



Impressions and management-summary

Kick-off-event of ICV expert group Digital Controlling Competence, 21.5.2021

by Marina Hein

On May 21 the new ICV Digital Controlling Competence expert group started with the kick-off event in the digital 3D worlds of Tricat. The group of participants was a colorful mix from all industries and company sizes and with a very open culture of discussion. Alexander Hein, Head of the DCC: "It is very important to me that an open discussion is held and that we really work out solutions and demonstrate the benefits of digitization. It certainly helps that we as avatars can interact well with each other in the 3D worlds and are on a first name basis right away. "

That may well be one of the reasons why the two-hour networking and workshop sessions on the topics of "Controlling Technology & Tools" and "Learning from Pioneering Companies" produced many constructive and helpful results. The participants also liked that and wished they had more time at the next meeting of the FK DCC for questions and workshops.



Figure 1: Opening of the specialist group and presentation of the focal points

"At the ICV expert group Digital Controlling Competence, the **"learning from others"** concept should be lived," says Alexander Hein and after a brief introduction to the specialist group and its **focus** at the beginning of the kick-off event, he gave the floor to **Prof. Utz Schäffer (WHU)**. He declared the "Scorekeeper" or bean counter dead and introduced **"new, progressive" controller roles**. This revealed not only well-known requirements.

The discussion that followed Prof. Schäffer's presentation was both critical and approving. In any case, it gave food for thought and many of the participants are already looking forward to the documents and videos provided by the event in order to check the implementation of these new roles in their own company.



Figure 2: Lively discussions with Prof. Utz Schäffer on role-specific competence profiles for controllers

In their presentation "Digital Revolution in Controlling - from Excel to professional controlling software in 6 weeks", Dado Mekic and Peter Lorenz provided deep insights into Fabasoft, the market leader for software solutions for document and process management. Above all, the newly gained time for high-quality tasks of their well-trained controllers and the relief through automated processes became clear. During the discussion, the company representatives spoke openly not only about the selection process and the reasons for the decision in favor of the new controlling tool, but also about management support and the cultural change in the company. The rapid introduction in just 6 weeks amazed some participants and shows that once the requirements have been defined in detail, implementation time can be really short.



Figure 3: Attentive specialist audience at the Fabasoft presentation

In the **break-out session "Digital Technologies & Tools"**, the importance of master data maintenance as a prerequisite for controlling projects was discussed controversially. However, it was agreed that controllers have to become more technically savvy and that controlling systems have to become more intuitive at the same time. All participants also agreed on the assessment that scenario planning will become more and more important.



Figure 4: Networking and workshops in the 3D garden on the topics of "Digital Technologies & Tools" and "Learning from pioneering companies"

In the second **break-out session "Learning from pioneering companies"** the importance of bandwidth planning and rolling forecasts was discussed. These were seen as particularly important for the future. Self-service turned out to be an essential requirement for controlling solutions among the participants, with the possibility of adjustments by the specialist department as well as in reporting by the end users being emphasized. The independence from IT and the independence of the power users in controlling were other important goals.

In any case, the rush for the new specialist group was great and the number of interested parties on the waiting list was long. The number of participants is deliberately limited to a maximum of 40 participants - this is not only due to technical but also quality assurance reasons. It has been proven that the participants can exchange ideas as avatars in the 3D worlds (almost) as well as in reality. For the next event on September 24th, 2 p.m. - 6 p.m., many spots are already taken. **Thanks to the active participants for their commitment to the kick-off event!** Our goal? Bringing digital technologies closer to controllers in order to relieve them and free them up for value-adding tasks!

Yours, Alexander Hein, Head of the Expert Group & Christan Bramkamp, Deputy Head of EG.

All videos, presentations and reports on the specialist group events are only accessible to specialist group members - [after registration](#) and acceptance into the specialist group - on the Digital Controlling Competence knowledge platform.

More information about the specialist group and registration is available on the ICV website:

<https://www.icv-controlling.com/en/arbeitskreise/dcc-digital-controlling-competence.html>