

June 16, 2020 - September 15, 2020

### PlanetObserver Release of Updated Global Imagery Basemap

PlanetObserver has released of updated global Imagery basemap. PlanetSAT is an offer aimed at giving access to global and regional imagery basemaps in order to get detailed geographic information at every scale. PlanetObserver has selected best available multi-source data to process the 2020 version of PlanetSAT Global imagery. Our latest Sentinel-2 imagery is from the 2017-2019 time frame and captures 30% of all emerged land including all capital cities and largest urban areas across the world and large regions such as Northern Africa, Middle East and Western Europe. Sentinel-2 is used to update all largest urban areas across the world and all capital cities. Our most recent Landsat 8 images are from the 2013-2018 time span and have been processed to cover 55% of the continents. All our 2020 global mosaic is color-corrected, cloudless, optimized and ready-to-use in different professional format which brings great value to our users. The global satellite imagery product has an impressive resolution of 10 meters and consists in the best solution for an improved user experience.

### Seequent Accelerates Cloud-Based Solution to Help Keep World at Work on Major Projects

High-growth geoscience software company Seequent is accelerating the development of its cloud-based solution Seequent Central, enabling organisations to continue work on critical, large-scale, earth, environment and renewable energy projects in the COVID-19 impacted environment. Central works alongside Seequent's other geoscience analysis, modelling and collaborative technologies, to contribute understanding to subsurface geoscience and engineering design solutions. The cloud-based solution allows people in any location to visualise, track and manage geological models created for infrastructure and critical services.

### SimActive Software Used for Oil and Gas Seismic Exploration

SimActive has announced that its Correlator3D™ product is being used by Texas-based company Dawson Geophysical for oil and gas seismic exploration. Orthomosaics and elevation models are generated from aerial imagery to aid in planning of seismic surveys. Dawson uses a medium format camera from Phase One to fly over areas of between 20 and 200+ square miles. The collected images are then processed by SimActive software to derive highly accurate geospatial data and identify points of interest. Finally, mappers use the imagery to spot hazards and plan routes in advance. This enables us to be more accurate, time-efficient out in the field, and to produce map products that our whole company can use.

### RMSI Appoints Venu Nair as Chief Operating Officer

RMSI has expanded its senior leadership team with the appointment of Venu Nair as Chief Operating Officer (COO). Venu will focus on accelerating the company's efforts towards executing a growth strategy that delivers predictable and sustainable growth. He will lead the overall business, including sales, delivery, and operations with key objective of bringing in operational excellence and client delight. Venu has over 25 years of executive management experience. He has built and grown new businesses across technology sectors.

### Bentley Systems Announces Launch of Initial Public Offering

Bentley Systems, Incorporated has announced the launch of the initial public offering of 10,750,000 shares of its Class B common stock. The shares of Class B common stock to be sold in the offering will be sold by existing stockholders of Bentley. The selling stockholders expect to grant the underwriters in the offering a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 1,610,991 shares of Class B common stock from the selling stockholders. The estimated initial public offering price is between \$17.00 and \$19.00 per share. Bentley has applied to list its shares on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "BSY".

### Transerve Technologies Partners with Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IHS) to aid Tamil Nadu Government in Sanitation Management Mission

Civic Technology firm Transerve Technologies which specializes in Geo-spatial technology has joined hands with Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IHS) for co-treatment of fecal sludge and septage at Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and also stand-alone Fecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) to support a cluster of ULBs in Tamil Nadu. IHS is a lead partner of Technical Support Unit (TSU) which provides advisory support to various Urban Local Bodies in the state of Tamil Nadu by implementing Fecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM). Under this agreement, Transerve Technologies will develop a web and mobile based platform using Transerve Online Stack (TOS) to streamline the de-sludging process and will provide technical handholding to maintain and operate the system to IHS and other state agencies.

### Pix4D and SAP in Joint Innovation Project for the 3D Inspection

Pix4D, technology pioneer and market leader in industrial photogrammetry software solutions, has announced that it is starting a joint innovation project with SAP® to open up the market for drone-based, digital 3D inspections for telecommunications companies. SAP, a global leader in ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) software, has included Pix4D in an SAP Accelerator Program for innovative companies that support the digital transformation of B2B businesses with their software solutions. The collaboration between SAP and Pix4D is principally aimed at the telecommunications industry, where the new Pix4D technology for the inspection of transmission masts with the help of drones, cloud computing and artificial intelligence (AI) is being implemented in the SAP S/4HANA platform and was integrated into the SAP Asset Management. Pix4D plans to expand its collaboration with SAP to develop applications for digital asset management and digital inventory in utilities, mining and construction.

