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THE BUREAU OF DEFENCE

CULTURAL HERITAGE
IN THE FACE OF THREATS
IN WAR AND PEACE TIME

PATRONAGE — THE GENERAL DIRECTOR OF UNESCO

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Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome in the National Library!

I have an honour to welcome the host of this event – as I am only the host of this place – Mr Ryszard Mikliński, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Culture, General Conservator of Monuments, and Chairman of the Organizing Committee. Welcome, Mr Minister!

Ladies and Gentlemen, we are in the Polish National Library, a place both real and symbolic. Its reality consists of the millions of books, journals, maps, illustrations collected here by the previous and following generations. Its symbolic dimension is built on an awareness, that we collect a heritage not only of the Poles, not only of our neighbours, but that this is a living monument of reflection over a human being, and over the relation “me vs. the other, my nation, my culture, other nations, and other cultures”, “me vs. national culture, religious community, and those of identity different than mine”.

Nowhere but in a library numerous proofs of our homo sapiens, sapiens of aggression, but also of our human ability to peaceful cooperation can be found.

Ladies and Gentlemen, honourable guests – you are in a place where the Polish national identity meets pan-European values without any conflict.
Generally speaking, the Polish National Library is a great home of our Polish identity, but identity opened also for the others, not Polish-centred. It’s one of the important places of Europe, Europe not limited to modern – still new – UE boundaries, but embracing also the whole continent, not-Euro-centred – let’s say. As a Polish writer and – for 6 years – director of this unique institution, I am honoured to host you.

Ladies and Gentlemen, let me invite you to the expositions prepared especially for this conference: “War as the largest threat for the cultural heritage – Poland 1939-1945”, and “Conservation of library collections destroyed by the flood – Poland 1997”. Both of them have been prepared by the National Library. General Director of State Archives has prepared an exposition “Lost memory – destructs from the Polish archives’ collections”, also our Croatian colleagues prepared special presentation.

And now I would like to invite Mr Ryszard Miklinski, and ask him to open the conference.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Transl. MK
BIS MACHINE.
AUTHORS’ SOLUTION

INTRODUCTION

Society and individuals care for the monuments and cultural property heritage is, today more than ever before, a picture of attitude toward our own and world cultural identity. Inherited traditional material values, managed by us on behalf of our and forthcoming generations represent stamina of the national, artistic and other creative formation being a composite of nation spirit and time.

Quality monuments heritage management is the question of maintaining spiritual substance of nation and climate. However, it is, at the same time, concern for numerous space elements being an interests focus i.e. aim of sightseeing, visits as well as researches of experts, guests, tourists and ordinary citizens. Modern and profitable tourism is today developed in countries, cities and regions characterized by large and numerous objects of ancient times, Middle Age, Renaissance and other periods. Centres of artistic creation, museums, galleries, castles, shrines, treasuries of artistic property and many other facilities of artistic heritage became generators of millions of tourist migrations and visits. Some cities, apart from significant tourism incomes, have problems with mass visits paid to various centres and sights of interests for domestic and foreign visitors.
New cultural property demands and pleasure visions occurred are incorporated by reconstruction problems as a composite and very important element.

**Specific monumental reconstruction and protection problems**

Monumental heritage and culture monuments restoration are long-term, outstanding complex, demanding and expensive processes. Very often we face the situation that in spite of strong desire and quality designs we are not able to operate some restoration designs of especially important objects, priority construction and sculpture heritage.

Shortage of money, time and various profile specialists starting from craftsmen to top quality specialists in the ancient monuments work, limit broader and faster operations of some objects. We are witnessing that some designs can’t be incorporated in the given frames of profession, time, money and other aggravating circumstances. The last few decades have been characterized by some centres emerged where specialists of monument properties restoration are educated. Professional workshops in renewal of tapestry, architectural plastics, wood, paper documents etc. are realized in specialized centres essential for quality renewal and restoration of monumental heritage.

Unfortunately some valuable objects cannot be improved or renewed due to lack of either experts, craftsmen or some unfamiliar technology of developing material the object is made from or application procedure. The reconstruction problems were especially recognized after the World War II when many cities suffered a lot with completely or partially destroyed numerous valuable movable and immovable monuments of culture i.e. heritage. Some towns were destroyed to the ground. Based on these terrible experiences specialized preservationist disciplines for some monumental heritage types were developed.

In the period 1991 – 1995 the Republic of Croatia suffered numerous destructions leaving unsolved problems of many valuable monumental heritage objects.
War destructions, natural disasters, vandalism and ageing are main reasons requiring permanent and quality conservationist’s care for culture monuments. Croatia, being rich in artefacts and works of art starting with pre-history via ancient time, Middle Ages, Romanesque, Renaissance to 21st century, requires modern methods of preservation, improvements of financial conditions and objects reconstruction such as the “BIS Machine” system is.

“BIS Machine” system

In the domain of geoinformatics, computer sciences and integrated technologies, this cooperation contributed to the authors’ solution being defined as a new method of culture monuments, restoration entitled “BIS Machine” which will be presented below.

This experience and method is the result of cooperation and research of numerous experts from domain of culture monuments restoration and protection from Poland, Croatia, Great Britain and many other countries. We also, thank all subjects for the cooperation, especially the Cracow University of Technology – Institute of History of Architecture and Monument Preservation, AGH University from Cracow, the Warsaw University of Technology, other Warsaw institutions, the national Library, faculties and instytutions from Sosnowiec, Katowice, the whole Silesia, and Gdańsk.

