

- Prof. Dr.-Ing. Frank Will
- Volker Waurich
- TU Dresden – Endowed Chair of Construction Machinery

Perspectives of a Connected and Automated Construction Site

18th October 2021

6th international VDI Conference - Connected Off-Highway Machines

Outline

- 1 TU Dresden Endowed Chair of Construction Machinery**
- 2 Research goals in construction machinery**
- 3 Wireless communication systems for construction sites**
- 4 Automation and model based operation**
- 5 Research project „Bauen 4.0“**

TU Dresden – Endowed Chair of Construction Machinery

TU Dresden - Endowed Chair of Construction Machinery

- 32,000 students
- 17 faculties
 - Faculty of Mechanical Engineering
 - Institute of Mechatronic Engineering
 - Endowed Chair of Construction Machinery
- ~ 20 employees
- Mechanical workshop, machinery (excavators, wheel loaders, roller, concrete pump, etc.), test area

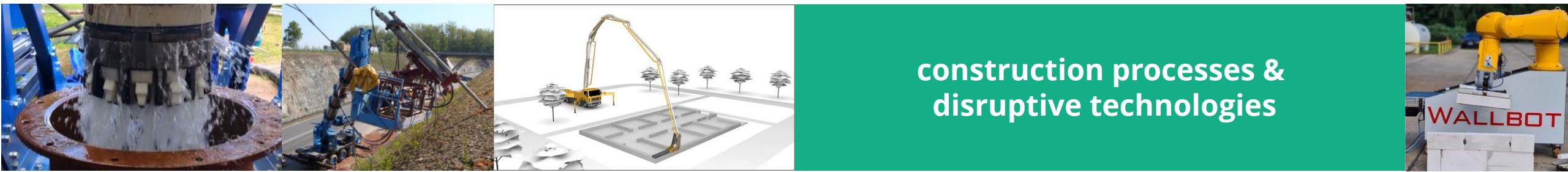


<https://tu-dresden.de/ing/maschinenwesen/imd/bm>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/tudresden-baumaschinen/>

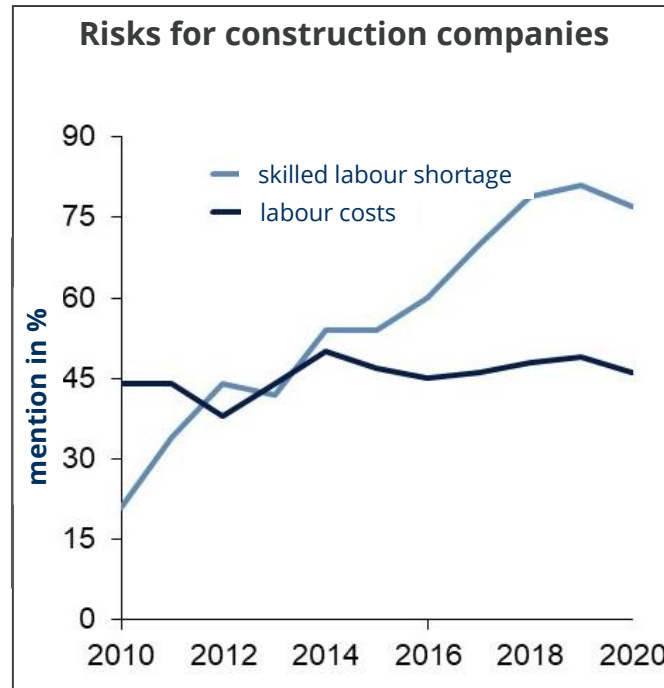
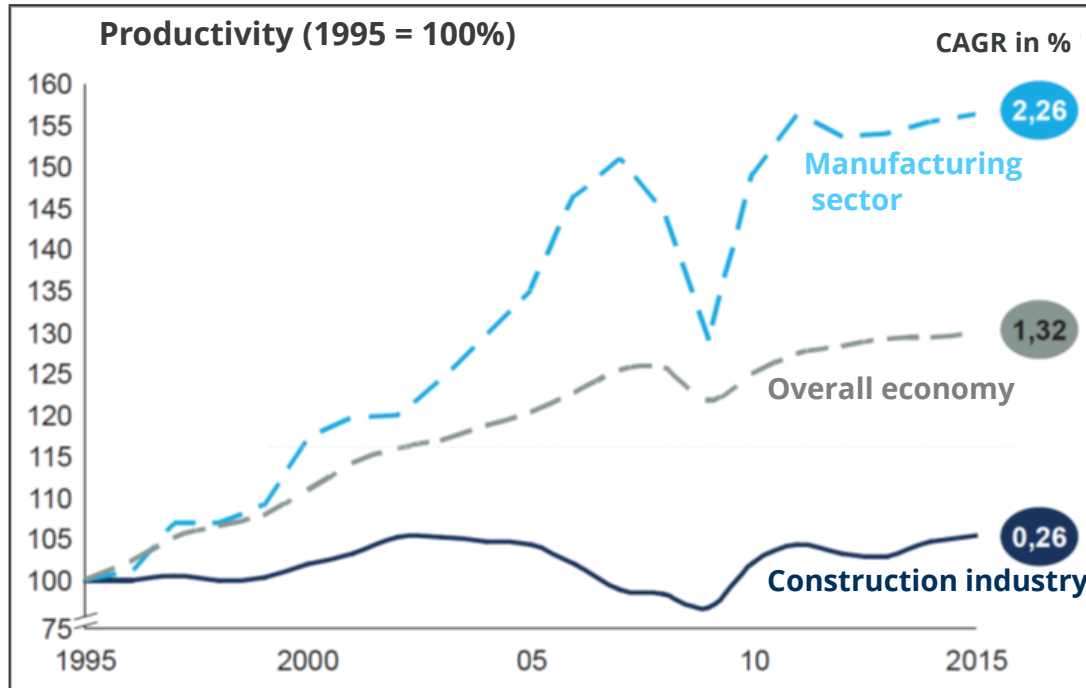


