

Bert Bosseler appointed “Privatdozent” by University of Hanover

Scientific head of IKT awarded full lecturer’s licence for “Underground drain, sewer and conduit engineering”

Dr.-Ing. Bert Bosseler has been appointed to a superior lectureship (German “Privatdozentur”) at the Leibniz University of Hanover, and has been awarded the full academic lecturer’s licence, the so-called *venia legendi* (including the right to supervise PhD students), for “Underground Drain, Sewer and Conduit Engineering”. The qualified civil engineer’s principal occupation since 2000 has been as the scientific head of the IKT – Institute for Underground Infrastructure (www.ikt.de); the IKT Supervisory Board has voted Bert Bosseler its special recognition, and granted him power of procuration with sole signature rights.

Following his inaugural lecture in late October 2010, Bosseler received his academic certificate from Prof. Dr.-Ing. Udo Nackenhorst, Dean of Studies of the university’s Faculty of Civil Engineering and Geodesics. Bosseler (43) now becomes a member of this faculty, in the capacity of “Privatdozent”, and will exercise his lecturer’s licence as a subsidiary activity alongside his primary responsibilities as scientific head of the IKT in Gelsenkirchen.

Comparative product assessment

Bert Bosseler’s professorial thesis, “Testing and evaluation of products and procedures for the construction and maintenance of underground drains, sewers and conduits”, is based on his comprehensive activities and experience he has gained from his research work at the IKT and

also, since the winter term of 2006/2007, as a supernumerary lecturer at the Institute for Geotechnical Engineering (IGtH) at the Leibniz University of Hanover. The professorial thesis was assessed by Prof. Dr.-Ing. Martin Achmus (Hanover), Prof. Dr.-Ing. Jörg Londong (Weimar) and Prof. Dr.-Ing. Markus Thewes (Bochum).

In his professorial thesis, Bosseler elaborates the processes and capabilities necessary for the substantiated, transparent and comparative assessment of various products and procedures. He



PD Dr.-Ing. Bert Bosseler

then develops a system for the validation of test and evaluation concepts and, simultaneously, for the identification of development perspectives. The scientific benefits of this newly developed and systematic descriptive concept are convincingly documented via the analysis of existing test and inspection concepts.



Priv.-Doz. Dr.-Ing. Bert Bosseler during his inaugural lecture, “Underground drain, sewer and conduit engineering”, in Hanover

Practical significance for investment decisions

The work is also of importance for practical purposes, since the construction and maintenance of underground drains, sewers and conduits involve high investment risks. System operators encounter uncertainties with respect, inter alia, to the quality of the products and procedures used. In most cases, only information provided by manufacturers is available to the relevant decision-makers for evaluation of product and procedure characteristics. Only the minimum requirements concerning occupational health and safety, environmental safety and basic civil-engineering suitability are presently covered by legal provisions and approvals.

IKT research and product tests as the basis

Against this background, Bosseler analysed the testing and evaluation of products and procedures on the basis of the IKT's own research, testing and product test projects. This work was financed primarily from third-party funds, provided by the environment ministry of the German state of NRW, by Germany's "Bundesstiftung Umwelt" federal environmental foundation (DBU) and by municipal system operators.

Neutrality and impartiality

An overall survey illustrates that there are numerous diverse correlations between the institutions and decision-makers involved in testing



Reading of Bosseler's academic certificate by Prof. Dr.-Ing. Udo Nackenhorst (Dean of Studies of the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Geodesics at the Leibniz University of Hanover)

and evaluation, that the individual tasks necessitate greatly differing capabilities, and that the aspects of neutrality and impartiality, and also understanding of the backgrounds of decision-making processes, all play an important role.

Bosseler's professorial thesis for the first time describes these correlations in a systematic manner, and thus provides the scientists and inspecting engineers involved in test, inspection and evaluation work in underground drain, sewer and conduit engineering with illustrative orientation for handling of these complex topics.

Prüfung und Bewertung von Produkten und Verfahren zum Bau und zur Instandhaltung unterirdischer Kanäle und Leitungen, Habilitationsschrift by Dr.-Ing. Bert Bosseler, published (in German only) as Volume 70 of the Proceedings of the Institute for Geotechnical Engineering (IGtH), Leibniz University of Hanover. Nominal fee: 15 Euro e-mail: info@igth.uni-hannover.de

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neutral
independent
non-profit institute



IKT - Institute for Underground Infrastructure

ABOUT IKT



IKT - Institute for Underground Infrastructure is a research, consultancy and testing institute specialized in the field of sewers. It is neutral and independent and operates on a non-profit basis. It is oriented towards practical applications and works on issues surrounding underground pipe construction. Its key focus is centred on sewage systems. IKT provides scientifically backed analysis and advice.

IKT has been established in 1994 as a spin-off from Bochum University, Germany.

The initial funding for setting up the institute has been provided by the Ministry for the Environment of the State of North-Rhine Westphalia, Germany's largest federal state.

However, IKT is not owned by the Government. Its owners are two associations which are again non-profit organizations of their own:

- a) IKT-Association of Network Operators:**
Members are more than 120 cities, among them Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne and London (Thames Water). They hold together 66.6% of IKT.
- b) IKT-Association of Industry and Service:**
Members are more than 60 companies. They hold together 33.3% of IKT.

You can find information on projects and services at:
www.ikt.de



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