

## Facts / Figures / Contracts

### NTT DoCoMo Achieves 2.5Gbps Packet Transmission in 4G Field Experiment

NTT DoCoMo, Inc. has achieved 2.5Gbps packet transmission in the downlink while moving at 20km/h. The fourth-generation (4G) radio access field experiment took place in Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture on December 14, 2005. DoCoMo achieved a maximum 1Gbps speed in a similar field experiment on May 9, 2005. This time, by increasing the number of MIMO\*1 transmission antennas from four to six and by using 64-QAM\*2, data volume per transmission was increased from four bits to six bits. As a result, DoCoMo achieved a maximum speed of 2.5Gbps, which is faster than the International Telecommunication Union Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R)'s proposed standard.

Frequency spectrum efficiency\*3, which is expressed as information bits per second per Hertz, was also increased from 10 bits per second per Hertz during the last experiment to 25 bits. This figure is the maximum frequency spectrum efficiency for 4G as defined by WINNER\*4. Building on the success of the field trials, DoCoMo will continue its research and development in order to actively contribute to the global standardization of 4G.

[www.nttdocomo.com](http://www.nttdocomo.com)

### ESA Joins Forces with Japan on New Infrared Sky Surveyor

A high-capability new infrared satellite, ASTRO-F, was successfully launched on 21 February by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). In a collaborative effort involving ESA and scientists across Europe, the spacecraft is now being prepared to start its mapping of the cosmos. Orbiting the Earth, ASTRO-F (to be renamed Akari (light) now that it is in orbit) will make an unprecedented study of the sky in infrared light, to reveal the distant phenomena hidden from our eyes that tell the story of the formation and evolution processes taking place in the universe.

ASTRO-F will be in polar orbit around the Earth at an altitude of 745 kilometres. From there, after two months of system check-outs and performance verification, it will survey the whole sky in about half a year, with much better sensitivity, spatial resolution and wider wavelength coverage than its only infrared surveyor predecessor, the Anglo-Dutch-US IRAS satellite (1983).

The all-sky survey will be followed by a ten-month phase during which thousands of selected astronomical targets will be observed in detail. This will enable scientists to look at these individual objects for a longer time, and thus with increased sensitivity, to conduct their spectral analysis. This second phase will end with the depletion of the liquid helium needed to cool down the spacecraft telescope and its instruments to only a few degrees above absolute zero. ASTRO-F will then start its third operations phase and continue to make observations of selected celestial targets with its infrared camera only, in a few specific infrared wavelengths.

[www.esa.int](http://www.esa.int)

### Irish Dept. of Agriculture & Food's SPS Uses eSpatial Spatial Technology

eSpatial has announced that the Irish Dept. of Agriculture & Food's recent award winning Single Payment System (SPS) uses spatial technology based on eSpatial's iSMART platform. The Dept. of Agriculture & Food, whose range of customers encompasses government departments and individu-

al citizens, deployed the SPS Application which recently won the award for best project in "Government to Business" category in the Irish "Innovation Through Technology Awards". The winning project reused the iMAP solution built by eSpatial and Accenture, the international management-consulting and technology services company, integrates application-form processing data with geospatial information enabling the department to manage and process Single Farm Payment applications and payments in an integrated and web-based environment. The spatial component of the system is built on eSpatial's iSMART technology, which draws upon the spatial capability within Oracle 8.1.7 Database and Oracle Application Server.

[www.espatial.com](http://www.espatial.com)

### Terralink International Adopts ER Mapper

Terralink International has selected the ER Mapper image processing application to assist in the datum/projection conversion of existing image catalogues. Terralink will be converting its assets from NZMG49 to NZTM GD2000 and vice versa using the NTV2 grid transformation. Many of the datasets used by Terralink are more than 30GB in size. Many of these datasets will be split into 1:50k topographic sheets, to facilitate management and tracking.

