

Eli Tamanaha Joins PrecisionHawk as Vice President of Strategic Initiatives

PrecisionHawk Inc., – a leading provider of enterprise drone technology– has recently announced that Eli Tamanaha, co-founder and former chief technology officer of DroneBase, will be joining PrecisionHawk in a newly created position reporting to CEO Michael Chasen. The selection of Tamanaha underscores PrecisionHawk's position as the vanguard of aerial intelligence that drives operational insights and as a drone industry pioneer.

senseFly Announces the Appointment of New CEO, Gilles Labossière

senseFly, the leading provider of professional mapping drones and a commercial drone subsidiary of Parrot Group, has appointed its new CEO, Gilles Labossière. Labossière is the Executive Vice President and COO of Parrot Group, a position he will continue to hold as he focuses on boosting senseFly's growth in the professional drone space.

Woolpert Hires Geospatial Scientist Steve Ambrose as Program Director for Government Solutions

Woolpert has hired Steve Ambrose as Program Director for its Government Solutions market. Ambrose's extensive experience with disaster management, remote sensing and applied science will support the firm's work with critical infrastructure, natural disasters, climate change and information systems.

Autodesk Appoints Karen Blasing To Board of Directors

Autodesk, Inc. has appointed Karen Blasing to its Board of Directors. Most recently CFO of Guidewire Software, Blasing has more than 25 years of financial leadership experience. She will also serve as a member of the company's Audit Committee. Ms. Blasing most recently served as Chief Financial Officer of Guidewire Software, where she led the financial operations of the company and helped establish a technology platform that enhances insurers' ability to engage and empower their customers and employees.

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Awards Leidos \$250 Million Task Orders

Leidos was awarded 7 task orders by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) under the Multi-Intelligence Analytical & Collection Support Services (MACSS) program. The task orders will be executed over the next five and a half years at a total contract value of approximately \$250 million.

Woolpert Awarded \$2M PennDOT Photogrammetry Contract

he Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has signed Woolpert to one of three statewide photogrammetry contracts. The five-year, \$2 million contract is for geodetic survey and photogrammetric mapping, including stereo-compliant aerial and mobile lidar collections.

Deimos Imaging Awarded Contract Exceeding USD \$2,6M By The Brazilian MoD

Deimos Imaging has entered into a contract with the Brazilian Ministry of Defence's Aeronautics Command (COMAER) exceeding \$2.6 million US dollars. The Contract requires Deimos Imaging to supply Earth Observation products and services from the Deimos-2 satellite, during an initial period of three years that could be extended up to five years. Payments are expected to be spread equally over the initial three-year period.

Esri Location Intelligence to Integrate with SAP HANA Spatial Services

Esri has recently announced that Esri's ArcGIS software is integrating into SAP's latest cloud-based offering, called SAP HANA spatial services, to help customers create location-aware business applications faster. Based on SAP Cloud Platform, the new offering enables businesses to process location data such as complex imagery, as well as visualize and analyze their authoritative data in a geospatial context.

Deimos Imaging Awarded GSA Contract

Deimos Imaging and UrtheCast have been awarded a GSA Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) 070 contract by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), the procurement arm of the federal government. This is the first time that a

European company in Earth observation services has been awarded such a contract in the U.S., making Deimos Imaging's full portfolio of products and services available to all U.S. government agencies.

Bentley Systems Acquires Plaxis, and Complementary SoilVision, to Integrate Geotechnical Engineering within Digital Workflows for Infrastructure Projects

Bentley Systems has recently announced the acquisition of Plaxis, the leading provider of geotechnical software, based in Delft, Netherlands, and the agreement to acquire soil engineering software provider SoilVision, based in Saskatchewan, Canada. The acquisitions, with Bentley's market-leading borehole reporting and data management software gINT, serve to make Bentley a complete source for geotechnical professionals "going digital." Finally, BIM advancements can be extended to the essential subsurface engineering of every infrastructure project.

