

Dr. Karsten Zimmermann joined DMT GmbH & Co. KG in 2005 and has been involved in various national and international projects ever since. The company was already renowned at the time, with a long history and highly qualified employees, prompting him to complete his doctorate in mine surveying here. He did this in collaboration with the TU Bergakademie Freiberg and a US company on the subject of "Subsidence modeling in the coal mining industry in the USA". He also carried out on-site investigations in the USA. Today, Dr. Karsten Zimmermann is Deputy Head of the business segment Geo Field Services and Data Management at DMT.

When you look back on your career at DMT so far, what was your most exciting project and why?

Looking back, I can point to a large number of interesting projects in Germany and abroad. Particularly noteworthy are research projects such as the investigation of coal fires in India and China as well as projects that focused on the optimization of geotechnical monitoring systems in various countries. One notable project called Yangtze Geo dealt with the monitoring of slope instabilities at the Three Gorges Dam in China. By developing early warning systems and operating high-tech measuring devices on site, we were able to improve safety. These intercultural projects broadened my horizons not only professionally but also culturally and were very enriching for me personally.

What do you think makes the variety of work opportunities at DMT so special?

The range of work opportunities at DMT is characterized in particular by the scope for individual input. Personal initiative is encouraged and innovative ideas can be put into practice. DMT has a broad portfolio of services that can be cleverly combined to generate new projects and applications.

What has been your experience of interdisciplinary and intercultural collaboration?

I have had very positive experiences with interdisciplinary and intercultural cooperation at DMT. In addition to our own international locations, e.g. in Canada and India, this is further enhanced by our integration into the TÜV NORD GROUP. We are in the process of linking the entire organization even more closely and achieving new dimensions in the context of cross-selling..

"Projects that bring together a variety of specialist disciplines such as computer scientists, geologists, hydrologists and geophysicists are particularly interesting. This provides variety in the daily work and makes it exciting and agile."



Our structure enables the formation of tailor-made intercultural and interdisciplinary teams that can react flexibly to customer requirements. This helps us to successfully implement even large international projects, involving partner companies and employees from international locations.

Which projects do you most enjoy talking about?

In 2015, I had the opportunity to take part in a Professional Exchange, a cross-company project. I worked with colleagues in Canada for two months, where I was able to contribute my expertise in subsidence modeling directly to a project. There, I developed software that allowed my colleagues to model directly on site. This software was then successfully used in customer projects, which led to numerous publications, presentations and further projects. That was a great experience, because it's very important to network and get to know people on a personal level.

Another exciting project is the further development of our DMT SAFEGUARD monitoring platform. After a three-year internal development project, we were able to launch a technologically optimized version with a completely new front and back end in the middle of last year. This update opens up new fields of application and improves our service for our customers. We have also enormously increased our know-how and possibilities for in-house software development.

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What do you value most about the job

Support in implementing your own ideas. We recently took part in a hackathon on an ad hoc basis and for the first time with our own challenge. We were lucky enough to even win with our challenge with a very talented team of students. It was a lot of fun and I took the enthusiasm with me. And now we are organizing our own hackathon in cooperation with RWTH Aachen University and the VDMA. This is a great opportunity to get to know young talents, challenge them with real projects and give them an insight into the professional world.

I also appreciate the good communication within the team and the strong team spirit. The commitment of my colleagues is particularly evident in challenging projects where mutual support is paramount. The high level of expertise and specialist knowledge in the team makes it possible to offer unique services on the market.

DMT's historical roots also impress me, as we are continuing a very long history and carry out a wide range of projects, from classic onsite projects to innovative Al-supported developments.