The City of Munich is now offering a virtual tour through their buildings to experience them from inside

Students of the Munich University of Applied Sciences developed a cost-effective virtual preview for buildings owned by the city of Munich.

Munich, BY – June 26, 2020 - Today a group of students of the Munich University of Applied Sciences introduced Matterport, a software for virtual previews supported by a 360° camera, the Ricoh THETA Z1. The Matterport software works with four different devices, such as iPhones, 360° cameras, Matterport Pro 2, and Leica BLK360 in order to scan rooms to create 3D models. Those 3D models include virtual tours, measurements of the room, schematic floor plans, automatic face blurring and the possibility to annotate points of interest.

“The handling of the software and the routing through the 3D model is very easy. For this price point the quality and accuracy of measurements is amazing!” said Robert Schmid from the Central Office for Digital Planning and Construction Building, “I also like the scalability of the hardware. Getting started quickly with an iPhone can be a major selling point. Overall, you have created a proper virtual preview of a space.”

The 3D models enable architects to work more efficiently and effectively when planning changes. Architects can visualize buildings virtually to start planning right away. Currently they would need physical access to it, because only building plans from the last 10 to 15 years are available digitally and there are rarely up to date. The 3D models allow users to get a quick access and experience those buildings from the palm of their hand by their smartphone or other devices.

“I like it very much visually. […] The VR function via App is intuitive. Altogether a great application for your use case!“ commented Petra Perin of the Bavarian Ministry of Construction.

Instead of plain photos, the city of Munich has rolled out the building virtualization system and gathered all information in a centralized data base.

"The City of Munich owns a huge number of buildings for a vast array of Use Cases, from schools and day care centers to service centers of different kinds to renowned museums, libraries and theaters. To show these buildings to citizens, tourists, parents or even employees of the City of certain professions (architects, facility managers, IT network managers), a cheap, easy to use, privacy and data security compliant VR solution is needed that suits all of these diverse audiences." stated the city of Munich within their RFP paper.

Introducing the innovative Matterport software with the Ricoh THETA Z1 camera to the city of Munich provides a low-cost alternative to physically accessing buildings. It simplifies the planning process for every kind of change to an existing building, owned by the city of Munich.