



## LIS for Nigeria – 10 Years of »experience«

g.on experience has been active in Nigeria for close to ten years. The various projects have been realized in order to implement a digital cadastre and land register in the country. On-site working conditions clearly differ from those in Europe.

We are talking to Roland Klaus, project manager in Nigeria for the past ten years. Mister Klaus, can you tell us about the beginning of your cooperation with g.on?

RK: Starting from 2003, the first project, Abuja Geographic Information System (AGIS), was carried out by Julius Berger Nigeria PLC. As a construction company, they were lacking expertise in geography and geo informatics. That's how Hansa Luftbild came into play, who were in touch with g.on.

You have been working with g.on for quite a while. What do you like?

RK: Well, I admit that their competence and flexibility impressed me from day one, in a way. Among other things, they developed an entire computer aided cadastre and land register for the Federal Capital Territory – along with a data model, migration from very heterogeneous data sources, business

logics and GUI. Some kind of mammoth task! The fact, that they found qualified staff that was willing to stay on site for many months, also struck me. For the work place Nigeria it is not at all a matter of course, as Europeans first have to familiarize with the local work conditions. Therefore, it was only a consequence to continue working with g.on in later projects, such as AACTRIS (Accelerated Area Councils Titles Re-issuance Scheme, some kind of enhancement of AGIS) and NAGIS (Nasarawa Geographic Information Service) Maybe, there is yet another one to come.

What are the projects about?

RK: Mainly, the topic is the digitization and homogenization of Nigeria's cadastre and land register. In addition, data and tools are centrally developed and provided. Among others for the responsible administration offices. Of course,

the central topic in all projects is the knowledge transfer from our experts to Nigerian employees. We don't want nor are we allowed to leave a gap once we finish our mission. With AGIS, it worked out very well. The authority turned out to be among the leading geo- and IT competence centers in West Africa. With NAGIS, the impact lies even more on establishing some kind of service culture for the customers – generally the land tenants. One of the major obstacles to receive official land use permits along with legal security was the immense effort in time and money that was to be invested. This is a worldwide phenomenon, by the way.

What are the reasons for this? What do you think?

RK: Partly, there is a lack of optimized workflows but also quite often, unfortunately, corruption within authorities in

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## Editorial

### Dear Readers,

As a forward-looking company, sometimes we also look back with pride on what we achieved. After nearly ten years of engagement in Western Africa, we are glad to publish an interview with the GIS specialist Roland Klaus, talking about the current status of the Land Information System for the Nigerian capital Abuja. g.on experts have always been actively participating in the development and implementation of the system.

Of course, we also inform you about latest developments of our geoportal aimPort and provide useful updates that will shortly be at the disposal of our users.

MIBRAG is yet another operator of open brown coal pits opting for our aimPort portal. But also the airport user group is growing. A fact that helped us decide to participate as a first-time exhibitor at inter airport europe in 2015.

Gossip column: Not only the aimPort user family is continuously growing but also the families of our employees. But see for yourself.

Enjoy reading.

Uwe Meyer

### Impressum

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charge. Frequently, there are problems due to missing surveying data or disputable ownerships. Now, we were able to cut waiting times for certificates from sometimes more than 20 years down to just a few weeks. With our work, we continue to improve the situation and are very proud of what we have achieved already.

**Could the IT-related challenges be compared to those within European LIS/GIS-projects?**

RK: Of course not, this is a different background. Due to trade restrictions, there is a minimum choice of hard- and software. Good IT staff is hard to find, that's why a lot of time goes into in-depth instruction and training. However, every hour is worth it.

There is no way to influence the availability of energy and infrastructure. We constantly need an own generator, as energy is missing between 10 and 12 hours a day. Due to local market conditions, highly reliable internet



**Where are the g.on employees now? Is the situation too unstable?**

RK: In the current project situation there is no immediate demand for on-site support. Of course, the back office in Muenster continues supporting us.

**Why is the g.on aimPort geoportal not part of your projects?**

RK: We don't use it here, unfortunately. aimPort is based on Oracle databases. The public sector in general does not approve investments in costly licenses,



Roland Klaus handing out the first land certificate created with NAGIS to Chief Edwin Obi Ezu from Lafia.

connections with high bandwidth are extremely costly, but a basic requirement for us.

**Did the projects help improve Nigeria's economic situation?**

RK: That's hard to tell. What we do know, however, is that the official ownership certificates provide legal security for the land use and are the prerequisite for credit approvals. The high demand for them shows that many businesses are being supported by our activities. Also the traffic and energy infrastructure has improved by means of AGIS. Yes, I think that we were able to contribute our share.

the basis for using aimPort. A fact we regret very much: There is a high demand for a web portal solution among our clients, especially in order to further improve services for citizens.

**Could your solution also be used in other African countries?**

RK: As a matter of principle, yes. The ISO standard »Land Administration Model« (LADM) and our LIS differ only marginally. Thanks to the generic character of the LIS, it could always be adapted to the requirements of other countries. To answer your question: Theoretically yes. Of course, as always, it depends on the circumstances.



# News from aimPort\_Modules

## What's new? What's in the Pipeline?

With Modules aimPort users get a tailor-made solution for their business sector and individual processes. Modules provide aimPort with the final touch of premium comfort! What's best: Here, the individual solution is at the same time the inexpensive one. That's because of the maintenance costs. They are reduced to the users actual needs instead of being influenced by the power of a comprehensive package solution, whose functionality will never be exploited in its full capacity.

