Press release



New VR Planning Tool "Virtual Layout" Premiere at PACK EXPO International

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- Supporting virtual reality application for project planning
- ▶ 360-degree immersive experience of planned packaging plant
- ▶ VR and AR applications with a future

At this year's PACK EXPO International in Chicago, USA from October 14 to 17, Bosch Packaging Technology will present its new virtual reality planning tool "Virtual Layout" at booth S-3514. The Bosch software converts a two-dimensional sketch into a three-dimensional image of the planned packaging system within a very short space of time. The system is displayed on the customer's hall plan on a 1:1 scale. In addition, the VR glasses and associated controllers facilitate a virtual walk-through.

Immersive 360-degree experience

"Virtual Layout helps our customers see their system in a very early planning phase. The virtual walk-through gives a very good overview," says Pascal Witprächtiger, head of the project group Industry 4.0 at Bosch Packaging Technology.

With the help of the VR controllers, the user can move through the system virtually and can view all the machines in their original size. This immersive 360° experience gives the customer a realistic impression of the system when standing in the production hall. The dimensions of the equipment as well as its ergonomics and accessibility are quickly recognizable and easy to understand.

Lastly, a 360-degree flight video of the planned packaging system is created, which the customer can take home. "We are convinced that modern technologies, such as virtual reality, can provide valuable support in various business areas in the future," adds Witprächtiger.

Learning in a virtual environment

Bosch already offers a few VR and AR applications, including VR operator training. The educational modules cover a range of subjects, such as the removal of machine parts, with highly detailed functions, e.g. being able to zoom in or out, or move around the machine. Furthermore, in service and maintenance, initial augmented reality pilot applications are currently underway with customers.

Visitors to this year's PACK EXPO International in Chicago can try out the Bosch Virtual Layout first hand and explore Bosch packaging systems virtually. In addition, a virtual training module on format changes can be carried out using the VR glasses.

Press image: #1451842

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About Bosch

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The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. It employs roughly 390,000 associates worldwide (as of December 31, 2016). The company generated sales of 73.1 billion euros in 2016. Its operations are divided into four business sectors: Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. As a leading IoT company, Bosch offers innovative solutions for smart homes, smart cities, connected mobility, and connected manufacturing. It uses its expertise in sensor technology, software, and services, as well as its own IoT cloud, to offer its customers connected, cross-domain solutions from a single source. The Bosch Group's strategic objective is to deliver innovations for a connected life. Bosch improves quality of life worldwide with products and services that are innovative and spark enthusiasm. In short, Bosch creates technology that is "Invented for life." The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its roughly 440 subsidiaries and regional companies in some 60 countries. Including sales and service partners, Bosch's global manufacturing and sales network covers nearly every country in the world. The basis for the company's future growth is its innovative strength. At 120 locations across the globe, Bosch employs some 59,000 associates in research and development.

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