

## Press Release

**The construction site of the future: digitized and networked – terrain handover for the reference construction site on Campus West**

**Quotes from the stage guests at the event on 6 February 2020**

### 1.) Politics

#### **Thomas Rachel**

Parliamentary State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Member of the German Bundestag

„The construction sector has always been one of the key industries in Germany and is therefore hugely important. We want to support industry efforts to master the challenges faced by digitalization. That is why the Federal Ministry of Education and Research is sponsoring the development and implementation of an innovative information network for the partners involved in the construction. The project aims to improve adherence to schedules and construction quality in general. Furthermore, the project will generate new collaboration models for the construction sector of the future.“

#### **Dr. Jan Heinisch**

State Secretary in the Ministry for Regional Identity, Communities and Local Government, Building and Gender Equality of the Land of North Rhine-Westphalia

„The automated construction site is a forward-thinking project, to which academia and industry are jointly contributing to ensure its success. Here in Aachen, this collaboration is working in an exemplary manner. The very first reality laboratory for the construction sector reinforces the pioneering role of North Rhine-Westphalia in the transformation of the construction sector with innovative processes and solutions.“

#### **Marcel Philipp**

Lord Mayor of Aachen

„Over the coming years, we will be building the future of Aachen as a research location on Campus West. Initially, we will be focusing on the future of the construction sector. It will allow us to highlight the fact that all industries will be affected by the coming digital transformation. And fact is that many great solutions are created right here in Aachen.“

## 2. Industry

### **Ralf Mosler**

Leader BIM Transformation  
Autodesk GmbH

„Under the scientific direction of the CCR, the construction site of the future can be studied right here in the presence. This is the first project of its kind in the world and is set to deliver valuable insights into the workflows and technologies of future construction processes. We have initiated what we call ‚The Opportunity of Better‘ with the reference construction site on Campus West.“

### **Jean-Marie Dolo**

Director of Technology and Innovation at Eiffage Infrastructure - Operational Support Department  
EIFFAGE

„EIFFAGE - Business member of CCR, main sponsor of the reference construction site on Campus West - will serve in pilot projects, transition and transfer of low carbon construction, circular economy and new construction methods for construction sites. We are looking for a creative vision of construction sites by 2050, while respecting the environment and the well-being of our employees.“

Dipl.-Ing.

### **Jörn Weichsel**

Authorized Representative and Technical Director Construction Engineering Rhine-Main  
LEONHARD WEISS GmbH & Co. KG

„Being an innovative, modern and family-oriented company means that construction processes of the future are an important topic for us. The unique constellation of CCR, IoC and the reference construction site on Campus West opens up opportunities for us that we would not have on our own. We are looking forward to working on joint developments with our collaborative partners and are excited about the new perspectives we will gain from the project.“

Dipl.-Wirt.-Ing. (FH) MBA

### **Stefan Strauch**

Managing Director Production  
Liebherr-Werk Biberach GmbH

„Our innovations are born on the construction site. That is why we see our involvement in the powerful research network at RWTH Aachen as a perfect opportunity for developing innovations early, with a view to the future and with clear market focus.“

**Andreas Sauer**

CFO  
PORR AG

„As a CCR premium member, we see ourselves as one of the sponsors of this unique European consortium. We are part of the effort of finding new paths towards driving the development, research and teaching scenarios that will educate the best minds in the construction sector. Only then will we be able to face and overcome future challenges together – not just in Germany, but worldwide.“

**3. Academia**

**Prof. Ulrich Rüdiger**

Rector of RWTH Aachen University

„The development of this reference construction site follows the concept of excellence here at RWTH Aachen. Infrastructures used jointly, will further the collaboration within RWTH and with our partners. A reality laboratory of this kind complies exactly with the central focal points of our application: Knowledge. Impact. Networks. In collaboration with many partners, we will be generating knowledge on the reference construction site with enormous social implications. This is the first step in a transformation process, which will trigger far-reaching positive developments.“

**Prof. Sigrid Brell-Cokcan**

Chair of Individualized Production in Architecture at RWTH Aachen University/Director of the Center Construction Robotics and the reference construction site

„We find it very important to ensure that as many stakeholders as possible will be able to utilize the construction site as a living lab" for transformation. Start-ups, businesses, public stakeholders, private individuals or research institutions from the construction industry – everyone will be able to access the construction site facilities provided by industry partners and the outdoor areas as maker spaces as part of the fair-use principle.“

**Prof. Katharina Schmitz**

Head of the Institute for Fluid Power Drives and Controls/Initiator Center Mobile Machinery

„The reference construction site on Campus West innovatively combines interdisciplinary research by way of a holistic approach to machines and processes with the training and further education of students, as well as persons already employed in the construction industry. The emerging revolution heading towards Construction Machinery 4.0 and the construction processes of the future for a more productive and more sustainable construction site, where innovative technical solutions will relieve the strain on employees, can be experienced here directly and in reality.“



**Prof. Markus Oeser**

Decan of the Faculty of Civil Engineering/Initiator Center Building and Infrastructure Engineering

„Digital technologies will reshape the construction sector of the future. Companies must take up the transformation process and translate it into competitive advantages. This will require engineers, who are uniquely trained in the area of digital construction. The faculties for architecture, civil engineering and machine engineering at RWTH Aachen are creating the necessary teaching and learning foundations with the reference construction site.“

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