[www.ermapper.com](http://www.ermapper.com)

### ESRI Book 'Remote Sensing For GIS Managers'

Hundreds of illustrations and examples merge in 'Remote Sensing for GIS Managers', a new book from ESRI Press that reveals the power of interpreting information gathered from aerial photography, radar, satellite, and other remote-sensing methods. Readers will travel from the vast ocean depths to the far reaches of outer space as they learn everything from the basics of remote sensing to the challenges of interpreting, managing, and storing the ever-increasing range of remotely sensed data available today. Designed for new and experienced users, Remote Sensing for GIS Managers is written for GIS managers, professionals, and students who want to become more knowledgeable users of remote-sensing services and manage the development of innovative solutions suited to the needs and goals of their organizations. The book's case studies illustrate the use of remote sensing in national security, urban and regional planning, resource inventory and management, and scientific disciplines ranging from forestry and geology to archaeology and meteorology.

'Remote Sensing for GIS Managers' (ISBN 1-58948-081-3, 524 pages, \$69.95) is available in bookstores and from online retailers worldwide or can be purchased at [www.esri.com/esripress](http://www.esri.com/esripress) or by calling 1-800-447-9778. Outside the United States, contact a local ESRI distributor; see [www.esri.com/international](http://www.esri.com/international) for a current distributor list. Books published by ESRI Press are distributed by Independent Publishers Group (tel.: 1-800-888-4741, Web:

[www.ipgbook.com](http://www.ipgbook.com)).

[www.esri.com](http://www.esri.com)

### Loy Surveys Replace Survey Equipment

Loy Surveys, Chartered Land Surveyors have placed an order with Trimble dealer Survey Solutions to replace their entire fleet of survey equipment. The new Trimble S6 robotic/reflex total stations and Trimble R8GNSS receivers together with the introduction of a new standard Trimble TCS2 handheld interface will provide real-time computing in the field. Trimble R8 GNSS now supports both the next-generation GPS L2C and L5 signals and GLONASS L1/L2 signals.

[www.loy.co.uk/](http://www.loy.co.uk/)

### Online Multimedia Presentations OGC

The Open Geospatial Consortium, Inc. (OGC) announces the availability of two online multimedia demonstrations documenting the milestones achieved in the OGC Web Services Phase 3 Initiative, (OWS-3). The focus of the presentations is to share the OWS-3 goals and to provide a synopsis of the final demonstration. The presentations are available as interactive Flash and Web-streamed video and illustrate the use of a variety of draft and approved OpenGIS standards in an emergency response to a fictitious wildfire threat in Southern California. The presentations are available at [www.opengeospatial.org/demo/ows3/](http://www.opengeospatial.org/demo/ows3/)

### Landmark Building Added to Ordnance Survey's Data Mapping Assembled for Senedd

The Senedd - the National Assembly of Wales' new debating chamber - now features on the nation's most detailed maps. The outline of the Cardiff Bay building is set out in fine detail in OS MasterMap. The £67 million building, designed by Lord Richard Rogers, hosted its first debate and First Minister's questions last week, and was officially opened by the Queen on St David's Day, 1 March 2006. The Senedd - parliament or senate in Welsh - uses natural wood and slate and is designed with energy efficiency in mind. It has won praise for its construction, winning the Building Research Establishment's highest award for sustainable construction.

[www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk)

### Geauga County, OH Awards RFP to Pictometry

Pictometry International Corp. has won a Request for Proposal (RFP) from Geauga County, OH to provide oblique aerial imaging and software for the county and its local municipalities. Pictometry's county-wide licensing agreement enables all municipalities in a participating county to freely have access to the digital aerial photography and GIS software. Located in the upper, northeast region of Ohio, Geauga County encompasses 404 square miles and has a population of over 94,000 residents. The county was founded in 1806 and has 16 townships. The company is hosting its first annual User Conference, Pictometry FutureView 2006, from October 29 - November 1, 2006 in Orlando, FL.

[www.pictometry.com](http://www.pictometry.com).