East View Geospatial Now Offering PlanetSAT 10-meter Global Mosaic

East View Geospatial (EVG) has announced the availability of PlanetSAT Global #2018, the most up-to-date global imagery basemap. Produced by EVG partner PlanetObserver, PlanetSat Global #2018 has an unmatched 10-meter resolution and provides accurate geographic information for any part of the world. Users benefit from a seamless view of the Earth with recent cloud-free satellite imagery in high-quality natural colors.

Greece Launches Its Own Space Agency – Hellenic Space Organization

Almost a year and a half since the first announcement of its creation, the Hellenic Space Agency was officially launched on March 19, by Minister for Digital Policy Nikos Pappas and General Secretary for Telecommunications and Post Vassilis Maglaras. Greece has been a member of ESA since 2005 and has invested millions of euros in ESA's research programmes but was one of the few member states lacking a national institution. Greece expects to gain from the new agency, among them, telecommunications infrastructure, defense, medical applications, agriculture, environmental monitoring, fire prevention and control.

JAXA Successfully Deployed First Kenyan Satellite

On May 11, 2018, the first CubeSat developed under the KiboCUBE programme has been successfully deployed from the Japanese Experiment Module "Kibo" of the International Space Station. This CubeSat, named "1KUNS-PF" was developed by a team from the University of Nairobi. 1KUNS-PF was developed as Kenya's first satellite, and the University of Nairobi will operate the CubeSat after its deployment from "Kibo".

Esri Announces Release of Sentinel-2 Image Services

Esri has announced that it is releasing Sentinel-2 Image Services to all Esri users for no additional cost. Sentinel-2 is an Earth Observation Satellite that provides multi-spectral imagery for any location in the world at 10-meter resolution. Currently in beta, the service is updated daily with new imagery for all ground locations every 5 to 7 days. The Sentinel-2 Image Services provide temporal, multi-spectral imagery of the entire globe for improved monitoring.

Sri Lanka Survey Department Released New Sri Lanka Maps

After 18 years, the Sri Lanka Survey Department (SLSD), the national surveying and mapping organization under the Ministry of Land and Land Development have decided to update the geographical map of Sri Lanka. The new map produced by the 1:500 ratio will include features like Moragahakanda reservoir and various other schemes. Measures have been taken to produce printed copies of this map by June mid, while digital maps are made available.

Belarus, Russia, Kazakhstan to Make Space Satellites Together

Belarus, Russia, and Kazakhstan have come to terms on manufacturing cooperation for making satellites for the remote sensing of Earth. The decision was made at the latest session of the interstate working group in charge of working out the interstate government program "Integrated system of the EAEU member states for producing and

providing space and geoinformation services based on national sources of remote Earth sensing data", as reported by BelTA.

Sentinel-3B, 7th Satellite of the Copernicus Programme Launched Successfully

On 25 April 2018 at 19:57 CEST, the Earth observation satellite Sentinel-3B lifted off on a Rockot launcher from the Russian cosmodrome in Plesetsk. With Sentinel-3B, the seventh satellite of the Copernicus programme has been launched and the first four satellite missions of the Copernicus space segment are now complete. The oceans are the focus of the mission, but large-scale changes in land areas will also be recorded.

Studying Soil Erosion from Space

Geologist and geochemist Isaac Larsen at the University of Massachusetts Amherst has a grant from NASA to study soils in a whole new way, from space. Isaac Larsen is an expert in soil production, erosion, human impact and the evolution of the agricultural landscape, Larsen has been awarded a three-year, \$265,000 New Investigator Program grant from NASA's Earth Science Division. Most of this work will use existing images, Larsen says. He and a graduate student will come up with creative ways to use space-based data to study Earth's soils not only using public NASA data, but also high-resolution commercial images that NASA and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency can make available for research by agreement with private companies.

