

Drone Evolution Case Study – Working with ISG 2019/2020

Based in Caerphilly, Drone Evolution began trading in November 2018 as a start-up dedicated to making people safer and organisations better. Founded by former Mitie drone services managers Clayton Earney (Operations Director) and John Young (Technical Director), alongside consultant Toby Townrow (Business Development Director), the business raised funds from the new Angels Invest Wales fund with support from the Development Bank of Wales.

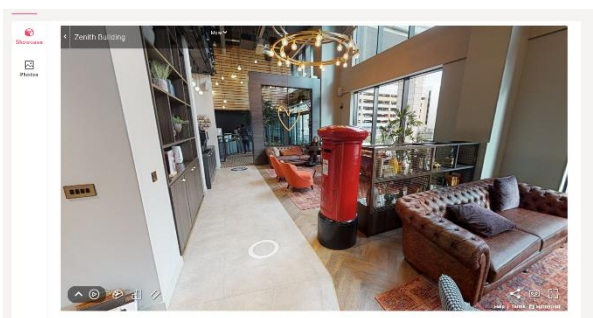


The company are determined to show how the use of drones can benefits a range of industries and sectors, increasing health and safety for inspections (there is no need to climb any asset just to look at it when you can do that from the ground), saving time and reducing costs.

In March 2019, Toby visited the MIPIM show in Cannes as part of the Cardiff delegation. It was here that he met Richard Skone from ISG and discussions began as to how drones could be used in construction. Richard made a commitment to further explore opportunities to use drones on site upon returning to the UK. After a meeting and a presentation to some ISG stakeholders, including Bro Morgannwg Site Lead Dan Evans, it was agreed

that the Bro Morgannwg School development would be a good site to begin working on.

The idea would be to provide regular site photos and video on a monthly basis to show the end client how the site is progressing. Before the first shoot, it was also agreed that Drone Evolution would supply a pre-work condition survey, demonstrating the state of key areas of the site before work began. Client feedback has been extremely positive, and the pre-work survey has yielded positive results in that some damage that came to light could be checked against the survey to determine liability.



Since the first work at Bro Morgannwg, ISG have asked Drone Evolution to provide a similar service for the STEAM project, developing a new site for Pencoed College near Bridgend. The company have also provided footage for the Cardiff Central Square development including the BBC and Hugh James buildings as well as providing 3D Internal walkthroughs for the recently-finished Zenith Building in Cardiff.

Working with ISG has helped support the growth of a new start-up business and demonstrated the use case for drones in construction. Further developments will include a wider use of internal walkthroughs and the provision of land topography surveys by drone.