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OGC Approves OpenGIS GML in JPEG 2000

The Open Geospatial Consortium Inc. (OGC) membership has approved the OpenGIS GML in JPEG 2000 for Geographic Imagery (GMLJP2) Implementation Specification. It is available for downloading from www.opengeospatial.org/specs/?page=specs. The Geography Markup Language (GML) is an XML grammar for the encoding of geographic information. JPEG 2000 is a wavelet based image compression standard that provides the ability to include XML data for description of the image within the JPEG 2000 data file. This OpenGIS Implementation specification defines the means by which the OGC Geography Markup Language (GML) is to be used within JPEG 2000 images for geographic imagery. Further, the specification also provides packaging mechanisms for including GML within JPEG 2000 data files as well as specific GML application schemas to support the encoding of images within JPEG 2000 data files. The following organizations submitted the specification to the OGC for consideration as a standard: Galdos Systems Inc.; LizardTech; European Union Satellite Centre (EUSC); DM Solutions Group Inc (DMSG); and the US Geological Survey (USGS) National Mapping Division. The submitting organizations were grateful for contributions from the following companies in the development and revision of this specification: BAE SYSTEMS - Information Systems Sector; Boeing S&IS Mission Systems; Intergraph Corporation; ITT Industries Space Systems Division; PCI Geomatics Inc.; SPOT Image (SPOT); and the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Public comments on the draft specification were solicited, received and reviewed before the specification was finalized and voted upon. www.opengeospatial.org

Top Position AB new Topcon Dealer in Sweden



Topcon Europe Positioning BV will transfer all its Survey and GPS+ Positioning Sales and Support activities for

the south and middle of Sweden to the newly formed company Top Position AB. Top Position AB is formed around a team of four well-known and highly qualified Swedish professionals, who have been working in this industry for many years. Claes Berger, former sales manager for the Trimble GPS dealer Movic in Sweden, is the director of Top Position AB. www.topconeuropa.com

Thales Selects Orsenor S.L

Thales' navigation business has consolidated its land survey and GIS product distribution in Spain with Orsenor S.L. Orsenor S.L. will sell the Thales Z-Max and ProMark3 land survey systems and the Thales MobileMapper Pro and MobileMapper CE handheld GPS receivers for GIS and many other data collection applications. Orsenor S.L. is one of Spain's leading marketers of total stations and traditional survey equipment. www.thalesgroup.com/navigation

Bechtel and Bentley Work Together

Bentley Systems and Bechtel, an engineering, construction and project management company, announced a global licensing agreement that furthers their long-standing partnership. The agreement enhances Bechtel's ability to efficiently deliver quality projects of enormous scale and consequence around the world. Specifically, it gives Bechtel unlimited access to and agile deployment of Bentley's compre-

hensive portfolio of design, engineering, and management solutions - now in standard use in all of Bechtel's global business units.

www.bechtel.com

www.bentley.com

Strategic Relationship ESRI with Beijing Capital Company

ESRI has signed an agreement with Beijing Capital Company, Ltd., to form a strategic relationship to implement ESRI's ArcGIS enterprise software solution for water development projects in China. Beijing Capital Company, Ltd., is a listed company in China. Its primary business is the investment and management of public infrastructure. The company's focus on the Chinese water market includes the urban water supply and wastewater treatment sectors. At present, Beijing Capital has a daily water treatment capacity of more than 6 million tons and provides services to more than 10 million customers.

www.esri.com

STAR INFORMATIC in Russia

STAR INFORMATIC announces a new partnership in Russia with T-Project, a Saint Petersburg based IT company. STAR INFORMATIC also announces three new customers in Russia, the "State Institution "Object ? 58" of Leningrad region Government" who acquired STAR software products, the "Main office of civil defense and criseses of Leningrad region" and the MO "Vsevolozhskiy rayon" who ordered MobileSTAR for PDA. T-Project, Saint Petersburg, Russia, is an IT company existing since 2005. T-Project is part of a group of companies called "TECHNO". T-Project was established by a group of specialists who have many years experience in IT and have had a partnership with STAR since 1999. The basic activities of T-Project are complex IT support, software development and GIS implementation.

www.grouptechno.ru

www.star.be

Laser-Scan, LSI and US Army Corps of Engineers in Joint Research Programme for 3D Topology

Laser-Scan is currently participating in a research programme to deliver database functionality for a Three-Dimensional Topology Model. This research is being conducted under a Phase II SBIR awarded to LSI by the US Army Engineer Research and Development Center's (ERDC) Topographic Engineering Center (TEC). The ERDC is the premier research and development facility for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It consists of seven laboratories at four geographical sites, with over 2,000 employees, \$1.2 billion in facilities, and an annual research program approaching \$700 million. It conducts research in both military and civil works mission areas for the Department of Defense and the nation. The focus of the research is to provide a demonstrator of a 3D topology storage model in a commercial RDBMS. Volumetric 3D topology allows intelligent routing, which is essential for emergency response, search-and-rescue, and tactical military operations. Current commercial 2.5D capabilities utilize 2D data that has been augmented with elevation attributes or warped over an elevation model. However 2.5D data does not represent the complex volumetric relationships between 3D solids and volumes and thus is inadequate to describe, for example, the spaces within a building. The new research will probably break new ground by providing the basis for commercially viable 3D topology.

