



Tekla Corporation and Trimble to Improve Construction Field Layout Using Building Information Modeling

Integrated Solution Allows Contractors to Transfer the Accuracy of BIM to the Final Construction Implementation

SUNNYVALE, Calif. and ATLANTA, Nov 04, 2008 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- Trimble (Nasdaq: TRMB) and Tekla Corporation today announced the workflow integration of the Tekla Structures software and Trimble construction layout solutions. Now structural steel, structural concrete, and general contractors can create Building Information Models (BIM) in Tekla Structures software or import BIM from other applications, export the data directly to the Trimble field layout solution and use the highly accurate data to lay out and construct complex buildings and structures.

BIM-enabled Layout: A New Way to Get the Job Done

BIM is transforming the way construction projects are planned and managed; however, the data from these models is not being maximized in the field. Traditional construction methods lose the accuracy of the 3D building model when implemented in the field. Valuable time and accuracy can be lost by manually scaling distances, calculating angles from plans, turning angles with theodolites and pulling tapes to measure distances.

To maintain the accuracy of BIM in the final building product, Trimble and Tekla now make this information available for use by construction professionals to automate the layout, erection and construction of their projects.

"The AEC/O industry recognizes that for BIM technologies to realize their potential, the information contained within the model cannot live in the office or the jobsite trailer alone. Construction professionals have sought for a long time to take BIM out of the office and implement it in the field. This workflow integration makes it happen," said Andy Dickey, Business and Product Development manager for Tekla, Inc. "The industry-leading levels of detail possible in Tekla Structures, such as the ability to model every anchor bolt, every embed or to bring in a fully detailed mechanical model for a project coupled with the ease of use and accuracy possible with the Trimble layout solutions make this integration especially compelling."

"Coupling Trimble layout solutions with Tekla Structures' ability to create and manage highly detailed structural models and the ability to consolidate models from other sources such as mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) modeling solutions, opens new doors. The same model that is used to plan the building and manufacture building elements can now be used to lay it out and construct it. That workflow is simpler and can produce results that are more efficient and accurate," said Pat Bohle, general manager for Building Construction at Trimble.

About BIM

Building Information Modeling or Building Information Management (BIM) is the process of modeling and communicating the structure of a building in detail to benefit the entire building lifecycle. BIM facilitates the exchange and use of building information in digital format and is currently used by professionals on all building types from the simplest warehouse to many of the most complex new buildings.

As an emerging design method in use today, BIM allows a virtual information model to be handed from design team (architects, surveyors, consulting engineers, and others) to contractor and subcontractors and then to the owner, each adding their own additional discipline-specific knowledge and tracking of changes in a single model. The goal of BIM is to reduce the information loss that occurs when a new team takes "ownership" of a project as well as to deliver extensive information to owners of complex structures far beyond that which they are currently accustomed to having.

Tekla Corporation

Tekla's technology creates new business opportunities for the construction industry. The most advanced building information modeling (BIM) solution on the market includes an accurate, dynamic and data-rich 3-dimensional environment. The highly detailed 'as-built' digital structural models generated with Tekla Structures software enable effective visualization and management of the project. Effectively integrating model and non-model-based software solutions allows using the building information model in collaborative workflows. Tekla Structures users can streamline the design, fabrication, and construction processes, ultimately ensuring the highest level of constructability in project delivery. Tekla Structures encompasses specialized configurations for structural engineers, steel detailers and fabricators, concrete detailers and manufacturers, and

construction companies.

More information at: <http://www.teklastructures.com>

About Trimble

Trimble applies technology to make field and mobile workers in businesses and government significantly more productive. Solutions are focused on applications requiring position or location-including surveying, construction, agriculture, fleet and asset management, public safety and mapping. In addition to utilizing positioning technologies, such as GPS, lasers and optics, Trimble solutions may include software content specific to the needs of the user. Wireless technologies are utilized to deliver the solution to the user and to ensure a tight coupling of the field and the back office. Founded in 1978 and headquartered in Sunnyvale, Calif., Trimble has a worldwide presence with more than 3,800 employees in over 18 countries.

For more information, visit: <http://www.trimble.com>

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