



PRESS RELEASE

Komatsu Smart Construction integrates artificial intelligence into its latest product

Earthmoving solutions expert Komatsu has combined artificial intelligence (AI) to modernize its Smart Construction Edge solution. This was done in collaboration with technology giant Sony as part of the EarthBrain joint venture between Komatsu, NTT Communications, Sony Semiconductor and Nomura Research Institute to promote digitalization and advancement in drone surveying processes.

The innovative Edge solution is a unique device that enables both experts and novices to perform accurate drone surveys and process drone flights into point clouds. The EarthBrain partnership is working to optimize construction processes through digital transformation to maximize productivity, improve site safety and increase environmental sustainability.

With its latest Edge evolution, Komatsu Smart Construction now offers a terrain mapping tool that uses AI to remove obstacles such as machinery and buildings from drone footage, reducing the need for manual changes after data capture.

Bart Vingerhoets, Senior Commercial Manager at Komatsu Smart Construction, commented: "I am very proud to launch this new version of Edge in multiple markets. At Komatsu Smart Construction, we are committed to helping professionals in our industry increase their productivity and ultimately save time and money.

"A major benefit of our updated Edge solution is the ability to speed up data processing of drone surveys to create an accurate digital twin. In conjunction with the Smart Construction Dashboard solution, the available 3D terrain maps save time on site and the data collected, including volume, percentage of progress and location on site, can be captured quickly and efficiently."

The updated Edge solution was first presented at the Intermat trade fair in Paris in April 2024 and is now available in several European markets: Germany, France, Austria, Poland, Switzerland and the UK.

Edge in action

When the head surveyor of the medium-sized Belgian earthmoving company CROES VS went on maternity leave, the company was faced with the challenge of maintaining its surveying capacity, making it difficult to carry out its projects with the same level of precision and efficiency.

CROES VS implemented the revised Edge technology and the gap in workload was seamlessly closed without the need for additional training or new hires. The solution enables various team members, including the marketing manager, to undertake drone survey tasks and capture the progress of earthworks to identify challenges and opportunities within seconds.

Bart continues: "The collaboration with CROES VS has demonstrated the importance of improving the speed and accuracy of data processing - a testament to the construction industry's demand for wider adoption of drone surveying.

"The use of AI in the latest version of Edge means that the device can eliminate the need for ground control points (GCPs), increasing safety and efficiency in the field, and process data into 3D point clouds without the need for an internet connection. The overall goal of this enhanced edge solution is to streamline the entire process to enable seamless terrain mapping."

Komatsu Smart Construction experts use digital tools to support customers in the earthmoving and quarrying industry by finding the optimal use of resources such as machines, materials and personnel to increase productivity, complete projects faster, save costs, improve safety and reduce carbon emissions.

To find out more, please visit: www.kuhn.at