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Research Goals in Construction Machinery

Challenges in Construction Industry



- Stagnating productivity growth
- Lack of (skilled) labour
- Increasing administrative effort (documentation, regulations)
- Fragmented industry (prime contractor – subcontractor)
- Low level of digitalization

1) Sebastian Stern, Gernot Strube, Carsten Lotz, André Kutz: Infrastruktur & Wohnen: Deutsche Ausbauziele in Gefahr (Studie). McKinsey & Company, 2018

2) https://www.bauindustrie.de/zahlen-fakten/bauwirtschaft-im-zahlenbild/fachkraeftemangel_bwz/ / 25.03.2021

3) https://www.bauindustrie.de/zahlen-fakten/bauwirtschaft-im-zahlenbild/beschftigung-und-arbeitslosigkeit-im-bauhauptgewerbe_bwz/ / 25.03.2021

Trends in Construction Machinery Industry

Model based construction

- BIM, GIS, DTM
- 3d-machine control systems
- As-built documentation



Connectivity

- Tracking/tracing
- Fleet-management systems
- Machine2machine communication

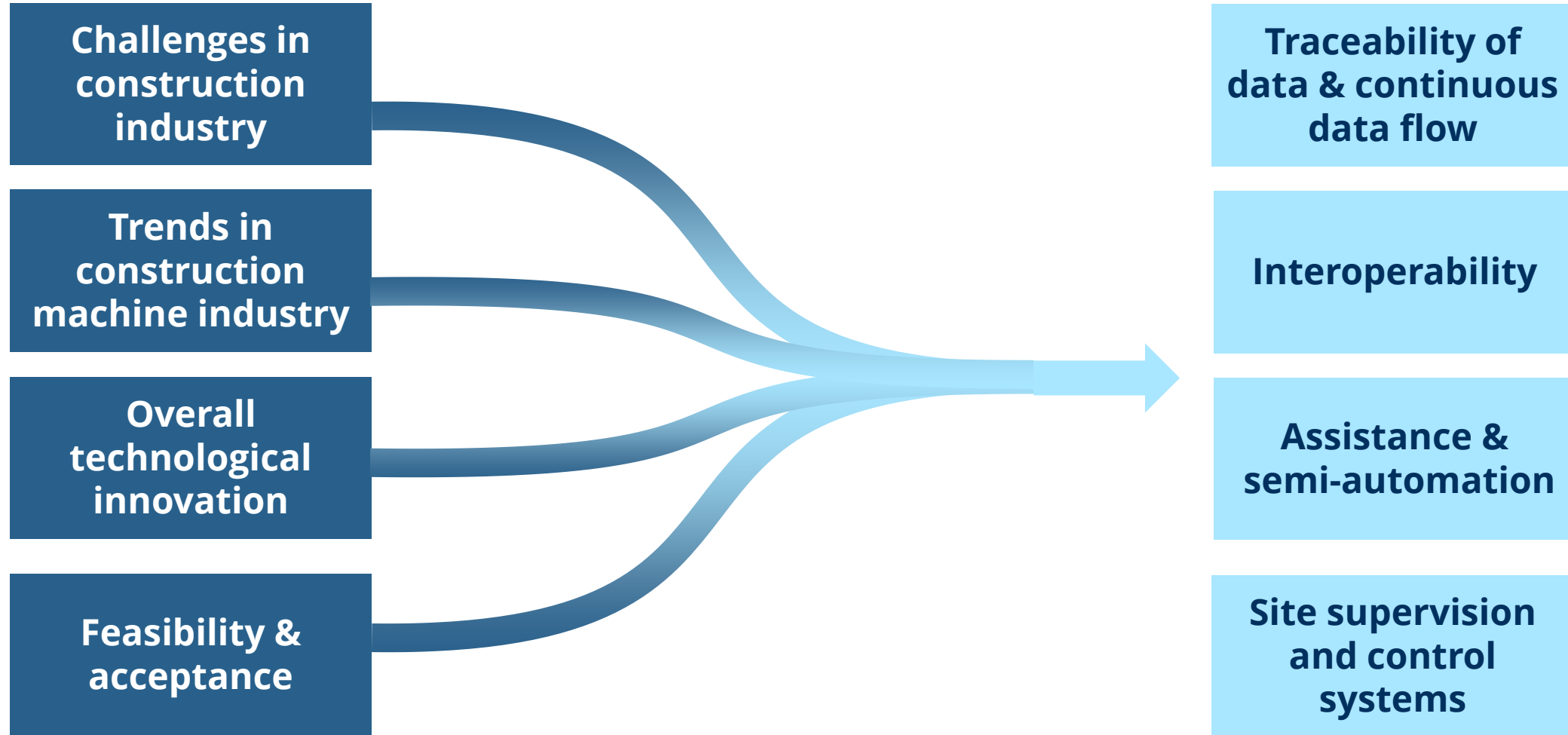
Automation

- Assistance/automation/autonomy
- Sensor technology
- AI, digital services



1) www.gestrata.at/images/2016/BIM5DimVerkehrswegebauErsteAnstzeundErfahrungenDipl.Ing.JensHoffmann.pdf (14.05.2020)
 2) https://www.mts-online.de/uploads/tx_owlslider/digitale-baustelle-mts-navi-600x4007.jpg
 3) https://insideunmannedsystems.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/3-Drone_Mapping_-_Windover_Construction_at_FMUV_Project.jpg
 4) www.baumaschinendienst.de/artikel/immer-unter-voller-kontrolle-8891/galerie-8907/4/ 28.06.2020
 5) https://www.vemcon.de/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/VMC_Toolmanagement_03.jpg
 6) www.wirtgen-group.com/de-de/news-und-media/hamm/autonome-walzen/ 21.03.2021
 7) Philipp Woock, Nina F. Heide, Daniel Kühn: Robotersysteme für die Dekontamination in menschenfeindlichen Umgebungen. 16. Leipziger Deponiefachtagung, 2020