### Hexagon Unveils HxGN Smart Census 2020 for Enhanced Citizen Data Collection

Hexagon's Geospatial division has launched HxGN Smart Census 2020, a significant update to its end-to-end population and housing census management solution. The latest release improves digital enumeration by allowing households to complete census questionnaires online or over the telephone, significantly reducing the need for in-person interviews and field-based data collection.

### Hexagon Selected for Innovate UK Rail Infrastructure AI Project

Innovate UK has selected Hexagon's Geospatial to conduct a project that will result in faster and higher-precision mapping of railway infrastructure through the use of artificial intelligence. The project is funded by Network Rail, the owner and operator of Great Britain's railway infrastructure, under its R&D portfolio and delivered by Innovate UK through the SBRI competition, Innovation in Automated Survey Processing for Railway Structure Gauging, Phase One. A small group of teams was selected for this effort. The project will enable Network Rail to automatically identify and measure railway structures from LiDAR data, saving valuable time and resources, while also improving planning and operations across the rail network. The current, manual process takes analysts months or even years due to the size of the data and the labor-intensive tasks involved.

### Esri and United Nations Create COVID-19 Population Vulnerability Dashboard

Esri has announced its collaboration with UNFPA to create the UNFPA COVID-19 Population Vulnerability Dashboard. This new interactive tool will provide public health workers, policy makers, and the general public with access to useful information on populations vulnerable to COVID-19 in order to target preparedness and response and to help save lives. The dashboard highlights population vulnerabilities at the national and subnational levels, using data from the latest Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) census samples for 94 countries. It identifies populations at older ages, including those living alone, and includes risk factors for COVID-19.

### Esri Acquires nFrames to Enhance Its 3D Capabilities

Esri has announced the acquisition of nFrames, a technology company that develops SURETM, an industry-leading imagery and lidar 3D surface reconstruction software. This will enable the fusion of imagery with 3D GIS, allowing nFrames and Esri users to seamlessly capture and analyze 3D data from aerial, drone, and ground-based sensors in an automated end-to-end process. SURE scales 3D data creation to large city and countrywide airborne image datasets and projects while giving professional photogrammetry workflows improved precision, speed, and simplicity on premises or in the cloud.

### European Investment Bank Provides Funding of €20 million to NavVis as Part of the Investment Plan for Europe

The European Investment Bank (EIB) and NavVis GmbH has announced the signing of a contract which provides financing of €20 million to NavVis GmbH, a global market leader in digital twin technology. NavVis has experienced unprecedented growth and demand for its indoor spatial intelligence solutions, and will further invest in expanding operations to meet the need for technological innovation in the enterprise manufacturing industry. The EU bank's loan is backed by a guarantee from the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), the heart of the Investment Plan for Europe under which the EIB and the European Commission are working together as strategic partners and the EIB's financing operations are boosting the competitiveness of the European economy.

### Leica Geosystems BLK247 Wins Security Industry Association's Best New Product Award

Leica Geosystems, part of Hexagon, has announced its 3D surveillance product, the Leica BLK247, won the Security Industry Association's (SIA) 2020 Best New Product Award. The BLK247 was demonstrated as part of SIA's annual New Product Showcase Awards competition held at this year's virtual ISC West tradeshow. The Leica BLK247 is a first-of-its-kind 3D reality capture sensor for surveillance.

### Hexagon Adds End-to-End 3D Security Surveillance Capabilities With the Acquisition of TACTICAWARE

Hexagon AB has announced the acquisition of TACTICAWARE, a provider of LiDAR-based 3D surveillance software used to monitor and protect critical infrastructure and buildings - from powerplants and airports to commercial and residential buildings and more. TACTICAWARE's flagship solution, Accur8vision, is a volumetric (entire space) detection security system offering 3D surveillance. Unlike conventional systems that typically only monitor perimeters, Accur8vision delivers situational awareness of an intruder's exact location, size, speed and movement trajectory - all of which can be visualised within a 3D digital reality of the area under surveillance.

