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Olympic Village management is a huge logistics exercise

Marc Klein, SOCOG's program manager, Olympic Village Support Operations, has a huge logistics task ahead. He is charged with managing the space and building asset demands of the Olympic juggernaut as it rolls up to Sydney's Games next month.

The construction of the Olympic Village has resulted in the creation of a new suburb called Newington, complete with its own postcode. The bulk of its initial population will arrive within a single fortnight and move out again just as quickly afterwards, only to be replaced within a week by a whole new set of people.

The village is purpose-built to house more than 15,000 people over 30 days and will require more than 10,000 staff to operate it over a 24-hour period, with more than 4000 working at any one time. Each day some 3000 guests will visit it, creating a total population of approximately 22,000.

In addition there will also be a media village, which will be required to support 6000 people in various styles of accommodation.

After the close of the Olympic Village, Klein's team will have seven days to successfully reconfigure two thirds of the site in readiness for the Paralympic Games. The Paralympic Village must house over 7000 people, including 1500 wheelchair athletes. Every building and office space will need to be reset, and several completely reconfigured with specific layouts as requested by specific Paralympic teams.

"We have to basically outfit, completely move in and set up two suburbs' worth of goods with \$25 million worth of furnishings and \$60 million worth of technology. All the pieces have to be put in the right room in the right place in a very short space of time," Klein said.

Klein, who had experience in planning for the Atlanta Games in the US, decided that this time he would push for better

project planning software.

He selected Quantum Leap's custom-modified ActiveAsset Planner-based product which allows for real-time querying. It also has a seamless interface with MicroStation.

The ActiveAsset Planner software was supplied by Bentley Australia.

The final system development from these products is called the Village Space Planning & Facilities Management System. The team responsible for the system is headed by Marc Forestieri, the founder of Quantum Leap.

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