Hyperspectral Instrument DESIS En Route to International Space Station in 2018

The German Aerospace Center (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt; DLR) and the United States corporation Teledyne Brown Engineering (TBE) are announcing the completion of the development and manufacturing process of the DLR Earth Sensing Imaging Spectrometer (DESI) hardware. The DESIS environment and resource monitoring system will launch to the ISS in the summer of 2018. The hyperspectral sensor system has a spatial resolution of 30 metres. DESIS will be DLR's first instrument for the analysis of hyperspectral data on the ISS. The continuous coverage of the Visible Near

Infrared (VNIR) spectral range makes DESIS a multi-purpose instrument, which will help to gain new knowledge about agriculture, biodiversity, geology and mineralogy, coastal zones, water ecosystems, desertification and to detect changes in general.

Sketch Design for New Belarusian-Russian Satellite in 2019

Belarusian and Russian specialists have already started creating a new satellite for the extremely high resolution remote sensing of Earth. According to the source, they intend to finish its initial design in 2019. The results will determine the final deadline for creating the satellite, the volume and the cost of the work. The new satellite will expand the Belarusian-Russian constellation of satellites for the remote sensing of Earth. It will boast improved parameters in comparison with the existing satellite and will be able to tackle more tasks.

TCarta Delivers Satellite-Derived Land/Sea Floor Surface Models for Caribbean Disaster Recovery

TCarta, a global provider of marine geospatial products, has delivered pre- and post-disaster surface models for the Caribbean islands of Antigua and Barbuda for use in Hurricane Irma recovery efforts. The satellite-derived surface models contain seamless datasets of onshore elevation and offshore water depth measurements for each island. TCarta won a competitive tender, which specifically requested end products derived from satellite imagery. For the seafloor dataset, the TCarta team generated Satellite Derived Bathymetry products by extracting accurate water depth measurements from high-resolution multispectral imagery acquired by the DigitalGlobe WorldView satellites. In the clear Caribbean waters around Antigua and Barbuda, bathymetric points were delivered on a 2-meter spacing to deeper than 20 meters. TCarta team created digital surface models of the terrain on Antigua and Barbuda, utilizing a technique to derive surface elevations at 0.5-meter point spacing from multiple WorldView images captured over the islands. Vegetation was then removed from surface models to yield bare-Earth elevation models.

Earth-i Releases Its First Full-Colour Video of Earth Taken From Space

Earth-i has released the first video taken by VividX2, the technology prototype for its Vivid-i Constellation. Launched on 12 January 2018, VividX2 is the world's first commercial satellite able to provide full-colour video of life on Earth. Weighing 100kg and measuring approximately 1 cubic metre, VividX2 is orbiting at 505km above the Earth and travelling at approximately 7km per second. At the heart of the satellite is an Ultra High Definition camera that captures high-resolution images for any location on Earth – and also films up to two minutes of video at a time as it passes over each target.

Genesys International Corporation Ltd Bags Prestigious TAPI Mapping Project Using LIDAR

Genesys International Corporation Ltd has been awarded the prestigious TAPI mapping project using LIDAR, won against international competition – this project win is an extension of the company's expertise in handling complex and mission critical mapping projects in the infrastructure space using latest mapping technologies. The Turkmenistan – Afghanistan – Pakistan – India (TAPI) Gas Pipeline Project will serve as an important energy input for India.

Remote Sensing to Detect Horizontal Motion of Glacier Grounding Lines

The UK Centre for Polar Observation and Modelling (CPOM) at the University of Leeds has produced the first complete map of how the ice sheet's submarine edge, or "grounding line", is shifting. The team, led by Dr Hannes Konrad from the University of Leeds, found that grounding line retreat has been extreme at eight of the ice sheet's 65 biggest glaciers. The pace of deglaciation since the last ice age is roughly 25 metres per year. The retreat of the grounding line at these glaciers is more than five times that rate. This retreat has had a huge impact on inland glaciers, because releasing them from the sea bed removes friction, causing them to speed up and contribute to global sea level rise. Grounding lines typically lie a kilometre or more below sea level and are inaccessible even to submersibles, so remote sensing methods for detecting them are extremely valuable.