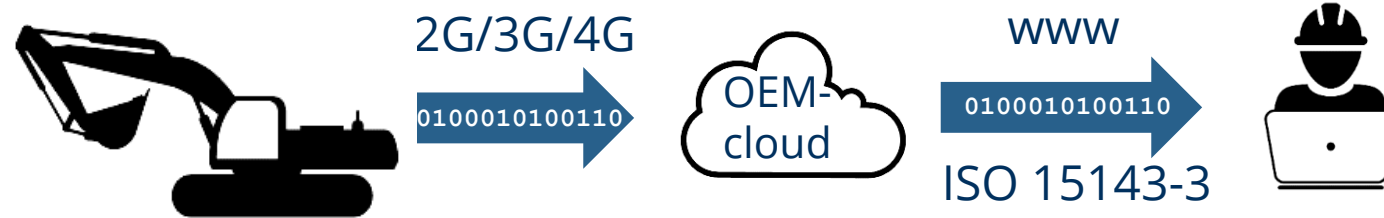
Medium-Term Development Goals



Wireless Communication Systems

State of the Art of Machine Communication on Site

- Fleet management



- V2V / shared map



- V2V/ anti collision system



V2V...vehicle to vehicle

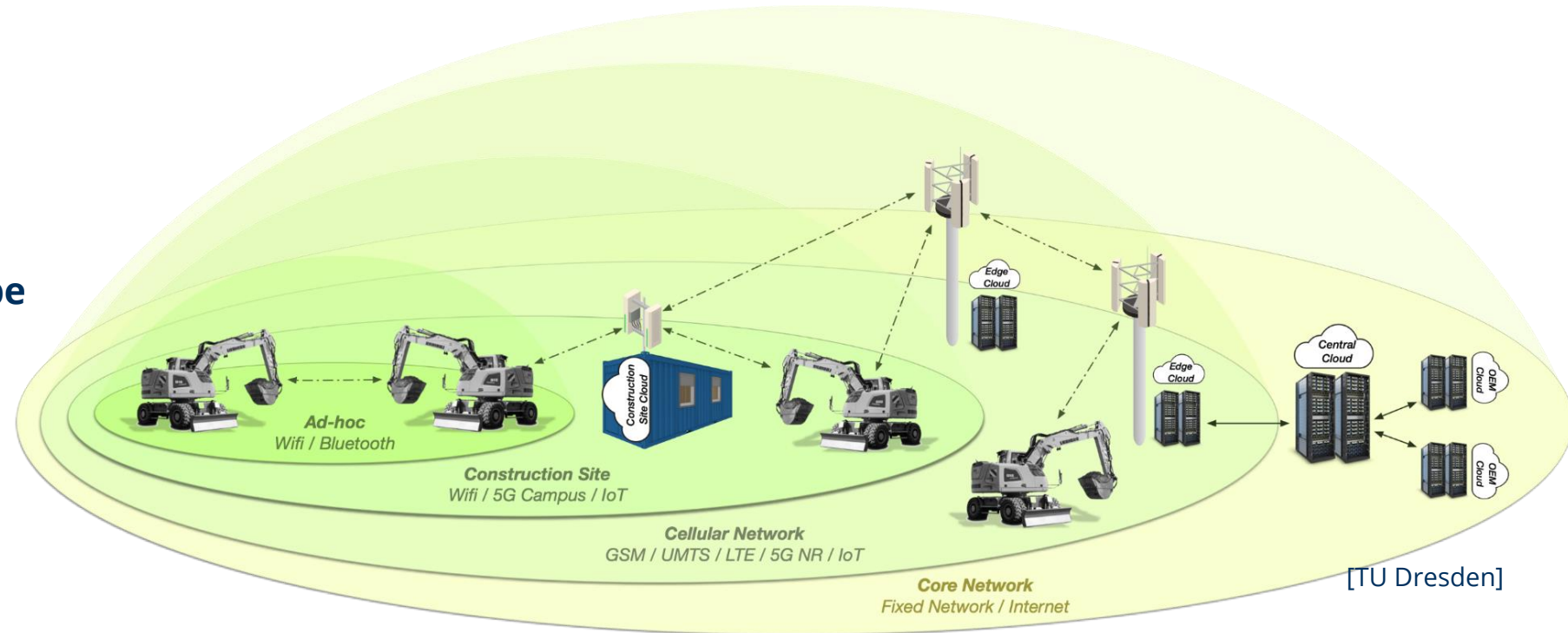
Requirements for on-site connectivity

- **Use-case specific connectivity:**

- Data rate
- # of participants
- Latency
- Coverage
- Private infrastructure
- Energy consumption

- **Construction site scope**

- LPWAN
- 5G Campus



Spatial scope

Low-Power Wide-Area-Network (LPWAN)

Characteristics:

- Low-power
- Mid range (>1km) & penetration
- Cheap
- Low datarates (100bps-200kbps)

Use-case:

- Battery-driven trackers for materials & tools
