

Geocosmos Completes Mapping Project for Gazprom



Geocosmos has successfully completed a large oil and gas project for Nadymgazprom, one of the subsidiaries of Gazprom, the world's largest gas company. Nadymgazprom is the third company in the Gazprom system in terms of the hydrocarbon production. This long-term project was initiated in the framework of 'The Yamal Peninsular and Adjoining Offshore Areas Complex Survey Programme' (drawn up in 2002) and lasted nearly five years. The scope of work covered six gas condensate fields – Medvezhye, Yubileynoye, Yamsoveyskoye, Bovanenkovskoye, Kharasaveyskoye, Novoportovskoye, and the total surveyed area comprised 5200 sq.km.

www.geocosmos.ru

700,000 Ikonos Satellite Images Available through EVC Store

East View Cartographic has added 700,000 Ikonos satellite images to their online EVC Store. This is the first time that Ikonos imagery has been available in a fully-functioning e-commerce environment complete with the support of experienced customer service representatives. Customers can easily browse available images geographically and place an order directly online or get further personalized help from a representative.

www.cartographic.com

Bentley Joins FIG as Platinum Corporate Member

Bentley Systems has joined FIG as a Platinum corporate member. Bentley sees the surveyor community as a fundamental contributor to the lifecycle of infrastructure. Infrastructure extends and builds upon the geometry of the Earth's surface. Therefore, both the positional and geometric accuracy of the underlying maps is critical, especially as users start to model cities and other types of infrastructure in 3D.

www.bentley.com

Definiens Strengthens American and Worldwide Management Team

Definiens AG appointed Joel Campbell as Vice President and General Manager USA and David Fullerton as Vice President Worldwide Professional Services. Joel Campbell, who joined Definiens in 2006, is responsible for the company's operations in USA, focussing on the growth of the company's life and earth sciences business in the Americas. He brings over 20 years of experience in the IT industry with him and operated his own consulting firm in the geospatial industry prior to his engagement with Definiens. David Fullerton brings more than 20 years of professional services experience to Definiens and will focus on global customer service activities and engagements.

www.definiens.com

Bentley Takes Principal Membership in the OGC

Bentley Systems has become a Principal Member in the OGC. Principal Members have complete authority over the specification release and adoption process through their voting rights in the Planning Committee (PC). It is by PC vote that OpenGIS Specifications are approved and released by the Consortium. PC Members participate in planning and management of the Consortium's technology development process, evaluate and provide guidance on market direction and Consortium focus, possess Technical Committee voting rights, have approval authority for OGC policies and procedures, and vote to elect members of the OGC Board of Directors.

www.opengeospatial.org

Educational Program from Topcon

Topcon Europe Positioning B.V. has started an educational program offering universities, schools, colleges and professional training centers Topcon products at a special price. The program focuses on schools and universities where surveying is an important part of the education. The package basically offers affordable surveying equipment. It is made up of a HiPer Pro Base and Rover set and all software and accessories needed for static and RTK surveying. The specially priced Topcon GPS+ package is offered exclusively to educational establishments in Europe through TEP GPS distributors.

www.topcon.eu

ESRI Helps Organizations Standardize Geospatial Business Processes

ESRI's Job Tracking for ArcGIS Server extension helps organizations allocate staffing resources and track the status and progress of jobs from beginning to end. With Job Tracking for ArcGIS (JTX), geographic information system (GIS) users are able to monitor projects without slowing the production process. Job Tracking for ArcGIS (JTX) automatically records all activities associated with a job, allowing managers to quickly and easily check a job's progress and see how it was completed. This extension is now available for ArcGIS Server.

www.esri.com

Geosoft and ESRI Collaborate for Mining and Geosciences

Geosoft and ESRI will deliver integrated software and data management solutions for the global mining and geosciences sector. The collaboration will result in a scalable and interoperable software platform that improves the availability and integration of geoscientific data for successful earth exploration and discovery.

www.geosoft.com

www.esri.com

Infoterra Supplies Aerial Imagery for New Flight Simulator Scenery

Infoterra Ltd has supplied GeoPerspectives aerial imagery and terrain data to Just Flight Ltd, the world's leading flight simulation specialist, for use within a series of photographic scenery packages for flight simulation on home PCs. At a resolution of 1m, the high quality and accurate imagery of England and Wales will allow Just Flight to differentiate themselves from their competitors and help them build on their market leading position. The VFR Real Scenery series, to be used with the latest version of Microsoft's Flight Simulator X, is now available on the high street.