Let us briefly introduce the new modules as well as those in beta phase:

[aimPort\\_ElasticSearch](#) is a module for full text search, allowing general queries for distinct objects, e.g. »car rental«, »bicycle rack«, etc. You may also configure the query to access different data sources. In addition to databases, users can include content from documents in the file system. Chose between the display of single hits or different hits at a time.

[aimPort\\_ResultList](#) not only displays the result of a search or selection in a map, but also in a tabular hit list below the map window. Comfortable: As both windows are interacting, objects can be selected in the hit list as well as in the map. The module also allows editing attributes and objects directly in the table. This way, the user can edit one or more attributes of all selected objects of an object class. Mandatory fields as well as the use of rating lists can be configured according to individual requirements.

[aimPort\\_CAFMView](#) is used to select and visualize floor levels, building sectors in the floor plan and the respective CAFM objects.

The module completes the existing CAFM in order to display this information in aimPort according to users demands.

It is not meant to replace an existing CAFM. The adapted view (e.g. rotation of a building part) and an own theme control facilitates to access and process CAFM objects.

[aimPort\\_UniqueStyles](#) allows user individual style adaption by avoiding complex and cost-intensive configuration.

[aimPort\\_LiveStream](#) visualizes live data. For example, it lets you integrate vehicle positioning data online into a map display. aimPort will display a status change of an asset part immediately during the web session.



Processing site Deuben

(Press photo MIBRAG,Source: Rainer Weisflog)

[MIBRAG \(Mitteldeutsche Braunkohlegesellschaft mbH\) is the second out of the three largest operators of open brown coal pits in Germany who decided in favor of the aimPort geoportal.](#)

## MIBRAG: Increasing number of aimPort Users

After a pilot phase, MIBRAG opted for aimPort. They will use our software for the administration of their real estate, infrastructure and technical assets. Having finished the system integration, MIBRAG started transferring existing data into the system: Orthophotos, data about the actual land use as well as about polluted areas and waste deposits are migrated into the new system. The same applies for branch-specific processes like the management of mining damages, the documentation of the open pit development or a plot order system. In the medium term, MIBRAG plans to use aimPort for visualizing excavators (position, orientation and current state of the surface) as well as dump cadastre (sections, filling material). We are going to watch the development and keep you posted.





## g.on Baby-Boom

Germans often complain about decreasing birth rates. Our colleagues do their best to improve the average.

Two years ago, we introduced two of them, when both got married within the same period. In the pictures above, taken in November 2014, the result is twelve (Benjamin Grüning) and ten months (Hanna Ehm) old. The Artmeiers and the Ostkamps haven't been lingering either. They are fielding their offsprings Jacob (five months) and Theo (six weeks). We arranged a special kiddy shooting on our premises, rewarded by full throated yelling and howling. Not the best day for silent working hours in our offices.

Family balloons clockwise: Eva and Nils Ostkamp with Theo (upper left), Britta and Cord Artmeier with Jacob, Oliver and Vanessa Ehm with Hanna, Inga and Dominik Grüning with Benjamin

## 4th aimPort User Meeting in June 2015

Get prepared for Wednesday, June 17 and Thursday, June 18, 2015: You are invited to join the forth aimPort User Meeting in Muenster, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germanys secret geoportal capital.

Whether you couldn't make it to Muenster last year or you just wish to come back: Be sure, it's worth the trip. Sigrid Meyer, our event manager already started planning the meeting.

Right after the last user meeting, we have been talking with some of the participants. Their comments will replace a formal event review.

Peter Buhn from Cologne-Bonn Airport joined us for the 2nd time: »It somehow reminds me of a family meeting. You know each other and always go home with a valuable momentum.«

Lothar Ofenloch from BASF SE in Ludwigshafen has been a speaker himself in 2011:

»I like the mixture of technical subjects and user experiences. It makes you look beyond your own nose and at the same time, you get to know the people behind the g.on phone numbers.«

Wolfgang Haller, Munich International Airport, is not aimPort user and first-time attendant: »Along with the many conversations with other airport users, the huge amount of technical informa-

tion was very useful for me. All g.on experts could be interviewed throughout the breaks. Just like at a trade show – but more relaxed!«

Also Klaus Schmitz from Henkel AG & Co. KG in Düsseldorf attended for the first time: »Personally, I appreciated most the presentations of the aimPort users. They provided suggestions on how to use aimPort applications as yet another way to meet concrete challenges. We will stay in touch and keep us up-to-date.«



Photo: Presseamt Münster/Angelika Klausner

Sounds good? Soon as all speakers have been invited, we will distribute the detailed program. In the meantime, please save the date in your agenda!



## g.on at Exhibitions 2015

**In addition to our User Meeting in June, you will meet us at two trade shows in the course of this year.** g.on has been exhibiting at **CeBIT** in **Hanover** for the past couple of years and we continue doing so. Meet us from **March 16 to 20, 2015** at the joint stand of the Department of Commerce of North Rhine-Westphalia in hall 6, stand H18. [www.cebit.de](http://www.cebit.de)

Due to the increasing number of airport operators among aimPort users, we will be first-time exhibitors at **inter airport europe** in October. The bi-annual trade show is going to take place in Munich, from **October 6 to 9, 2015**. [www.interairport.com](http://www.interairport.com)

**Looking forward to your visit!!**