BUSINESS

March 16, 2020 - June 15, 2020

Avineon Completes Acquisition of Two Springs Consulting

Anand Subramani President of Commercial Systems at Avineon®, has announced the acquisition of Two Springs Consulting LLC (Two Springs). As a provider of professional GIS services for more than a decade, Two Springs supports public utilities and local governments with a wealth of experience in all aspects of GIS implementation and enhancement.Two Springs, a well-established professional services organization located in Seneca, South Carolina, is known for serving multiple clients throughout the state with exceptional quality services. The addition of the Two Springs team complements Avineon's current professional services offering and fits with Avineon's culture to provide reliable, value-based solutions to all of its customers. Avineon offers geospatial products and services to Esri clients in numerous industries, including electric, gas, water, and telecommunication utilities, as well as local, state, and federal government agencies.

Centrik and Flock Sign Strategic Alliance to Deliver Data-Driven Reduced Risk Operations for The Drone Sector

Operational management system supplier Centrik and specialist drone and eVTOL insurance provider Flock have formed a strategic alliance to raise safety standards and reduce risk in commercial drone operations. The move means a commercial UAS operator who used Centrik to manage its operations can now automatically align insurance costs with their actual exposure to risk. Flock's connected insurance offering allows operators to purchase a single policy that scales with their business offering flexible liability limits for individual jobs. Every month UAV operators are billed based on number of flights undertaken and the level of risk they are exposed to. This data is securely analysed by Flock's risk intelligence engine with a direct integration into Centrik's platform.

Maptitude 2020 U.S. School Districts Data Available as KML, GeoJSON, Shapefile

The Maptitude 2020 U.S. School Districts Data is available and includes three nationwide map layers of elementary, secondary, and unified school districts. These districts are packed with information that is essential for analyzing school districts. Explore locations by income, population and income growth, daytime population, age, race, gender, ethnicity, buying power, occupation, employment status, housing characteristics, citizenship counts, and more. Also included are 2014-15 statistics on the number of teachers, number of students by race (American Indian, Asian, Hispanic, Black, White, Hawaiian, Multiple races), NCES Local Education Agency ID (LEAID), State Education Agency ID, and school district name, address, phone number, and lowest and highest grades.

USGIF Publishes 2020 State and Future of GEOINT

The United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF) has published its annual State and Future of GEOINT Report, a collection of articles intended for use by all GEOINT practitioners. This unclassified document contains a series of concise descriptions of problems, achievements, and emerging issues and technologies as a guide to better understand the global GEOINT mission — whether you work in the public, commercial, federal, civilian, defense, intelligence, or national security space. The report offers insights about the state and potential of our community and its tradecraft; through the lens of people, process, technology, and data. This year's report demonstrates the power of collaboration across academia, industry, and government to make informed statements about the possible.

USGIF Announces 2020 Achievement Award Winners

The USGIF Awards Program annually recognizes the exceptional work of the geospatial intelligence tradecraft's brightest minds and organizations pushing the community forward. Award winners are nominated by their colleagues and selected by the USGIF Awards Subcommittee. Click to learn more about award recipients.

Joint Scientific Article on LiDAR for Bathymetry of Very Shallow Waters, under the Leadership of RIEGL, wins ISPRS Best Paper of 2019!

In coopertaion with the Vienna University of technology and the University of Stuttgart, Roland Schwarz and Martin Pfennigbauer from *RIEGL* Research succeeded in issuing a new and innovative contribution to topographic underwater mapping with the SVB algorithm (surface, volume and bottom) presented in their article. A considerable advantage of their method is that it relies only on a single laser wavelength. The jurors were impressed with the detailed modeling of the return waveform, the clarity of the explanation, the convincing experimental results, and the potential for broader applicability of the method. The full scientific paper is available under the following link: *https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2019.02.002*

PARSEC Business Accelerator Boosts EO Enterprises

Harnessing the power of Big EO Data requires efficient handling of the volume, velocity, variety, and veracity of multi-modal EO data, such as the Copernicus Sentinels. SMEs entering the EO market require expensive experts top-skilled in IT and remote sensing alike, which distracts precious resources from the core business. These barriers make it difficult for SMEs gaining ground in the market.This is where PARSEC comes to help. This European funded project will effectively support SMEs in addressing these challenges through both business development support, financial support, and a massively scalable EO datacube service. PARSEC's unique Big Data toolbox at its heart is powered by rasdaman, the European pioneer and world leading datacube analytics engine. With rasdaman's federation capabilities, several DIASs as well as a series of further, often specialized data centers get integrated into one common information space available to all PARSEC supported SMEs. Currently, PARSEC has available over 7 Petabyte of Sentinel datacubes on Mundi alone, and they grow by the day.