- Low-cost sensor networks (e.g. concrete sensor, environmental sensors)



1)



2)



3)



4)



5)

1) https://www.ingenieur.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/2021_08_30_Industrie4.0_Bild_01-980x490.jpg

2) https://www.paschal.de/dokumente/deutsch/Flyer/Produktinfo_Maturix_de.pdf?m=1633596466

3) https://www.sigfox.com/sites/default/files/2017-01/Sigfox_Logo_RGB.png

4) <https://www.lora-wan.de/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/lora-sharing-image.jpg>

5) <https://pycom.io/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/LTE-M.png>

5G Cellular Network

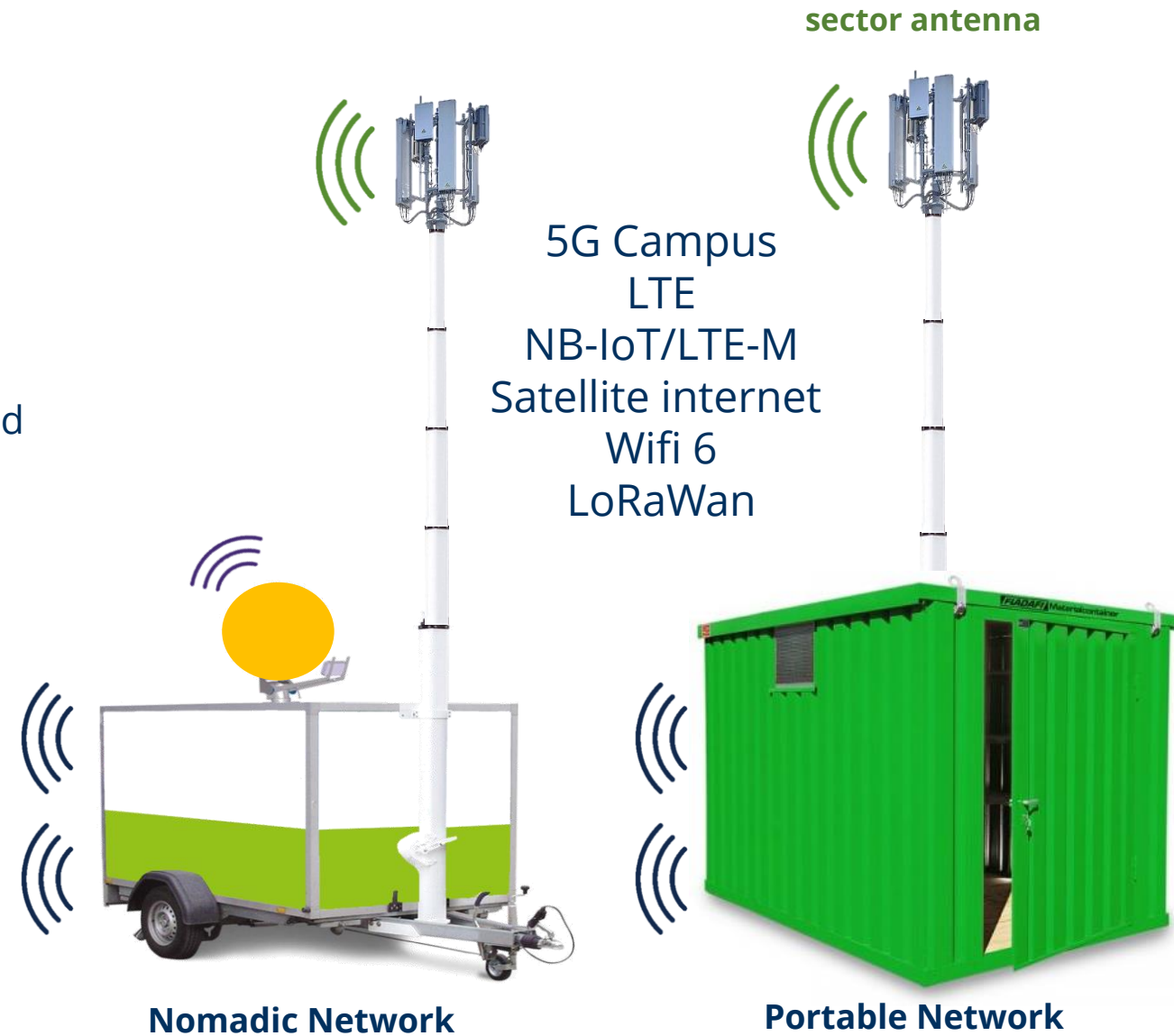
5G technology features a vast portfolio of communication technology.

