



Interview with KlokGroep: Making calculations based on reliable data

Antoine van Gelder works as a calculator for KlokGroep. His activities mainly consist of making budgets, bills of quantities and updating reference budgets. He also keeps track of the BDB monthly figures. These figures give insight in the structural cost development of the wages, material and equipment. The numbers are updated every month by BDB.

“Over the years, KlokGroep has evolved from a traditional developing constructor into a ‘director’ of large-scaled building projects. These projects we create together with our co-makers. This transformation resulted into new, different questions from our clients. An example: they asked us to monitor the currency depreciation. The BDB products serve as an instrument to consult our clients. We use them to give sustained insight in the expectation of the price increases. Our clients are content with the numbers BDB delivers and are able to apply them. It shapes a trustworthy bond between our clients and the company.”

Antoine uses the BDB numbers mainly during the process of preparing estimates. The projects are diverse: from utility projects to housing projects, and new projects to renovation. “It often happens that we estimate the costs about a year and a half before the project is actually being built. When this happens, you want to have a good insight in the development of the prices. The trends gives us a prediction of the future course of the cyclical cost development. The percentage of the expected increase is part of the actual costs of our projects. Especially in the current economy, it can be hard to predict the developments. The BDB Trends gives us a better idea of what to expect.”

“The biggest advantage from BDB for us: we can deliver a real price that is valid until one year later.”



KlokGroep is, together with Novaform, part of KlokHolding, a financially forceful and experienced family business. In 2017, KlokGroep made a revenue of €200 million. KlokGroep focusses, together with her co-makers, on the entire develop- and exploitation process in the construction sector: from the initiative phase till the property management. With almost 200 employees, KlokGroep is working daily on new development projects, maintenance projects, and the development of preservation concepts.

“When we look at the prices, it is clear that the developments are caused by the uprising market. As regard of the prices, we notice that people are taking opportunities to profit from it. For example, sub-contractors no longer stick to their prices. By working closely together with our co-makers, luckily we are able to slightly control the rising of the prices.”

“Another one of my activities is keeping track of the structural monthly figures for our project developers. I combine these numbers with the market indicator and trends, and put them together into an accessible graph, to send it to our developers. For them, it is essential to get a good overview of the market trends and the developments of the construction costs. The project developers base their cost prices on this data. Therefore, you want to be sure the information is reliable and up-to-date.”

“The biggest advantage from BDB for us: we can deliver a realistic price that is valid until one year later. Especially because our cost prices are based on these numbers, we need good and reliable information. Furthermore, the BDB data system is a great tool to work with. During client meetings, we have immediate insight in the market developments and numbers through the online data system. And we are able to substantiate what is displayed.” •