www.infoterra.co.uk

Leipzig to Host INTERGEO 2007



According to the organisers, selecting Leipzig as the location for INTERGEO 2007 has proven to be an excellent choice. Leipzig has made a name for itself as a key trade fair location in Central Europe. Leading trade fairs, such as the Leipzig Book Fair, Automobile International and the Games Convention, are held at one of the oldest trade fair centres in the world. In fact, the Games Convention is the only trade fair of its kind in Europe. Leipzig is easy to reach by plane both nationally and internationally and is networked with all important metropolitan areas. At the heart of the Leipzig/Halle conurbation and thus part of the Saxon Triangle, Leipzig is also a key traffic hub in its own right. Deutsche Bahn AG will again be providing a special service for visitors going to INTERGEO by train. International visitors are also guaranteed excellent connections with new visitor services. In the city itself, a dense and virtually seamless network of trams, city trains and buses will ensure optimum transfer times and connections. Intergeo 2007 will take place from September 25 - 27, 2007 in Leipzig. Further information is available at www.intergeo.de.

www.intergeo.de

Lockheed Martin Completes Work on Modernized GPS Satellites

Lockheed Martin announced the delivery of the eighth and final satellite in the modernized Global Positioning System Block IIR (GPS IIR-M) production program to the Air Force. There are currently three IIR-M spacecraft on-orbit, along with 12 original Block IIR satellites within the overall 30-spacecraft GPS constellation. Each satellite in the Block IIR-M series includes a modernized antenna panel that provides increased signal power to receivers on the ground; two new military signals for improved accuracy, enhanced encryption and anti-jamming capabilities for the military; and a second civil signal that will provide users with an open access signal on a different frequency.

www.lockheedmartin.com/GPS

Lockheed Martin Team Completes GPS III System Design Review on Schedule

Lockheed Martin has successfully completed on-schedule a system design review of the U.S. Air Force's next generation Global Positioning System Space Segment program, known as GPS Block III. The review, which represented a significant interim milestone under a US\$ 49 million contract awarded in Nov. 2006, validated the detailed design of the GPS Block III system to ensure it meets military and civil user requirements. The Air Force is expected to award a multi-billion dollar development contract to a single contractor team in late 2007. GPS Block III will enhance space-based navigation and performance and set a new world standard for positioning and timing services.

www.lockheedmartin.com

New ER Mapper Master Distributor for Japan

Sancohokugyo has been appointed ER Mapper's Master Distributor for Japan. ER Mapper has been active in the Japanese market since the early 90s. To date ER Mapper has over 1000 software installations in Japan. ER Mapper's existing resellers ITOCHU Techno-Solutions Corp (CTC) and VisionTech Inc (VTI)

will continue their valued association with the ER Mapper reseller network. They will assist Sancho in promoting and supporting our products.

www.ermapper.com

OGC Seeking IP Team Members from Europe

The OGC is seeking European companies, universities and individuals to pre-qualify to receive funding and work as part of the OGC Interoperability Program (OGC IP) Team. The 'Invitation to Qualify' (ITQ) can be found at: [http://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact_id=14559]. The companies, universities, and independent consultants who pre-qualify to be part of future Open Geospatial Consortium Interoperability Program Team (IP Team) activities will become IP Team Pool members and may be selected for future initiatives, including the OGC's 2007 OGC Web Services test bed, OWS-5. The IP Team is an engineering and management team that oversees and coordinates the OGC Interoperability Program's Interoperability Initiatives, which include test beds, pilot projects and interoperability experiments. Pool members are selected in accordance with the process defined in the OGC IP Team Invitation to Qualify (ITQ).

www.opengeospatial.org

Poland Chooses Trimble Technology to Establish GNSS Network

The Polish National Office of Geodesy and Cartography, GUGiK has chosen Trimble to supply 78 Continuous Operating Reference Station (CORS) receivers and VRS(TM) (Virtual Reference Station) technology to establish a nationwide Global Satellite Navigation Positioning System (GNSS) infrastructure network for the country of Poland. The Trimble VRS network will provide a geospatial infrastructure for surveying, engineering and Geographic Information System (GIS) professionals that enables high accuracy real-time kinematic (RTK) GNSS positioning without the need of separate base stations or software, significantly increasing efficiency and productivity.

www.trimble.com

Sokkia to Become Subsidiary of Topcon

Topcon will acquire the shares of Sokkia. According to both companies the market environment for both companies is highly competitive and Chinese manufacturers are penetrating the global markets with their low cost basis. Both companies firmly believe that the combination is with their best partner and that this combination is the best alternative not only for the shareholders of the two companies but for all stakeholders including the customers and employees.

www.topcon.com

www.sokkia.com

Strategic Partnership STAR-APIC and GEOMENSURA

A strategic, technical and marketing partnership was signed between STAR-APIC, and GEOMENSURA, editor of Road Infrastructures solutions. Road Infrastructures design software and GIS software have the capability of communicating by simple file exchange. But for Road Infrastructures project designers, true interoperability with the GIS is lacking. To solve this problem, STAR-APIC and GEOMENSURA have developed a technical bridge called Lisa. With Lisa, MENSURA users have direct client/server access to the reference data layers found in the geographic STAR and ORACLE SPATIAL databases (and managed, for instance, by APIC).