Construction site relevant features:

- 5G Campus Networks
 - High performance, privacy, security, resource and user management
- Local Edge Computing
 - On site data processing
- Network Slicing
 - Network virtualization, use case specific profiles (uRLLC, mMTC, eMBB)

Use cases:

- Site-information system / MES
- Tele-remote operation



Automation and Model Based Operation

State of the Art of Automated Construction Machines

- Major Development Tasks for Automated Machines:

hydraulic and
drive control

work process &
machine sensing

safety & collision
detection

trajectory
planning & work
strategy

data interface
and
communication

- Assistance Systems → Partial Automation → High Automation → Full Automation



- Costs vs. Complexity
- How to operate partial and fully automated machinery?

1) https://img.forconstructionpros.com/files/base/acbm/fcp/image/2015/11/Cat_GRADE_with_ASSIST_on_HEX__C10686759.56547ba25e84f.png?auto=format%2Ccompress&q=70

2) <https://www.smh.com.au/business/companies/no-one-behind-the-wheel-the-new-workforce-driving-australia-s-mines-20190411-p51dd2.html>

3) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2tDf1p8OHik>

4) <https://www.ivtinternational.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/volvo-ce-unveils-cx01-2324x1200.jpeg>

How to operate automated construction machines?

- Who operates/orchestrates automated machines?
- User interface?
- Digital models? Standards? Interoperability?



→ Site management system

- realtime supervision
- scheduling
- distribution
- control functionalities
- productivity and quality reports
- interfaces to design & project management
- interfaces to machinery and tools



1) https://img.forconstructionpros.com/files/base/acbm/fcp/image/2020/05/FORT_Robotics_Remote_Control_Construction_5ec3e8e21d3a8.png?auto=format&fit=max&w=1440

2) https://img.freepik.com/free-photo/driving-worker-heavy-wheeled-tractor-workers-drive-orders-through-tablet-wheel-loader-excavator-with-backhoe-unloading-sand-works-construction-site_61243-578.jpg?size=626&ext=jpg

3) <https://cdn1.vogel.de/unsafe/540x0/smart/images.vogel.de/vogelonline/bdb/291900/291989/original.jpg>

4) <https://www.produktion.de/assets/images/8/fertigung-5881c228.jpg>

5) <https://c0.wallpaperflare.com/preview/683/530/574/site-demolition-work-demolition-excavators.jpgpgg>

Joint Research Project „Bauen 4.0“

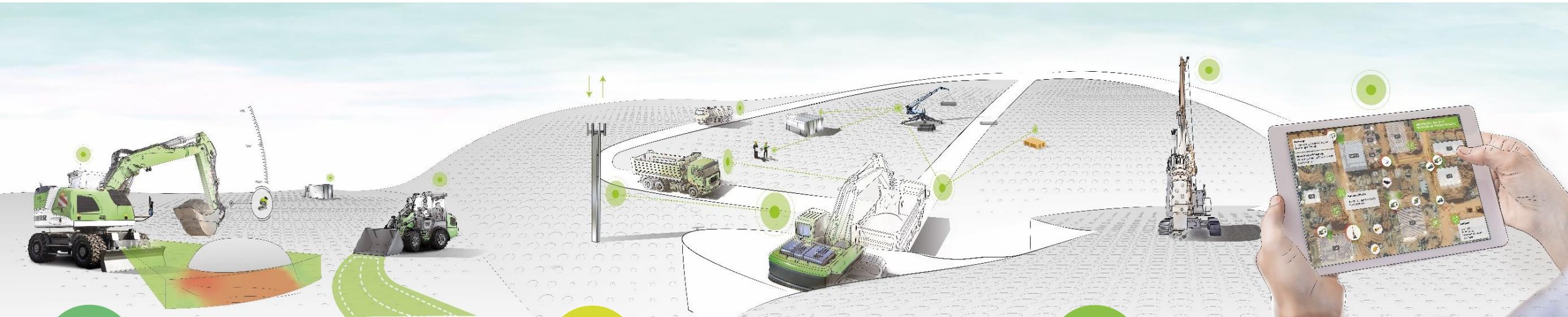
Project partners and organizational framework

Facts and Figures:

- Funding BMBF – INKOWE program
- Duration July 2019 – December 2022
- 22 industrial partners, 2 universities
- Accompanied by various associations
- Total costs 10 Mio. € / 5,0 Mio. € funding



The main topics



Automated, connected mobile machines

- Automation
- Assistance functions
- Remote control
- Environment recognition
- Vertical Integration



5G machine and construction site connectivity

- Connectivity Solutions
- Cloud Technologies
- Reliable and secure data exchange