Geodiversity Map of Sikkim Himalayas to Aid Conservation

In a maiden effort, researchers have mapped the plant diversity of the Sikkim Himalayas on the basis of geography and climate data, to create a 'geodiversity index that can serve as a tool for biodiversity conservation and disaster risk reduction. The 'geodiversity index map' of flora of Sikkim in the eastern Himalayas would also enable resource managers and conservationists to assess the number of species according to altitude, to understand the nature of environmental change in the region and how the plant species are adapting to the change.

NMCAs to Develop New Core Reference Dataset for Europe

EuroGeographics has announced it is developing a new core reference dataset using INSPIRE-compliant geospatial information from official national sources. The international not-for-profit membership organisation for Europe's National Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authorities (NMCAs), has signed an agreement with Germany's Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG) to coordinate technical production and quality management. A prototype, focusing on transportation (road and railway) and hydrography themes, is to be available in Autumn 2018 and will also include basic feature types and attributes. This will be followed by the launch of the first version of the new dataset in Spring 2019.

Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-2 Missions Helping to Map Minerals in Africa

ESA has recently supported a pan-African initiative to collect, interpret and disseminate satellite information on geology and mineral resources such as metallic ores. This ESA-funded effort has paved the way for the German geoinformation company GAF to help the African Mineral Geoscience Initiative. The aim of initiative, which is led by the African Union Commission and supported by the World Bank Group, is to catalogue Africa's geology and mineral resources. This task is made somewhat easier thanks to freely available data from the Copernicus Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-2 missions, as well as information from

other satellites such as NASA's Shuttle Radar Topography Mission and the US WorldView-3. The idea is to produce geological maps for various climatic zones and different types of geology, especially in areas where data are scarce, not sufficiently detailed or outdated. Initial results show that while arid and semi-arid areas can be mapped accurately, tropical areas are more of a challenge.

India Fastest Growing Market for UAVs; To Touch \$886 mn by 2021

India is one of the fastest-growing markets for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and one of the top UAV importers for military purposes worldwide. According to global market intelligence and advisory firm BIS Research, by 2021, the Indian UAV market will reach USD 885.7 million, while the global market size will touch USD 21.47 billion. A special report noted that customer-focused innovation in UAV technology and the rise in demand for UAVs for surveillance, civil, and commercial applications from global markets will drive this growth.

MDA to Provide RADARSAT-2 Information to Meet Critical and Complex Challenges for Land and Maritime Monitoring

Maxar Technologies company (formerly MacDonald, Dettwiler and Associates Ltd.), has announced recently that it has signed multiple geospatial-related contracts based on RADARSAT-2 satellite information. RADARSAT-2 Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) imagery provides users with a unique method of accurately monitoring very large areas to locate, track, measure, and monitor objects. A rich source for analytics, SAR imagery reveals important details about our changing planet and the impact of human activity across the globe.

RADARSAT-2 information can be used for asset monitoring in mining, energy, and other civil markets. MDA has developed a suite of powerful off-the-shelf solutions that exploit SAR imagery and associated information, to support maritime, forestry, infrastructure development, and surveillance applications with high levels of accuracy, and reliability. The contracts have a combined value of approximately CA\$16 million

LiDAR

March 16 - June 15, 2018

Headwall Integrates Hyperspectral and LiDAR Aboard UAV Platforms

Headwall has introduced advanced sensor payloads consisting of hyperspectral sensors and LIDAR for deployment on Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) platforms. Through the fusion of spectral imaging data and 3D LIDAR output, Headwall continues to provide new industry-leading capabilities for addressing critical remote sensing applications ranging from civil and military infrastructure inspection to crop science applications requiring discrete solutions for crop monitoring. The Headwall payload consists of a Hyperspec® spectral imager, a LIDAR unit, a UAV, a high-performance GPS/IMU, and the associated software for data acquisition and workflow processing for exploitation. The combination of hyperspectral and LiDAR is especially powerful because the entire data set can be acquired on inexpensive UAV platforms with both sensor instruments operating simultaneously. Headwall's software will allow for the control of both

instruments, utilize the Digital Elevation Map for image creation, and allow for the merging of spectral datasets with the 3D point cloud.