### Sony to Announce Release of High-Precision GNSS Receiver LSIs for IoT and Wearable Devices

Sony Corporation has announced the release of High-Precision GNSS Receiver with the industry's lowest power consumption for Dual-Band positioning operation. The receiver intended to be used in LSIs for IoT and wearable devices. The new LSIs support not only the conventional L1 band reception, but also L5 band reception, which is currently being expanded across GNSS constellations, thereby making them capable of dual-band positioning. Sony's original algorithms enable stable, high-precision positioning even under the difficult conditions unique to wearable devices. Also, the use of Sony's original high-frequency analog circuit technology and digital processing technology delivers the industry's lowest power consumption during continuous positioning for dual-band reception operation, at only 9 mW.

### GNSS.asia Report on GNSS Market Trends in Asia

GNSS.asia has recently published its [first report on GNSS market trends](#) and developments in the Asian market. The report is a must-read for GNSS companies doing business in Asian countries and is planning to do business in Asia.

### Global Trends in the Mapping Industry during the Pandemic

The pandemic has brought uncertainties to all businesses and the mapping industry has been no exception. Slowdowns were observed during the first few months of 2020 as lockdowns were gradually enforced in Asia, then Europe, and finally the Americas. As expected, projects were delayed during that initial period as companies were reorganizing their operations to allow for remote work. Once that transition was overcome, a great number of projects resumed, and the geospatial field has been gradually coming back to normal since then. That can be explained by different factors, including for example several governments accelerating infrastructure projects to stimulate the economy.

### National GIS-enabled Land Bank System to Boost Investments

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry Government of India, Minister Piyush Goyal said that the Ministry is going to set up a single-window system for clearances and approvals of the industry in the country. The Minister said that the Government has launched a national GIS-enabled land bank which will facilitate the potential investors to locate and identify the land banks from the comfort of the office. The investor can finalize the location of industries without frequent visits to site locations or offices of land-owning agencies. The land bank system will be powered using GIS which will allow real-time information about the availability of industrial land and resources. The national GIS-enabled land bank system is being developed by integrating the Industrial Information System (IIS) with state GIS. Initially, the system has been launched in six states. The system will be improved further to make it an effective, transparent mechanism of land identification as well as procurement. More than 3,300 industrial parks across 31 States/UTs covering about 4,75,000 hectares of land have been mapped on the system. As of now, six States have already given their consent to register and share the data through the portal.

### Japanese City Using GIS on iPads for Field Survey

The City of Tamba in Hyogo prefecture, Japan, performs field survey work using a mobile GIS application designed for Apple iPad tablet computers. The application, called Mobile Matilda, is developed by Osaka based GIS solution specialist, Tsukasa Consulting, using the TatukGIS Developer Kernel 11 (for Delphi edition) with the Embarcadero FireMonkey framework. The mobile application compliments desktop and web-based versions of the Matilda software that are enabled with more features. Unlike web applications, Mobile Matilda can operate in a local (off-line) environment. Users can update records in the field for later synchronization to the desktop or server via a secure Wi-Fi or GSM connection, when available.

### Mangaluru Smart City is the First Smart City in Karnataka to go Live

Mangaluru Smart City is the first smart city in Karnataka to go live. Mangaluru Smart City already has an Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC) and using as a war room for the administrators to combat COVID-19 pandemic. The ICCC is the major component of the Mangaluru Smart City project. The Mangaluru Smart City project is expected to have a positive impact on the lives of citizens of Mangaluru. The city is now equipped to handle any disaster through the proven ICCC Infrastructure and its live IoT based applications. The ICCC is equipped with a 24x7 dedicated call center with a helpline No 1077 operationalized for preventing, monitoring and controlling the deadly CORONA virus.

### Machine Learning Helps SEGES to Detect 26K Slurry Tanks over Denmark to Assess Ammonia Emission

SEGES detected 26,000 slurry tanks over Denmark in a few hours using Picterra to assess ammonia emission. The method required was a combination of machine learning with existing agricultural GIS-databases. Their choice fell on Picterra, a cloud-based geospatial platform that automates the analysis of satellite and aerial imagery, enabling users to identify objects and patterns (road cracks, damaged roofs, etc.) at scale, anywhere on Earth.