Processes and solutions for the digital construction site

- Tracking & Tracing
- Simulation of construction processes
- BIM to BIMsite
- Driver guidance system 4.0

Demonstrators in the project



Automated, connected mobile machines



5G machine and construction site connectivity



Processes and solutions for the digital construction site

Vertical Integration via OPC UA

- Automated digging
- Remote operation
- Detection "as built" state



- Automated driving
- Environment recognition



- Automated processes



- Semi-automated load cycle



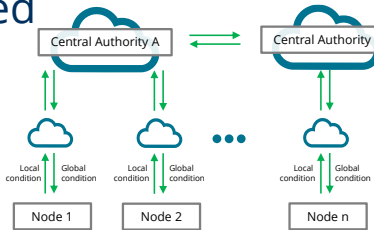
- Multi-Connectivity module: WiFi, 5G, 4G, BLE...



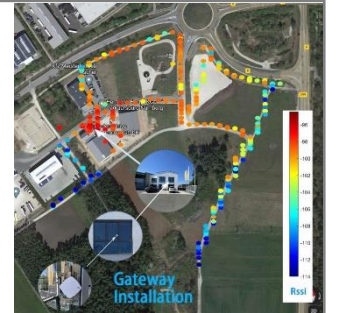
- Construction Site Networks: WiFi, 5G Campus



- Distributed Cloud Services



- Tracking & Tracing of Material via LPWAN



- Process optimization and progress prediction using simulation and machine data (e.g. with ISO 15143-3 data via OPC UA)

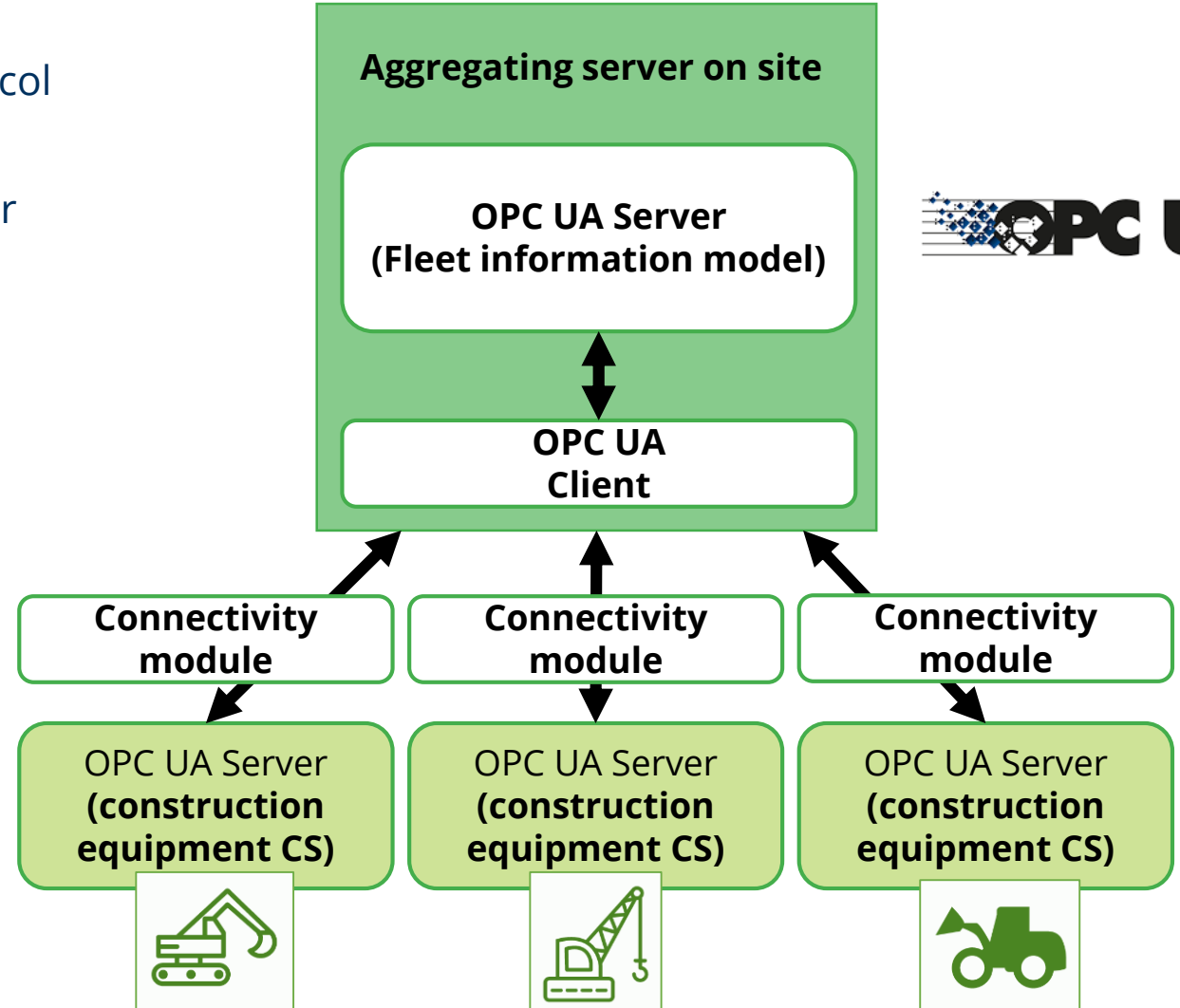
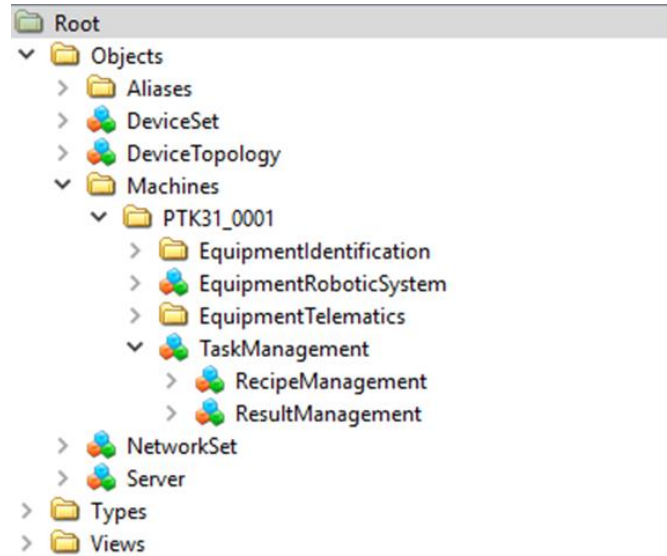