New Indoor Mobile Mapping System from NavVis Marks Breakthrough in Data Quality

NavVis, a global leader in mobile indoor mapping, visualization, and navigation, announces the launch of M6, a next-generation indoor mobile mapping system that overcomes the scalability and data quality constraints of today's reality capture technology. Surveyors and AEC professionals can now use reality capture technology for demanding applications, such as large-scale indoor mapping projects, factory planning, creating and updating as-built BIM models and construction monitoring. The NavVis M6 is an all-in-one system that captures 360 degree immersive imagery, photorealistic point clouds, Bluetooth beacons, WIFI signals and magnetic field data. The NavVis M6 features a mobile LiDAR system that lets it scan up to 30 times faster than stationary devices, letting users capture up to 30,000 square meters in a day. What

truly sets M6 apart is the cutting-edge 6D simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM) technology, which significantly improves the quality of data captured.

New Zealand Major Funding Boost for LiDAR Survey

Gisborne District Council will receive over \$1 million in funding to fly LiDAR across the entire district, a project that will bring major economic and infrastructural benefits for the region. Ministry for Primary Industries and Land Information New Zealand have provided the funds that will cover the entire cost of the project. LiDAR – which stands for light detection and ranging – is a remote sensing tool that uses laser pulses to generate large amounts of highly accurate geographical terrain data. Once completed, the LiDAR survey data will be free for the public and commercial businesses to use in a range of areas, including infrastructure design, urban planning and flood plan mapping. The data will assist in road design and planning, as well as management of erosion and flooding in rivers in the district. It is likely the LiDAR flying will take place in early summer.

GNSS & SURVEYING

March 16 - June 15, 2018

PSLV-C41 Successfully Launches IRNSS-11 Navigation Satellite

India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, in its forty-third flight (PSLV-C41) in XL configuration launched IRNSS-11 Satellite from First Launch Pad (FLP) of SDSC SHAR, Sriharikota. The 'XL' configuration of PSLV is used for the twentieth time. The IRNSS-11 is the eighth satellite to join the NavIC navigation satellite constellation. IRNSS-11 is the latest member of the 'Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC)' system. NavIC, also known as Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS).

HERE SuppBrexit May Exclude UK from the EU's Galileo Satellite Program

According to recent news, British companies may be frozen out of the European space industry after Brexit, the European Commission says, citing security

concerns. The UK's involvement in the Galileo project, which aims to build a European rival to the American GPS system, will have to be "readjusted", it added. British firms have already contributed to Galileo and may lose future work. UK ministers oppose the commission's view and want the country to remain involved in "all aspects" of the work.

IAI And Honeywell Propose a Jointly Developed Turn Key GPS Anti-Jam Navigation System

Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), and Honeywell, have signed a Teaming Agreement (TA) to introduce the market of airborne avionics with a jointly developed turnkey GPS Anti-Jam navigation system. The joint product integrates IAI's GPS Anti-Jam system with Honeywell's navigation products, as a subsystem or as an embedded solution. Upon successful development, IAI's GPS anti jamming system the ADA, an advanced system that protects avionic systems from GPS jamming, will be embedded into

Honeywell's Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System (EGI).