www.star-apic.com

Leica Geosystems Powers Spanish Orthophoto Project



The Spanish National Geographic Institute has embarked on its ambitious National Aerial Orthophoto Plan. The project's goal is to create half-meter orthophotos covering the entire country and update the data every two years. Next year, resolution for this project will increase to 25 centimeters for the whole territory and 10 centimeters for urban areas. Ventura, one of the country's largest private mapping companies with 125 employees, is responsible for creating orthophotos of four of 17 PNOA regions. Their portion covers some 60,000 square kilometers, captured at 50-centimeter resolution (50,000 square kilometers) and 25-centimeter resolution (10,000 square kilometers).

www.leica-geosystems.com

Tadpole Awarded Contract to Deliver Google Earth Based Application to BP International

Geospatial Solutions Division BP International has contracted Tadpole Technology to develop a proof of concept application utilising Google Earth. The application will be delivered to BP Group Fire Advisor to improve the management of system integrity and regulatory compliance across all sites, worldwide. Utilizing the Google Earth user interface, the system will provide a digital world map displaying the exact location of all BP sites across the globe. Each BP site will be represented by a point on the map that links to a virtual filing cabinet, displaying up to date site-specific data and compliance documentation.

www.tadpoletechnology.com/gsd

RoIta India Takes Principal Membership in OGC

RoIta India Ltd has joined the OGC as a Principal Member. RoIta is an Indian multinational organization that has executed projects in over 35 countries. RoIta is provider and developer of Information Technology based GeoSpatial Information Systems (GIS), Engineering Design Automation Solutions and eSecurity services worldwide.

www.opengeospatial.org

Trimble Innovative Training for Engineering and Construction Industry

Trimble has expanded its portfolio of training products with a suite of modules for the engineering and construction industry. Facilitated through a state-of-the-art Internet-based enterprise learning management system, the training modules will be available to distribution partners and customers anytime, anywhere. Utilizing the latest virtual reality technology, the interactive training modules provide simulations of how to use Trimble solutions. The simulation modules may be used as stand-alone training tools or as an integral part of a blended training program that encompasses e-learning and instructor led training. Customers can access the simulation modules online and learn through hands-on training in the office or their home. An individual's training history is recorded in the enterprise learning manage-

ment system, providing a way of managing and tracking each person's professional development. For more information on the Trimble Knowledge Network, visit: <http://trimble.training.learn.com>

Fugro Acquires EarthData

Fugro has signed an agreement to acquire 100% of the shares of the USA based EarthData Group. EarthData is provider of innovative airborne mapping, remote sensing and geographic information services used by US government agencies as well as commercial clients. The company is active in market sectors such as urban planning, natural resource management and engineering activities. In addition to its activities in the US, EarthData provides international data acquisition services and has a data processing center in China. EarthData/Horizons has a fleet of twelve aircraft and a variety of sensors which include state-of-the-art digital cameras, laser mapping systems and a unique airborne radar mapping technology called GeoSAR. The EarthData group of companies has an annual turnover of approximately EUR 40 million and about 340 employees in the USA and China.

Fugro is establishing a global Geospatial Services business by combining its existing 'Onshore survey' business line and elements of the satellite positioning activities. The EarthData group and MAPS Geosolutions (for which a letter of intent was signed on 8 March) will form part of this business line.

www.fugro.com

Pitney Bowes to Acquire MapInfo

Pitney Bowes has acquired MapInfo Corporation. MapInfo generated US\$165 million in revenue for its fiscal year 2006. The acquisition strengthens Pitney Bowes' position in the growing location intelligence market.

www.pb.com

Neil Armstrong Keynote Speaker at INTERGRAPH 2007

Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon, is keynote speaker at INTERGRAPH 2007 which will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, May 21-24, 2007. As spacecraft commander for NASA's Apollo 11 mission, Neil Armstrong enabled the world to realize its vision, successfully landing man on the moon. His first step onto the moon's surface and quote that followed, "That's one small step for (a) man, one giant leap for mankind," would forever change history, and still serves as a symbol for those who dare to dream of what is possible.

www.intergraph2007.com

Erratum STAR-APIC

We discovered an annoying mistake in our first issue of 2007 (Jan/Febr issue). A wrong text under the headline 'STAR INFORMATIC Becomes STAR-APIC'. Following is the correct text.

STAR INFORMATIC Becomes STAR-APIC

Just over three years ago, STAR INFORMATIC acquired the French company Apic SA. The teams from both companies have achieved their goal of integrating both their knowledge and technologies. The decision to unify the brand name of the companies under one single flag, in order to underline the integrated nature of our group, which will naturally be STAR-APIC. The name change coincides with a change in organization to take into account the integrated nature of our Group and its multinational presence.

www.star-apic.com