- AR-based driver assistance: Visualization via HoloLens



Machine interface development

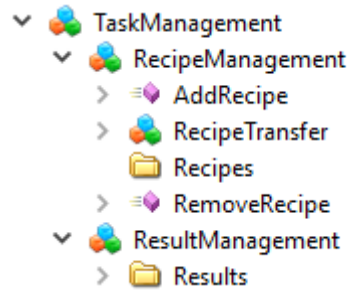
- **OPC-UA** data model and communication protocol
- Specification of **interoperable data models** for construction equipment
 - machine identification
 - telematic data
 - kinematic data & robotic interface
 - task-management



1) <https://assets.new.siemens.com/siemens/assets/api/uuid:9cf74b3b-9e83-4789-a816-279fc3b0319d/width:1125/quality:high/opc-ua-foundation-logo.png>

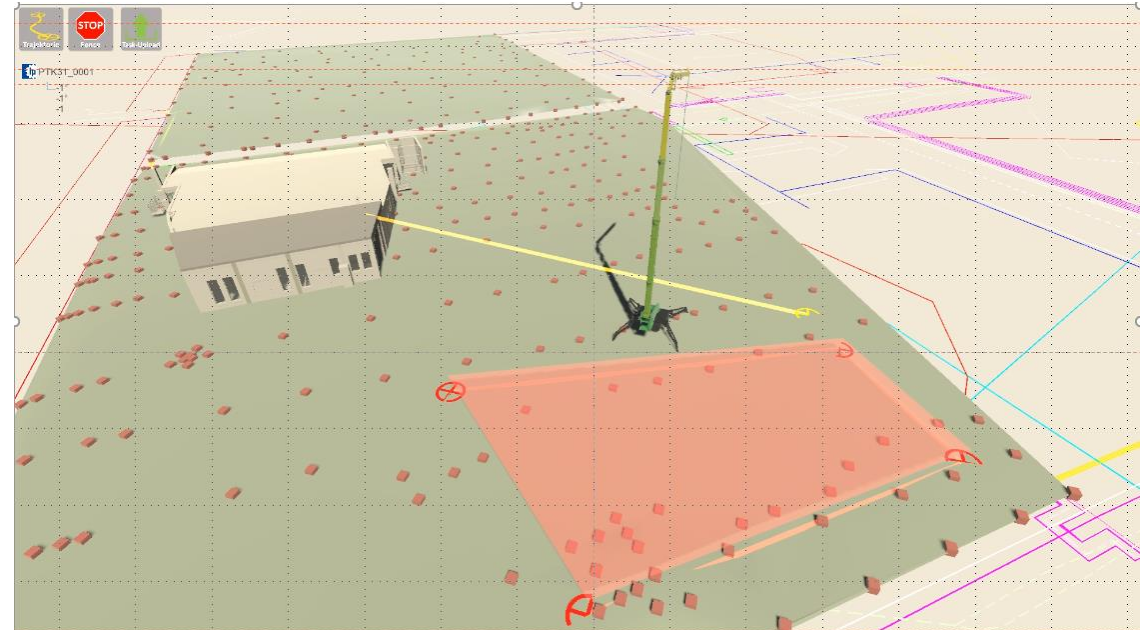
Task-Management

- Mission data is submitted via OPC-UA file transfer



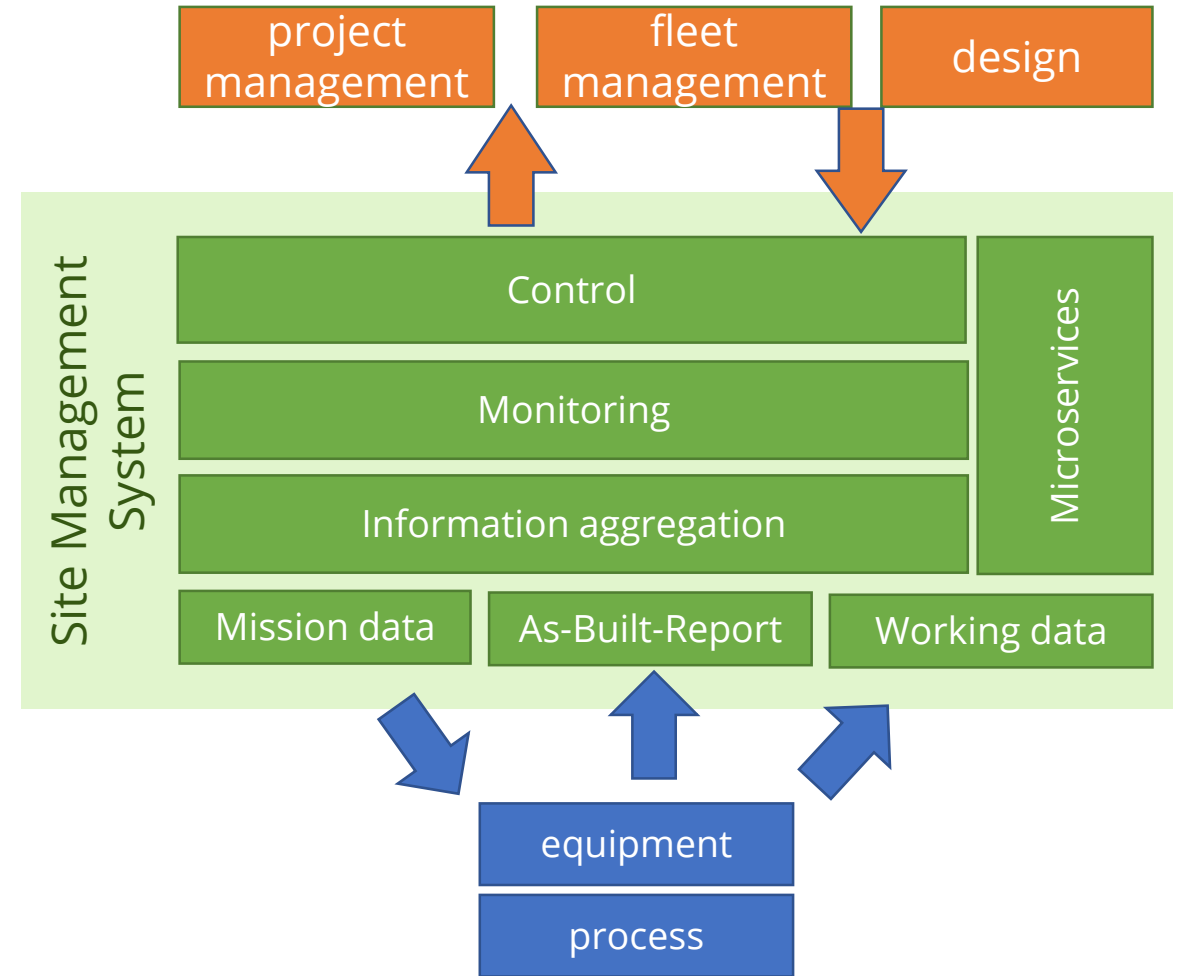
- Topographic mission data in annotated LandXML
In accordance with ISO 15143-4

- Automation specific annotations
 - Geofences
 - Trajectories
 - Tracks