European GNSS Agency And Thales Launch EDG²E, A Dual-Frequency Multi-Constellation Receiver

According to recent news reported by the GPS World, together the European GNSS Agency (GSA) and Thales has launched a equipment for dual frequency Galileo, GPS and EGNOS project (EDG²E). The four-year-long project intends to develop a dual-frequency multi-constellation receiver, for enhanced navigation capabilities, support standardization and certification preparation, and facilitate the expected increase in air traffic, both in Europe and globally. The prototype EDG²E receiver use GPS and Galileo signals as well as those from the EGNOS. The project aims to achieve a prototype demonstration by 2021. At the end of the EDG²E project, the first SBAS dual-frequency GPS+Galileo receivers for aviation will be ready for final development and use in the aviation sector and in other safety-critical applications.

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GIS & EO

Esri

- Esri Announces Release of Sentinel-2 Image Services
- Esri Announces Online Data Portal for Africa

Kongsberg Geospatial

- Kongsberg Geospatial Announces Official Release of TerraLens 9 Geospatial SDK

Vricon

- Vricon Precision 3D Registration (P3DR)

FARO

- FARO® Introduces As-Built™ Software Platform For 3D Digital Modeling

TatukGIS

- TatukGIS Desktop Editor/Viewer 5

Boundless

- Boundless Server Enterprise Now Available as Managed Cloud Service
- Boundless Introduces New Lightweight, Portable, Offline Basemap Server

NCTech

- iSTAR Pulsar

LiDAR

Skyline Software Systems

- Photomesh™ 7.4 With LiDAR Integration and Improved Aerial Triangulation Capability

Merrick

- Version 2018 of the Merrick Advanced Remote Sensing (MARS®) software suite.

Voxxlr

- Voxxlr 1.0, a cloud based service to store, analyze and share large 3D point clouds entirely online.

Global Mapper

- Global Mapper and LiDAR Module SDK v19.1 Now Available with New 3D Mesh Generation Capabilities

Orbit GT

- Orbit GT Releases 3D Mapping Feature Extraction Pro V18.0.6

Trimble

- Trimble RealWorks Announces Performance and UI Enhancements

GNSS & SURVEYING

Trimble

- Trimble Business Center Software Adds New Vertical Solutions Support and Streamlines Field-to-Office Productivity
- Trimble Announces New Field Solutions for Land and Construction Surveying
- Trimble's Forensics Solution - SX10 Solution, a hardware and software data collection and processing system for collision and crime scene reconstruction.

Sokkia

- Sokkia Introduces New High-performance Manual Total Station - the iM-50.

Hemisphere GNSS

- All-new UT series of GNSS-capable rugged handheld devices - UT10 6.0" Rugged Phone and UT30 8.0" Rugged Tablet.

DRONE/UAV

senseFly

- eMotion 3.5 - flight and data management software

Senterra

- High-Precision AGX710 Sensor with Dji Matrice 200 Series Industrial Drones

NEW DATA RESOURCES

PlanetObserver

- Release of PlanetSAT Global Imagery Basemap Version #2018

Asian Development Bank and Govt. of Afghanistan

- Launched "Afghan GeoPortal" to Improve Data Access, Sharing

GEO EVENTS

June 25 - 29, 2018

Geomapplica 2018

Syros – Mukonos Islands, Greece
<http://2018.geomapplica.eu>

July 03 - 06, 2018

GI_Forum Symposium 2018

Salzburg, Austria
<http://www.gi-forum.org>

July 09 - 13, 2018

Esri User Conference

San Diego, CA, U.S.A.
<http://www.esri.com/about/events/uc>

August 27 - 31, 2018

FOSS4G 2018

Dar es Salaam
<https://2018.foss4g.org>

September 02 - 07, 2018

UK Mapping Festival 2018

London, United Kingdom
<https://goo.gl/crkBeh>

September 05 - 07, 2018

InterDrone 2018

Rio Hotel, Las Vegas, NV, U.S.A.
<http://www.interdrone.com/>

October 01 - 03, 2018

Commercial UAV Expo

Las Vegas, USA
<https://www.expouav.com>

November 28 - December 01, 2018

16th World Congress of the International Association of Institutes of Navigation (IAIN)

Makuhari Messe, Japan
<https://iaain2018.org>

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