Leveraging Geospatial Technology to Effectively Map Spread of COVID-19 to Minimize Its Impact on Business

Transerve Technologies' through its offering 'Transerve Online Stack (TOS)' has come up with a solution to map COVID-19 density zones using geospatial technology. This advanced solution works on Predictive Analysis and uses layers of geospatial data to track, monitor, analyze and visually represent them into data stacks. These data stacks will help in route optimization in COVID positive zones that can further assist businesses in making statistically driven decisions. TOS is emerging to be a very effective tool for governments and corporates. TOS has been maintaining a Corona timeline and created interactive digital maps of all the districts in India, and colour coded them to map all the Covid19 related information.

Esri Donates Free Software to GEO BON Grant Recipients

Esri, the global leader in location intelligence, has announced that it will be making its software available to recipients of EBVs on the Cloud, a grant program from Microsoft and the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON).Grant recipients will receive complimentary access to Esri's ArcGIS platform. The program will support projects that strengthen efforts to monitor Earth's biodiversity and create data referred to as Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs) and relevant indicators of change derived from this data. Grantees will retain all intellectual property for the products developed over the course of the projects they complete.

Esri Provides Free COVID-19 Resources to Nonprofits

Esri, the global leader in location intelligence, announced it will provide a COVID-19 Response Package for free to all nonprofit organizations responding to the pandemic. This package includes data, templates, and solutions that are accessible through Esri's Disaster Response Program (DRP). By mapping data with capabilities such as spatial analysis, Esri's software allows organizations to track where COVID-19 cases are spreading, and through predictive modeling determine where additional capacity will be needed.

TDC Joins Trimble's GIS Business Partner Program to Empower Mobile GPS Workflows

Trimble has announced that TDC Group, Inc. has joined Trimble's GIS Business Partner Program. As part of the program, TDC has implemented the Trimble Precision SDK (Software Developer Kit) to integrate high-accuracy positioning capabilities in its Freeance mobile software applications running on tablets and smartphones using Trimble GNSS receivers. Freeance provides field crews with simple yet powerful and configurable location-based mobile apps to manage data collection and inspection activities across utility and public works organizations. By adding the Trimble® R1 and R2 receivers to the Freeance workflows, users are empowered with real-time access to high-quality, reliable data.

Trimble Introduces Tekla 2020 Structural BIM Software Solutions

Trimble has introduced latest versions of its Tekla software solutions for advanced Building Information Modeling (BIM), structural engineering and steel fabrication management—Tekla Structures 2020, Tekla Structural Designer 2020, Tekla Tedds 2020 and Tekla PowerFab 2020. Tekla software is at the heart of design and construction workflows building on the free flow of information, constructible models and improved collaboration. Tekla Structures supports the Constructible Process to transform the entire design, build and operate lifecycle.

Leica Geosystems Announces Latest Version of Public Safety Software

Leica Geosystems, a Hexagon company, has announced the latest version of Leica Map360 crash and crime scene diagramming and reconstruction software, bringing three editions to meet specific customer needs based on the technology used to measure and collect any scene. With 2D intuitive workflows, Map360 Sketch offers a program designed to create basic diagrams, floorplans, and reports from manual measurements, imported points, or UAV imagery.

Planon and Leica Geosystems Announce Global Partnership

Planon and Leica Geosystems, a Hexagon company, have announced a global partnership to integrate Planon's software for real estate, space, and asset management and Leica Geosystems' reality capture, cloud-based visualisation and collaboration solutions to accelerate digital transformation in the building industry. Building Information Modelling (BIM) is well-established to support the construction and operations of new buildings, but for existing buildings without such models, providing these has been a challenge for years. Planon and Leica Geosystems have released a solution to address this challenge by providing digital twins for existing buildings that can be created without significant investment and seamlessly integrated with any Planon software solution.

SimActive Introduces Cloud Sharing and Reflectance Calibration with New Version 8.5

SimActive Inc. announces the release of Correlator3D version 8.5. The new version allows users to share and visualize projects in the cloud. It also features new tools for the calibration and processing of multispectral imagery. This new version brings advantages to customers having data exploitation requirements such as online viewing, and to users processing imagery from highly sophisticated sensors.