### PICAB New Topcon Dealer in North of Sweden

Topcon Europe Positioning BV has a new partner in the North of Sweden. In a new agreement with the Swedish company PICAB, Topcon aims to provide its customers with a strong basis for further expansion of its sales and support capabilities for Survey and GPS positioning products (total station and GPS+ sales) in this part of Sweden. It is the new company PICAB Positioning, within the PICAB Group, that will take care of positioning solutions for construction, survey and GIS. PICAB Positioning is managed by Börje Israelsson, prior sales manager for Topcon Scandinavia in the north of Sweden. PICAB Group is one of the leading companies in System Development (design and development of activities and custom GIS applications), GIS production (map production, digitization, GIS analysis, GPS measurements etc), and will now actively broaden its business in a new field by supplying positioning solutions for construction, survey and GIS fields.

[www.topconeurope.com](http://www.topconeurope.com)

### Terra Digital Chooses Infoterra's Pixel Factory



Infoterra France announces the delivery of its Pixel Factory photogrammetric suite to Terra Digital, an advanced geo-service provider in Germany. The Pixel Factory, developed by ISTAR (now part of Infoterra France) during the last 15 years, offers the opportunity to rapidly generate a wide range of cartographic end products such as Digital Surface Models, Digital Terrain Models, Ortho and TrueOrtho™ photos. According to Infoterra France there is a high level of automation and multi-processor architecture which help to produce vast quantity of raw data in outstanding time.

[www.infoterra-global.com](http://www.infoterra-global.com)

### NGA Awards ClearView Contract to DigitalGlobe

DigitalGlobe has been awarded a \$12 million satellite imagery capacity contract modification by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). This ClearView contract enables the NGA to acquire additional commercial imagery from DigitalGlobe's QuickBird satellite - the world's highest resolution commercial imaging satellite.

[www.digitalglobe.com](http://www.digitalglobe.com)

### Vianova Systems Delivers 10,000th Copy of Novapoint

Vianova Systems (Oslo, Norway) announced the delivery of the 10,000th copy of Novapoint, the company's software solution for the design of transportation infrastructures and the management of infrastructure assets, to Grontmij NV ([www.grontmij.com](http://www.grontmij.com)), the Netherlands. With a team made up of 320 people and 80% market share in the Scandinavian countries, Vianova Systems has recently extended its reach with business operations in Spain, the UK/Ireland and France.

[www.vianovasytems.co.uk](http://www.vianovasytems.co.uk)

[www.vianova-systems.fr](http://www.vianova-systems.fr)

### Vexcel Delivers End-To-End Aerial Mapping System to COWI

COWI A/S (Denmark) has purchased a complete aerial mapping solution from Vexcel. The system includes two Vexcel UltraCam (TM) large format digital aerial cameras and the Vexcel UltraMap(TM) server turnkey hardware and software solution for digital image archiving, cataloging and post-processing. The procurement of these combined products provides COWI with Vexcel's fully digital approach to photogrammetric operations.

[www.vexcel.com](http://www.vexcel.com)

### Ordnance Survey UK Highlights GI Strategy

Ordnance Survey UK has published a free headline summary of its strategy for providing geographic information (GI) for Great Britain over the next two years. The paper - available to download at [www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/aboutus](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/aboutus) - outlines the key elements involved in supporting the

widespread adoption and use of GI. It highlights the continuing maintenance of the national georeferencing infrastructure on which the market in GI can develop, plus Ordnance Survey's focus on customers and collaborative work with government, business and other stakeholders. The strategy involves the goal of ensuring that Ordnance Survey data remains a key enabler to support new demands and requirements throughout the information industry. A major component to support joined-up information sharing is the ongoing development of OS MasterMap as a seamless geographic database compatible with accepted web standards and ordered through an online interface.

