PRISON OF THE FUTURE

Hans Meurisse, Director General EPI, Belgium

PRISON OF THE FUTURE

This year eVolo's (architecture design contest) winning design was a prison in the sky where inmates work and live in a community that would contribute to the host city below. The prison would consist of agricultural fields, factories, and recycling plants operated by the offenders, in an attempt to reduce post-release crimes.

PRISON OF THE FUTURE

2010

Some studies reveal that post-release offenses are very high and that criminal's imprisonment is just a temporal solution because they do not have the opportunity to rehabilitate in a desirable community.

This project examines the possibility of creating a vertical prison in the sky where inmates will have to work and live in a community that will contribute to the host city below. The prison will have agricultural fields, factories, and recyclable plants that will be operated by the offenders as a way to give back to the community. They will live "free" until they have completed their sentence and are prepared to rejoin their communities.
The vertical prison has its own transportation system which consists of different "pods" for officers, prisoners, firefighters, and other workers

PRISON OF THE FUTURE

What is the future?

Fast, faster, fastest

Can we keep up?

Can we incorporate all this knowledge in our organisations…

PRISON & PROBATION

New rules, legislation, leadership, ….

European Standard Rules

UN Minimum Rules

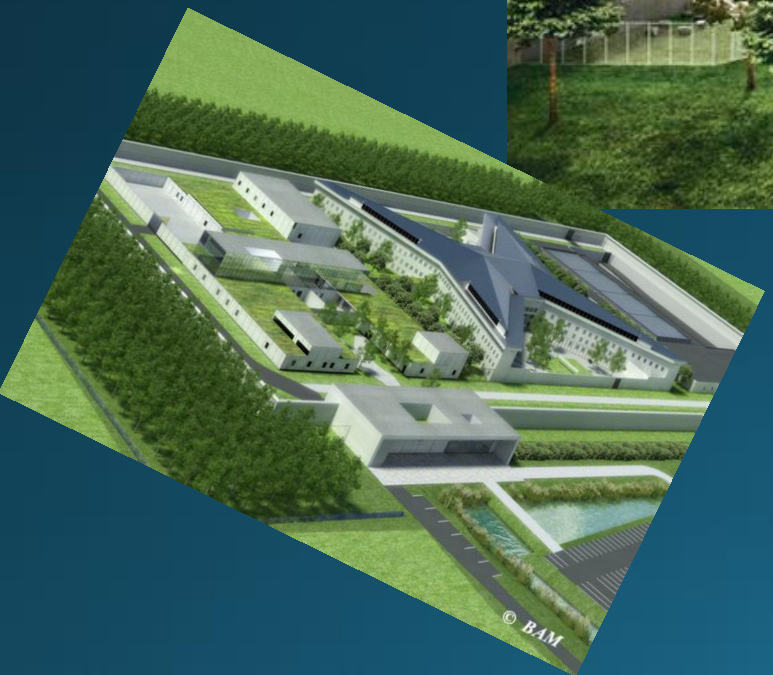
We are in the middle of a complex chain…

Police

We are in the middle of a complex chain…

Is this the end?

Prisons can become the driver, bottom up => top !
Prison professionals
Sharing & collaborating
WE….



Who is 'WE'?

The building agency?

Politicians & advisors?

Building companies?

Architects & engineers?

" WE " = “US”

The Business/ Housing & Logistics experts

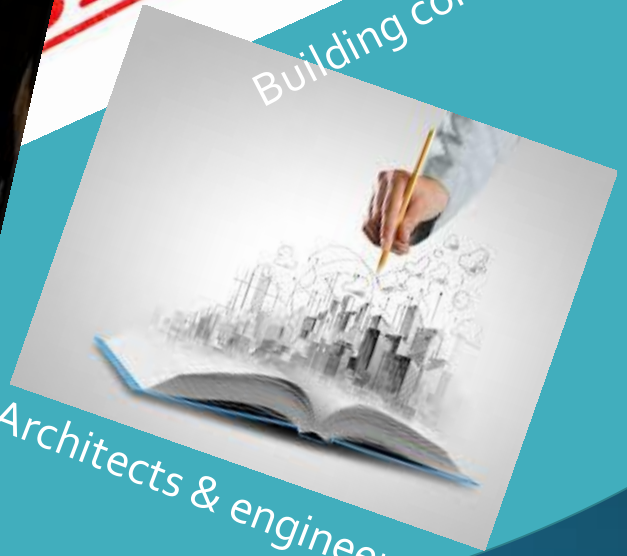
Prison professionals,

Experience & knowledge

The building agency?

Politicians & advisors?

Building companies?



Architects & engineers?

But who are we missing?

" WE " = “US”

The Business/ Housing & Logistics experts

Experience & knowledge

But **<u>Prison professionals</u>** (all levels & domains!) should be in charge!

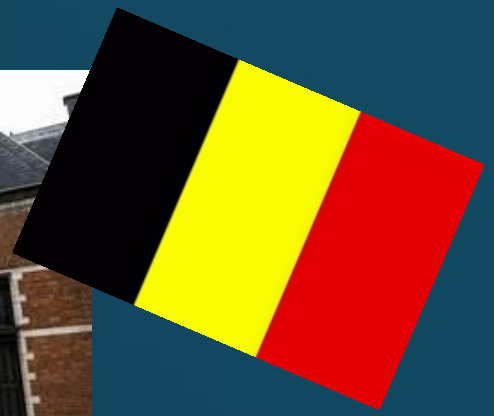
Conclusion 1: Get everyone on board from day 1

Still a lot of old prisons… how long can we keep this?

- Masterplanning
- Financial multi-annual plan
- Central governance - 1 project leader = SPOC
- Mutual collaboration: EuroPris, CEP, CJPF

- Central Governance is needed!
- Create a stable team, multi profile
- 1 Project leader = the Boss, and not …

Conclusion 2: Leadership is needed to advance



- Old Prisons => 19th century
- Terrible unhuman conditions + overcrowding
- Moral Majority to change => Action => Masterplan

- **Masterplan** I, II en III during different governments

Conclusion 3: Stability during the planning process

<u>Example</u>: Tilburg project
Belgium + Netherlands
Excellent collaboration
Exchange of knowledge = 100 %
Absolute Must to have success

Conclusion 4: Sharing & Collaboration is a must!

Budget! …the magic word

- Threat or an Opportunity?
- DBFM, DBM, DBMO, …
- Differentiation
- Be creative, search for business plan, business models, …

- Sustainability
- Accountability
- Efficiency
- …

Conclusion 5: Flexibility & Creativity needed!

- Vision
- Leadership
- Innovative approach
- Out of the box focus
- Embrace Technology

Conclusion 6: Balanced from analog to digital !!

For the inmate…

PrisonCloud
Connect to build our future

Inmates are digital natives
You limit only their freedom to move in the society
The New normal is digital….Normalization

What is normalization?
Every society, even in the EU even today, has very different visions on detention, on normality, …so very different Prisons ….

Conclusion 7: The future prison should make the inmate more accountable and responsible

And the staff…

Conclusion 8: By using new technologies we can give staff more time to do what they supposed to do: working with the people in stead of pushing buttons, opening doors and filling forms.

But the real prison of the future….

Is no prison….