product announcements, it is fair to assume that Bentley has been focusing upon 'enabling the organisation to share' information. Investing nearly 20% of its revenue (Euro 60 m) on Research and Development, it is not too surprising that Bentley products have been building out toward including 'standards' such as Adobe PDF, Google Earth and Oracle Spatial, each of which are well known, and because of their being 'de facto standards', supporting the Bentley philosophy of sharing information. In fact, MicroStation V8 XM includes the capability to 'force to standard' – ensuring that project work is aligned to consistent standardisation as it is completed.

Be Award Winner's in the Geospatial Division are:

- Geospatial Communications: Comcast – Comcast Northern Division Upgrade Initiative
- Geospatial Government: Ville de Saguenay – Expertise in Civil Safety at Ville de Saguenay
- Geospatial Managed Environment: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Interagency Performance Evaluation Taskforce – Data Management
- Geospatial Mapping and Cadastre: Municipio de Tampico – Integrated System of Cadastre Administration
- Geospatial Modeling: Hydro Tasmania Consulting – Hobart City Visualization Project
- Geospatial Public Works: Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran – Disaster Management – Interlinking of Water Works in Mumbai Metropolitan Area
- Geospatial Utilities: AES Torino S.p.A. – SITEGAS, the Modernization of the Gas and District Heating Networks Management in a

FIG. 1: Greg Bentley, CEO Bentley Systems
FIG. 2: Bentley Institute Stock Car
FIG. 3: Bentley BE Award Nominee's 2006

- Fast-Growing Utility Company
- Geospatial Web Publishing: City of Mississauga – eMaps, Interactive Online Mapping

Malcolm Walter, COO gave a lively and interesting presentation entitled 'Moving Software from Sunk Cost to a Value-Generating Investment' which proved to be a highlight of the conference. Speaking about the Bentley SELECT program he outlined several new changes including

Annual License Exchange, Pooled and Trust Licensing, Continuous product development and updates, OnDemand eLearning, BE Conference registration, Help Desk, ProjectWise user subscription, Additional software to extend the enterprise and SELECT membership in the Bentley Developer Network – all included as a member of the program.

Overall, Bentley BE Conference 2006 was filled with information. The big announcement of this conference was the new Annual Licensing Exchange Program. On a cost / benefit basis it would appear to be good for SELECT users. This was followed by the new product announcements, which we will need to explain more fully in the days ahead.



KCS TraceME

GPS/GPRS/GSM Module



Distributors welcome!

The KCS TraceME/TrackME GPRS/GPS Module enables you to remotely track & trace a variety of objects, e.g. cars, trucks, containers or ships. Its small, lightweight aluminum design makes it easy to install and together with the extended position logging, it's ideal for use in fleet management, anti-theft and M2M applications.

Furthermore, the numerous I/O connections allow monitoring and control of a range of external hardware. For surveillance and security purposes, a tiny camera is available, so you can see what's going on at a glance... anywhere, anytime!

Key Features

- Extremely small and lightweight
- Ultra low power consumption
 - Car/truck battery
 - Solar panel with small battery
 - Power supply
- Excellent GPS accuracy
 - Autonomous, MS-A or MS Assisted A-GPS
- Versatile interfacing
 - More than 25 I/O lines
- Maximum flexibility
 - Remotely configurable to fit any application
- Integrated SIM card reader
- Wide operating temperature range
- Ruggedized aluminum enclosure designed for rough environments
- Fully EMI shielded

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Product Summary

Equipped with a state-of-the-art GPS receiver, the KCS TraceME/TrackME Module provides reliable and accurate navigational data. All communication is handled rapidly and effectively by a GPRS/GSM modem (dual/tri-band version available) through a GPRS network or, if not available, by means of a GSM network. In areas with no GPRS/GSM coverage, position-data and events are stored in memory. As soon as communication is restored, all information is transmitted.

A unique feature is the user-configuration menu, which controls events like sending position-information and switching of external hardware. Changing this configuration is possible remotely or on-site. Virtually every parameter can be controlled, to adjust the TraceME/TrackME Module exactly to your needs!



Applications

- Fleet management
- Public transport
- Railway industry
- Logistics
- M2M
- Security and surveillance
- Remote control and diagnosis
- Vehicle immobilisation

Evaluation Kit / Support

- KCS TraceME evaluation kit
Order code EVAL01

WWW.TRACEME.TV