CTBUH Germany Symposium

June 22, 2017

ROTTWEIL – The CTBUH Germany Symposium was held at the ThyssenKrupp Test Tower in Rottweil, Germany, on the 22nd of June, after the official unveiling of the MULTI elevator system, the first linear-motor elevator, in the morning.

A group of 60-70 people participated at the successful CTBUH Germany Event, which was dedicated to discussing the role of technical and technological innovation and its effect on the various disciplines within the construction industry.

After the initial greeting and welcome from Andreas Schierenbeck and Antony Wood, the meeting started with a presentation by Dennis Poon, Thornton Tomasetti, who presented the challenges that “engineering the tallest” can cause. Among the various projects presented, he focused on the Shanghai Tower, the second tallest building in the world with an architectural height of 632 meters. After Dennis Poon, Dario Trabucco presented the intrinsic relationship between the evolution of the vertical transportation system and the high-rise: a relationship that dates back 160 years and now, after the presentation of the MULTI system in the morning, the design possibilities available for the tall building have expanded dramatically. Werner Sobek, Werner Sobek Group, gave an overview of the research he is conducting, which are focuses on the identification of adaptive structures for the high-rise building of the future. These presentations further underlined the fundamental role of research and technological innovation to the audience, with the aim to achieve a more efficient – and sustainable – way of building and living.

After the coffee break, which served as a possibility for the participants to discuss the previous session, a debate session started. Moderated by Antony Wood, the panel involved Rob Chmielowski, a structural engineer at Magnusson Klemencic Associates, Robin Cheeseright, a vertical transportation consultant at D2E International VT Consultants Ltd and Steve Watts, a real estate expert for Alinea Consulting. The debate started with questions of the audience, which built up an interesting and proactive discussion. Following the debate session, an overview on the recent work conducted by the CTBUH Germany chapter as well as the role of the tall building in Germany was presented by CTBUH country representative and Managing Director and Partner at Werner Sobek Group, Roland Bechman. Finally, Antony Wood closed the event with a quick description of the organization and the role of CTBUH, its research division activities, and upcoming events, among which included the 2017 CTBUH International Conference, which will be held in Australia from 30 October to 3 November.

At the end of the CTBUH Germany Symposium, the organized a BBQ event at the base of the test tower. It was a worthy conclusion of this exciting and exceptional day, giving participants the opportunity relax, and at the same time, exchange their first impressions and opinions about the consequences that the new technologies discussed during the day could have on common life in the future.