Blue Marble Geographics Announces the Release of Geographic Calculator 2020

Blue Marble Geographics® has announced the release of the 2020 version of Geographic Calculator - the leading geodetic toolkit for accurate coordinate conversion and datum transformation. The 2020 version of Geographic Calculator comes with many new features and improvements, including a new Remote Desktop Protocol - enabled Single-User Floating license option for customers who need to access Geographic Calculator from another computer. Other important features are new magnetic declination models including World Magnetic Model 2020 and IGRF13 as well as support for converting lidar using local best-fit engineering coordinate systems.

GIS & EO

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RedTail LiDAR Systems Supports Wounded Veterans Through Stream Restoration

The adoption of drone-based 3D LiDAR mapping technology is an important advancement in the field of stream restoration and monitoring. Compared to traditional surveying and monitoring methods, the use of drone-based LiDAR allows for the rapid inspection and monitoring of miles of stream corridor in very short time periods, providing precise, accurate and consistent data.The high-resolution images (point clouds) produced by the LiDAR system can be used in all aspects of stream restoration projects.

India Geospatial Stack to Enable Scientific Mapping of Resources

With a vision to create a new paradigm for governance and development with special emphasis on reducing disparity, expediting growth and also bringing forth demographic dividends that are unique – India Geospatial Stack would enable the scientific mapping of resources, the disparities present and also meet the aspirations of beneficiaries, society – especially the disadvantaged. The building of India Geospatial Stack will be divided into two phases ideally-firstly there would be the need to design a land information system that would serve local conditions and land practices and then go on to design the core implementation phase which would involve data creation, spatial publishing and integration.

University of Maine at Machias to offer new Degree in Environmental Geographic Information Science

Beginning in fall 2020, the University of Maine at Machias will be the only public university in Maine to offer a four-year degree program in geographic information systems (GIS) The bachelor's degree in environmental geographic information science replaces UMM's major in environmental studies. For more information about the new program, visit *machias.edu/environment.*

Get More from Imagery Using 30 New Features Released to Geomatica Banff

PCI Geomatics is the developer of Geomatica, a leading software remote sensing, digital photogrammetry, geospatial analysis, map production, mosaicking and more.Geomatica Banff introduces automation for object-based image analysis. Automation is available in Focus from the Object Analyst or can be implemented as a chained workflow with individual algorithms (and Python). Building training data can be from multiple locations and deployed to classify and extract features of temporally overlapping imagery or data sets covering various geographic areas. Now just train data sets once and classify consistently over-and-over again.

Estonian Railways Selects Hexagon to Automate and Digitize Operations

Estonian Railways Ltd., a state-owned company responsible for Estonia's railway administration, has selected Hexagon's Geospatial division to implement a transportation system that will automate and digitize the railway's infrastructure maintenance, construction and traffic management processes. The combined asset management system and GIS platform will support the company's more than 700 employees to efficiently manage assets and workflows. Powered by Hexagon's GeoTrAMS, a web-based system for tram and light-rail infrastructure, and GeoMedia, a flexible GIS management platform, Estonia Railway will be able to visualize assets on a map while integrating with other companies and external systems.

SimActive Used to Determine Solar Potential from Satellite Imagery

SimActive has announced that his Correlator3D™ product is used by Dutch company NEO B.V. to assess solar potential in multiple cities. Digital surface models (DSMs) are generated from WorldView and GeoEye satellite stereo images and serve to calculate solar panel capacity. DSMs covering hundreds of square kilometres are quickly generated by the software. Key metrics to estimate solar potential are then derived, including roof orientation, pitch and shaded areas.

HERE and Flynex Map German Airspace for Autonomous Drones

HERE Technologies, a location data and technology platform, and FlyNex, a startup specialized in drone flight planning, are mapping German airspace in 3D. The "DaViLus" (Data Visualization of the Airspace structure) mapping project is supported by the German Ministry for Transport and Digital Infrastructure. The results are available free of charge at *https://davilus.flynex.de*. This map relies on location data from HERE. With its highly accurate 3D object data in the lower airspace, HERE is best positioned to power the development of a map that enables unmanned aircraft, such as drones, to safely maneuver cityscapes.

SimActive Involved in the Mapping of a UNESCO Archeological Site

SimActive has announced that his Correlator3D™ product is used to map the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Halin in Myanmar. The archaeological project involved the deployment of drones to gather data necessary to prepare orthophoto maps and digital elevation models. The goal is to find new features as well as to assess the state of the known ones. These include monumental walls, dams and digging canals many of which are still visible in the landscape. The resulting geospatial data also allow to check if modern constructions or farming are not causing any damage.