www.laser-scan.com

www.lsi-gis.com

People

Intergraph Executive Vice President Preetha Pulusani to Retire

Preetha Pulusani, president of Intergraph's Security, Government & Infrastructure (SG&I) division, has elected to retire after 25 years with the Company. Ben Eazzetta, previously chief operating officer of Intergraph's SG&I division, succeeds Pulusani as the SG&I division president reporting to Reid French, the Company's chief operating officer.

www.intergraph.com

Carl Bass New CEO Autodesk

Carl Bass, Autodesk's chief operating officer, has been named president and chief executive officer, effective May 1, 2006. Bass also has been appointed to the company's expanded Board of Directors, effective immediately. Carol Bartz, who has served as CEO since April 1992, will become the company's first Executive Chairman of the Board. As COO, Bass has had overall responsibility for sales, marketing and product development in Autodesk's core businesses: manufacturing, infrastructure, media and entertainment, building and wireless data services. Bass' commitment to Autodesk's customers spans his 10-year-long career with the company.

www.autodesk.com

Topcon Appoints New Regional Sales Manager Scandinavia



Topcon Europe Positioning BV announced the appointment of Mr. Christer Aslund as new Regional Sales Manager for the Northern European territory. Aslund has a long proven track record within Topcon Scandinavia AB, where he has

been active for over 10 years, and has been responsible for setting up Topcon's construction laser and machine control division. His new responsibility will be the support and further development of Topcon's distribution in the Nordic countries.

www.topconeuropa.com

Conferences & Meetings

Call for papers to FIG 2006

The XXIII Congress of the International Federation of Surveyors, FIG will be held in Munich, Germany from 8-13 October 2006. There is an open Call for Papers for this Congress. Please submit your Abstracts can be submitted latest by 15 March 2006 on-line www.fig.net/abstractdb/submit.asp?id=6 The topics of the technical part of the congress will cover each of the ten commissions of FIG. The number of abstracts will be limited to up to two per author. Full papers are to be provided in English and include an English summary. An additional summary can be prepared in German and any other language. Topics for call for papers:



Professional Standards and Practice;

- Professional practice and organisational structures;
- Standards and professional qualifications;
- Information technology management and professional practice;
- International project management;
- Improving participation of under-represented groups;
- Public Private Partnership (PPP) and Fair Competition.

Professional Education

- Virtual academy - e-learning technologies and experiences;
- Curricula issues of surveying education and training;
- Knowledge in spatial information management;
- Capacity building and mutual recognition;
- Accreditation of curricula and universities.

Spatial Information Management

- e-government and e-citizen;
- SIM infrastructure;
- State-of-the-art of SIM;
- Knowledge transfer in SIM;
- A vertical reference surface for hydrography;
- Strategic hydrography - Capacity building, sustainable development and economic benefit.

Hydrography

- Administering marine spaces - Coastal zone management, marine cadastre;
- Hydrography & charting;
- Hydrography in support of marine construction & dredging;
- A vertical reference surface for hydrography;
- Strategic hydrography - Capacity building, sustainable development and economic benefit .

Positioning and Measurement

- Standards, quality assurance and calibration;
- Reference frame in practice;
- Integrated positioning, navigation and mapping systems;
- GNSS developments - Galileo, GPS modernisation and glonass revitalisation;
- Cost effective surveying technology and techniques for developing countries;

- New positioning and measurement technologies and techniques;
- Remote sensing and photogrammetry;
- GNSS RTK network providers forum.

Engineering Surveys

- Deformation measurement and analysis;
- Engineering survey for industry and research;
- Engineering survey data bases and facility management;
- Engineering survey for construction works and structural engineering;
- Precise methods and equipment for engineering survey for visualisation and photo match;
- Terrestrial laser scanning technology and applications;
- Offshore construction surveys;
- Dynamic monitoring of buildings and structures.

Cadastre and Land Management

- Land administration in post-conflict areas;
- Innovations in land consolidation;
- Renewal strategies for IT and IS in land administration;
- Progress e-land administration;
- Development of 3D cadastres;
- Appropriate technology for land administration;
- Standardisation of the cadastral domain;
- Unconventional approaches to land administration;
- Innovations in cadastral boundary surveying;
- Institutional developments in land administration;
- Revitalisation of land administration organisations;

- Process design and workflow management for land administration;
- Innovative forms of land reform.

Spatial Planning and Development

- Informal settlements;
- Disaster and risk management;
- Public private partnership;
- Urban and rural land regeneration and consolidation - development and financing.

Valuation and the Management of Real Estate

- Property valuers fronting the triple bottom lines of economic, environment and social conflicts;
- Compensation for renewal projects;
- Solutions to fragmented ownership for implementing renewal;
- Cost for private and public housing;
- Valuations involving brownfield sites;
- Education and qualification of valuers;
- Valuation standards and practice;
- Land administration and valuation;
- Taxation and valuation.

Construction Economics and Management

- Construction economics and cost management;
- Quantity surveying;
- Building surveying;
- Cost engineering;
- Project and construction management and construction law.

www.fig2006.de