

Rainer Straub

Germany

Rainer Straub, born in 1967, has been caving since 1983. He started surveying small caves of the Swabian Jura and deep vertical caves of the Bavarian Alps. He is a member of the German Speleo Group *Höhlenforschungsgruppe Ostalb-Kirchheim e.V.* In 1985 Rainer started cave diving. He is the Delegate for cave diving of the *German Speleological Federation (VdHK)* and participate on major cave diving projects like the exploration of the Wulfbachquellhöhle, Wimsener Höhle or the exceptional Blauhöhlensystem. These are some of the longest caves in Germany. He has been caving in many areas of Europe, Africa, US, South America, Asia and participated several expeditions to Lechuguilla. In 2012 he was invited by Michel Renda of the *Lasalle 3D International Team* to join the *Projecto Bellamar* Expedition to Cuba. His wide interest in different speleological scopes are focused on exploring new caves and publishing the results. Because of the difficult conditions during his projects, he prefers using light and compact photo equipment. He works mainly on special speleothemes and documentary pictures. Rainer is in international sales business and lives with his family in Filderstadt, Germany.