The “BIS Machine” was created in the year 1994 when from authors sugested division of geoinformatics in 3 levels from the precision point of view:

Macro level: operating graphic data in scale 1:100.00, 1:200.000 and others for state and regional analysis;

Mezzo level: operating graphic data in scale 1:5000 to 1:50.000 and similar for municipal and small area analysis;

Micro level: operating graphic data in scale 1:1000, 1:100 and other scales for one building or object analysis even in the scale 100:1 or larger called Building Information System - BIS.
BIS machine is a new system used at developing parts or the whole of movable and immovable culture and nature monuments as well as other objects from nature, human body structure, productive and research environment.

This complex method is applied in developing and reconstructing parts or wholes of culture monuments, works of art and other required objects. All mentioned elements, parts and the like will further be called “objects”.

**Technical problem**

Culture monument reconstruction or development of the parts or whole of new works of art, i.e. objects made of stone, synthetic material, wood, salt, metal, natural materials and the like demands very long terms, basically manual work, special creativity and questioned work preciseness. Developing of some objects is often impossible due to lack of artists, stone-masons, craftsmen and the like. Problem of knowledge and long development terms as well as additional funds appear to be limiting factors of the objects development reconstruction.

Thus, specialist resources such as sculptors, stone-masons, model constructors, craftsmen and others are getting fewer whereby processes of reconstruction, restoration or objects development are long term and expensive, often impossible to be done.

**The present status**

Reconstruction and development of the objects in terms of culture monuments reconstruction processes are based today based on manual work with minimum aid of simple hand-operated tools. Shaping of stone, metal, wood or synthetic mass objects is limited regarding developing speed, precision and work price.
Description of the system and work process flow diagram

**Phase I**

1. Object selection
2. Object shooting harmonized with requirements and possibilities (boundaries) by measuring, D scanning, photogrammetrically, digitally analogically or using combination of the aforesaid data entry methods
3. Processing of the taken quantified data
4. Developing of quantification reports
5. Formation of the virtual object i.e. digital file etalon
6. Data direction and harmonization

**Phase II**

7. CAD preparation
8. CAD model development
9. Validation and etalon calibration
10. Re-design - if necessary
11. Prototyped model development (rapid prototyping – 3 D printing and the like)

**Phase III**

12. CAM program development
13. Material selection
14. Selection of machine and tool
15. Computer development simulation
16. Machine or device-developed production
17. Validation of the developed object
18. CAM program finishing, if needed
19. Sorting and saving all data systematized for data base
20. Object delivery and fitting

**Advantages of BIS Machine**

1. Precision
2. Significantly shorter terms of development
3. Simplicity
4. Transparency in all project development phases
5. Lower development prices
6. Possibility of quality objects development i.e. not existing object parts
7. Database formation and infinite replication possibility
8. Possibility to provide data capture without physical damage on objects surface

Today, due to coincidences and friendship, we are in situation to present in detail the new method of culture monuments restoration “BIS Machine” as well as two projects known for integrated existing knowledge and associated technologies. First example, originated from Saint Mary church restoration project from Voćin, Eastern Slawonia, destroyed during the 1991 war attack, is characterized by already prepared 3D model and a part of the main machine-designed portal in 1:2 scale. That project showed basic dilemmas and problems that should be solved in a broader application of the new restoration system.

Second example is far more complicated. It is about antique sculpture entitled “Apoxiomenos”, excavated from the sea in 1999 near Losinj Island, in the northern Adriatic. The sculpture of 192 cm height originated from the period between Classical Greece and Helenism in the 4th century BC and represents one of the masterpieces of world cultural heritage.

Having been restored and preserved, the sculpture was presented in public whereas the authors’ team of the method “BIS Machine” had chance to verify the offered abilities of the new method on a very complex sculpture. Our Apoxiomenos, the Greek masterpiece of the fascinating beauty represents a real challenge for our new method application. How successful we were will be shown.

A new field of geoinformatics – micro geoinformatics

These projects brought about completely new field of geoinformatics i.e. micro-geo-informatics as a new research and
practical option for applied geodesy, ancient monuments profession, computer sciences and all integrated technologies and knowledge.

After this experiment with Apoxiomenos head, in which we processed points and graphic data in precision of 0,10 mm and higher, it possible suggests a new solutions in geoinformatics environment – microgeoinformatics!

Please note that only for Apoxiomenos head we used “clouds of points” larger than 1 million captured points x, y & z.

Aiming to illustrate multidisciplinary being a basis of this new method, we merge experiences and knowledge of the professions and activities as follows:

- ancient monuments profession, culture monuments restoration
- production of cars, ships and airplanes
- metal industry in general
- blacksmith crafts
- stone –masons crafts
- carpenter’s crafts
- computer modelling
- materials science
- applied geodesy
- photo-grammetry
- digital methods of data processing
- digital photo-taking
- machine-building industry
- robotics
- tool industry
- art history
- architecture etc.

It should be pointed out once again that important roles conception of this method were played by common people, hard-working craftsmen, masters of their profession who had not been familiar with culture monuments restoration before. Thanks all of them!

NB
The "Apoxiomenos" project is operated as scientific and technologic experiment by courtesy of the Croatian Conservation Institute from Zagreb, Croatia, and Topomatika d.o.o Zagreb, Croatia. Entire "Apoxiomenos" experiment has been provided in 2 months without any financial support besides authors money.

"BIS Machine" system is protected as an intellectual property.
THE SECOND APPLICATION OF BIS MACHINE METHOD
APOXYOMENOS PHOTO DOCUMENTATION
IMAGING

THE SECOND APPLICATION OF BIS MACHINE METHOD
APOXYOMENOS PHOTO DOCUMENTATION
3D MODELLING

By Courtesy of Topomatika & Restauratorski zavod, Croatia