Indian Space-tech Startup - Pixxel Prepares to Launch 24 Satellite

Pixxel founder and CEO Awais Ahmed said that they were planning to launch the satellite next month but had to push their plans to November due to coronavirus. They are planning to launch the second satellite by July 2021. The small satellite will go in a Russian launch vehicle and will focus on high clarity satellite imagery. It would be helpful for governments and private organisations in collecting AI-powered analytical data related to agriculture, climate, spread of crop pests and diseases, defence monitoring, and mining in order to find illegal operations, monitor oil and gas pipelines, natural disasters, forest fire etc.

PRODUCT LAUNCH

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Pix4D Announces A New Generation of Tools for Photogrammetry, Drone Mapping and Analytics

Photogrammetry leader Pix4D has announced the commercial release of next generation software addressing the morden-day professional challenges. Developed in close collaboration with customers and partners, Pix4Dsurvey, Pix4Dmatic, Pix4Dinspect, and Pix4Dscan will contribute to revolutionizing the way professional customers operate and deliver their services.

Trimble Business Center (TBC) v5.3 is Now Available, So What's New in TBC v5.30?

Trimble has announced the release of version 5.30 of Trimble Business Center (TBC) office software that enables surveyors and geospatial professionals to simplify the creation of cadastral, GIS, infrastructure inspection and tunnelling deliverables. TBC is a leading software solution to provide users with the capability to efficiently edit, process, and adjust geospatial data and create deliverables with confidence.This latest release features for CAD and drafting, surfaces, tunnels and corridors, mobile mapping and working with field data.

Trimble Geospatial Announces Release of New Version of Trimble Access

Trimble has announced that its Trimble Access™ 2020 field software is now available on the Trimble® TDC600 rugged mobile device powered by Android. This combination offers surveyors the ability to leverage their familiar workflows and survey instruments while using an Android OS platform. For surveyors looking to use a smart-phone style mobile device to collect data in the field, the Trimble TDC600 running Trimble Access 2020 provides an optimal solution with its lightweight, rugged design. It is also ideal for surveyors looking for a lower-cost platform with the new Trimble Access software and workflows. For more information on Trimble Access 2020 visit: Trimble Access.

Touch GIS App Introduces Digital Clinometer Tool for Geologist

Touch GIS has introduced a digital clinometer tool to assist field geologist in recording strike & dip readings. Version 1.3 of the app also features a new 'Attitude' attribute type, which makes it easy to record and display these readings on the map. As more and more field work is being done on mobile devices, it's important to integrate them onto a single platform for collecting and sharing field data. Touch GIS has a mission to provide the most robust data collection feature set for mobile field mapping. The app is available for free to download on the App Store: *https://apps.apple.com/app/apple-store/id1469504766?pt=120189314&ct=Version%201.3&mt=8*

Hexagon Geospatial Releases M.App X 2020 Update 1 – Cloud-based Enterprise Solution for Imagery Intelligence

Hexagon Geospatial has recently released M.App X 2020 Update 1 with great new features. The major version of M.App X 2020 was released late in January 2020. For defence and intelligence organizations, M.App X is a tool that makes imagery easier to interpret, create intuitive maps for actionable information and centralize geospatial data for instant access across an organization. M.App X is powered by Hexagon's LuciadRIA mapping engine, a high-performance browser solution to improve hardware performance and support 2D and 3D displays of the same map. Customers can now download the new version of the software.

GEO EVENTS

June 22-24, 2020
GeoIgnite 2020
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
https://2020.geoignite.ca/

July 13-16, 2020
Esri User Conference
Virtual
https://bit.ly/2Wfrp5W

September 15-17, 2020
Commercial UAV Expo Americas
Virtual
https://www.expouav.com/

October 13-15, 2020
InterGeo 2020
Berlin
https://www.intergeo.de/intergeo-en/

October 13-15, 2020
InterGeo 2020
Berlin
https://www.intergeo.de/intergeo-en/

November 23-24, 2020
Fair-Congress Geomática Andina 2020
Bogota Colombia
https://geo.sofexamericas.com/

April 23-25, 2021
GISTAM 2020
Prague, Czech Republic
http://www.gistam.org/

May 19-20, 2021
GEO Business
London, UK
https://www.geobusinessshow.com/

July 4-10, 2021
XXIV ISRPRS Congress
Nice, France
http://www.isprs2020-nice.com/