 - Dump areas
 - Target geometry



Site Management System

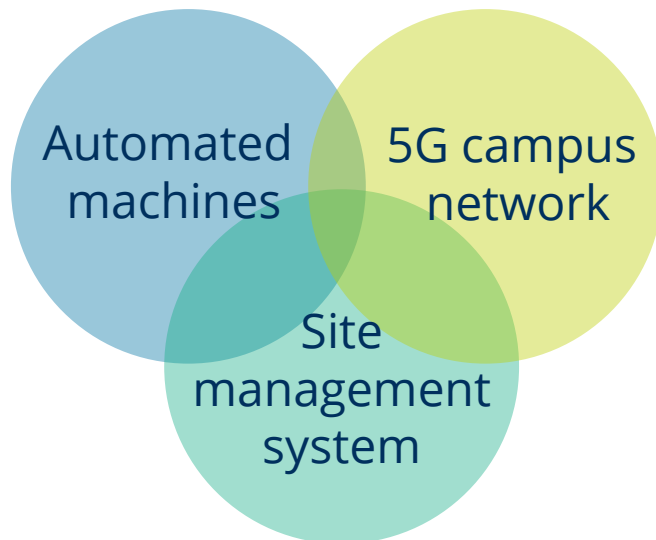
- Central information and management instance on site
- Server infrastructure on premise
- OPC-UA interfaces to all machines
- Edge-cloud and microservice architecture to implement 3rd party apps
 - realtime information system
 - shared map
 - scheduling
 - project management and report generation
 - process simulation
- 5G-campus / Wifi Mesh network



Summary and Outlook

- Initial operation of automated machines has started
- Tender for 5G Campus hardware is in progress
- Site information system is WIP
- 5G – unit prototypes are deployed

Autumn 2022: Bauen 4.0 final event



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**Thank you
for your attention.**

Kontakt

Volker Waurich

✉ volker.waurich@tu-dresden.de