

Contracting and cooperation with software forges

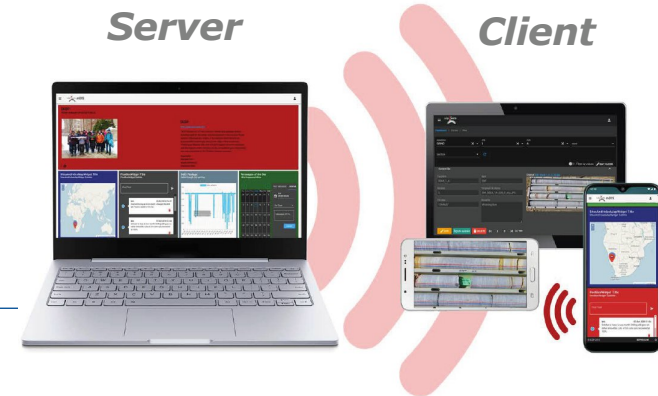
GFZ Research Software Meet-up
14. September 2022

Cindy Kunkel, Thomas Unterhofer, Christian Meeßen

mDIS

(mobile Drilling Information System)

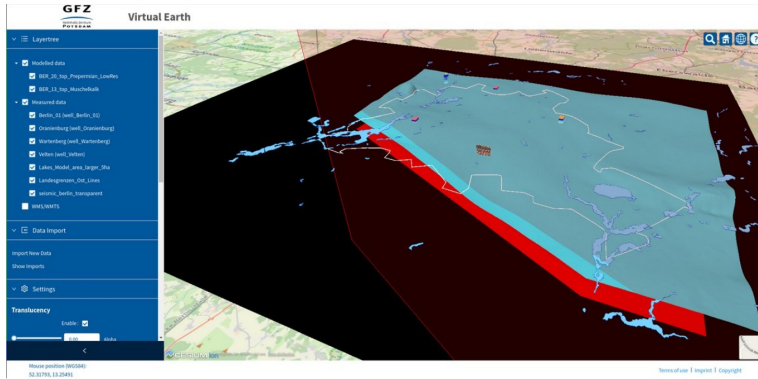
- Prestudy with survey regarding experiences and wishes of legacy DIS users
- Very detailed service description and milestones
- 2 potential candidates
- Contractor got a laptop with a legacy DIS and data
- Monthly invoice with progress report and demonstration via video conference, training
- Work is coordinated via GitLab





- Contractor knows science: also develops audio guides for museums
- Lead developer always tries to understand the data and proposes solutions (er denkt mit)
- But: always check invoices and progress reports. Errors happen.
- Still active development of new features together with the contractor via support hours and/or follow-up contracts
- mDIS installation at MARUM and BGR core repositories together with contractor (contractor sets up server and mDIS, we develop data models, modify reports and train customers)

Virtual Earth



- 4 potential candidates
- Winning contractor had several other projects with experience in web-based 3D visualization of geological data => most promising
- Project did not go as expected
 - ~ Did not understand the project's goal
 - ~ Contractor was not aware of their tech-stack
 - ~ Did not look at sample data that was provided with the tender offer
 - ~ No agendas for meetings
 - ~ No progress reports
 - ~ "This is not possible", so we had to prove how to implement certain features



Virtual Earth – Lesson learned



- Technical specification document (“Leistungsbeschreibung”) must **precisely show and describe** what is expected
 - ~ This means: Stakeholder and IT Specialists should work together on this document
- Be prepared to spend **a lot** of time to check the work of the contractor
- If there is something that is not going as planned: raise concerns immediately
- Do not stop to annoy the contractor if things are not going as planned
- If it’s still not working: don’t hesitate to send a written warning (Mahnung)

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE

1. **Market survey, Estimation of order value > e.biss-shopping cart: From 1k EUR eur you need 3 offers, from 30k EUR: formal tender process**
 2. **Required documents:** Description of services (everything the bidder needs to calculate an offer: Quantity structures, options, technical description...), evaluation and suitability matrix (with exclusion and evaluation criteria), price sheet, EVB-IT contract (preparation together with purchasing)
- **Duration of tender procedure approx. 2-3 months, preparation of tender documents (approx. 3 months)**
 - Further information: <http://intranet.gfz-potsdam.de/themen/beschaffungen/ausschreibungen/>