[www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk)

### GeoEye to Supply European Commission with OrbView-3 Imagery

GeoEye's partner European Space Imaging (EUSI) received an additional contract from the European Commission to supply OrbView-3 high-resolution map-accurate imagery. The contract was awarded on April 5, 2006 and is valued at \$2.15 million (EUR 1.8 million) over the next four years. The imagery will be collected by the company's OrbView-3 high-resolution earth-imaging satellite. Together with its recently renewed three-year contract to supply imagery from GeoEye's IKONOS high-resolution satellite, EUSI continues to be one of the largest suppliers of commercial satellite imagery to the European Commission. The imagery will be processed and delivered to the European Commission by EUSI located in Munich, Germany. The contract requires GeoEye to begin imagery collections over 24 specific European sites to support the European Commission's agricultural subsidy controls. The European Union is using satellite imagery as a tool to verify farmer's declarations and claims for subsidies. In addition, the European Commission will use OrbView-3 imagery in support of national security related projects.

[www.geoeye.com](http://www.geoeye.com)

### 100 Thales ProMark3 Systems Ordered by Brazil's Agrarian Reform Institute



Brazil's cadastral agency responsible for land regulation, sustainable development of rural lands and topographic surveying of government land (INCRA), has purchased 100 Thales ProMark 3 GPS survey systems. The INCRA choice of

the ProMark3 GPS survey system is the first time the agency has selected Thales equipment to conduct its nationwide GPS surveying effort. INCRA officials were impressed with the overall design of the ProMark3, including its light weight and screen capabilities. Headquartered in Brasília, the Instituto Nacional de Colonização e Reforma Agrária employs more than 4,000 nationwide. The mission of the 35-year-old public agency is to create development opportunity for Brazil's rural populations. It is responsible for placing families in rural areas, land use regulation, and topographic surveys of government lands.

[www.thalesgroup.com/navigation](http://www.thalesgroup.com/navigation)

### Atlas New ESRI Software Distributor in Iraq

ESRI announced that Atlas for GIS and Surveying Systems Co. Ltd., a former user, is now its distribu-

tor for geographic information system (GIS) software in Iraq. Since 1989, the Republic of Iraq, with the help of Atlas for GIS and Surveying Systems, has continued the arduous task of updating the country's infrastructure maps while working toward the establishment of national information and GIS centers.

[www.esri.com](http://www.esri.com)

## People

### New Petroleum Industry Solutions Manager Joins ESRI

Brian Boulmay has joined ESRI as Petroleum

Industry Solutions manager.

With more than eight years of experience in the petroleum industry,

Boulmay comes to ESRI from Shell in Houston,

Texas, where he was team leader for geo-infor-

mation and GIS. To meet the diverse needs for geo-

graphic technology in this industry, ESRI is expanding its petroleum team with highly qualified, GIS,

Petroleum professionals. During his time with Shell, Boulmay served on the Petroleum User Group (PUG) steering team assisting with the PUG confer-

ence as well as leading the PUG 3D working group focusing on gridding and contouring, and 3D capabilities of ESRI software. With Shell, he led a team of spatial professionals and managed local and global projects, improving the company's use of spatial technologies. A recent project was working to standardize the GIS IT architecture globally for Shell.

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### GeoEye Names Paolo Colombi Vice President of International Sales

GeoEye appointed Mr. Paolo E. Colombi as vice

president of International Sales. Mr. Colombi has

over 25 years of experience in sales, operations and international management in high-technology and telecommunications systems and services. He will be directly responsible for all international business development and sales, and serve as a resource to more than a dozen Regional Affiliates and Regional Distributors around the globe.

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## Conferences & Meetings

Laser-Scan User & Partner Conference 2006

Laser-Scan's 2006 User & Partner Conference will be held from Tuesday 27th - Thursday 29th June.

The theme of this year's Conference is 'Spatial Data Supply Chain: Delivering ROI'. Organisations across the world in many different market sectors, such as government, defence and utilities have invested significantly in departmental geospatial data holdings over the last 10-15 years. Delegates can register online at [www.laser-scan.com/conference/index.htm](http://www.laser-scan.com/conference/index.htm).