### UAE Launches Mission to Mars – Emirates Mars Mission “Hope Probe”

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has launched its first mission to Mars on June 20, 2020 and becomes the first Arab country to do so. The Emirates Mars Mission “Hope Probe” launched from Japan’s Tanegashima Space Center for a seven-month voyage to the red planet, where it will circle and send back information about the air. Emirates Mars Mission “Hope Probe” to Mars is the first Arab Interplanetary Mission to provide a complete picture of the Martian atmosphere and its layers when it reaches the red planet’s orbit in 2021. As the rocket accelerated away from the Earth, the solid rocket boosters are expended, followed by jettisoning the fairing once it is no longer needed to protect the Hope Probe from the Earth’s atmosphere.

### Satellite-Based Crop Health Monitoring System to Help Farmers

Farmonaut started in 2018 with a vision to bridge the technological gap between farmers and strives to bring state-of-the-art technologies in the hands of every farmer. One of such technologies which Farmonaut has brought in the reach of farmers (be it a small scale farmer or a large scale farmer), is the ability to monitor their agriculture fields for crop health and water stress through satellites. Once the field is selected, farmers can access their field data through any platform of their choice (Android, iOS, or the website). Apart from the Satellite-Based Crop Health Monitoring System, Farmonaut provides the following features for use to its farmers too (currently available on the android app).

### YellowScan S.A.S. Signs a New Distributor in China

YellowScan, a market leader in UAV LiDAR Solutions, is excited to have announced a new distribution partnership with Beijing MapCore Technology Co. Ltd., a company that has been dedicated to their clients for over 10 years. YellowScan customers will benefit greatly from MapCore Technology’s extensive experience in survey and mapping, engineering, construction, GIS, forensics, mining, forestry, water resources and many other sectors throughout China.



### Bluesky Laser Maps Quantock Hills to Reveal Archaeological Past

Aerial mapping company Bluesky International is using state of the art, aircraft mounted lasers to create a 3D model of the Quantock Hills in Somerset. As England's first Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty the Quantock Hills has a distinctive character with exceptional beauty and cultural heritage. Commissioned by the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme, the high precision terrain mapping project will improve the understanding how people have lived and worked in the area for thousands of years.

### HERE Offers Developers and Data Scientists Direct Access to Rich Geospatial Data

Demand for high-quality geospatial data has skyrocketed across industries as the global economy becomes more and more digitized. HERE Technologies has released HERE Data Layers to improve software developer and data scientists' access to the rich cartographic features and attributes captured within an enterprise-grade mapping platform. HERE Data Layers are standalone geospatial representations of the world's road networks, pathways, buildings, structures, places, land use and land cover. They serve as a menu for developers and data scientists to select the datasets needed to power today's location-based functions, applications and customer experiences. The offering consists of customizable high value urban geospatial data sets in GeoJSON format and can be used in a range of use cases from map display, spatial analytics, business intelligence to AI/ML analysis.

### Esri Publishes Book on Using Python to Customize ArcGIS Pro

Esri has announced the publication of a new book, Python Scripting for ArcGIS Pro. For experienced ArcGIS Pro users who want to learn Python but lack scripting experience, Python Scripting for ArcGIS Pro takes readers from understanding the difference between programming and scripting to automating tasks in ArcGIS Pro. Readers will learn to accomplish things such as creating a way to easily convert 1,000 shapefiles into feature classes in a geodatabase.

### AccuWeather Joins the HERE Marketplace to Increase Distribution and Reach New Segments

HERE Technologies has announced that AccuWeather has joined the HERE Marketplace to sell weather-related information that has several use cases. The HERE Marketplace is a hub for global location data exchange and a means to accelerate data-driven innovation. With AccuWeather, both parties are yielding mutually beneficial results: HERE contributes the platform and qualified business connections while AccuWeather contributes its robust data products. Furthermore, AccuWeather can now leverage HERE's expertise, reputation and global relationships in several industries to accelerate its penetration and growth into these markets.

### Bluesky Maps the Peak District National Park in Ultra-High Resolution from the Air

The Peak District National Park Authority has commissioned a brand new ultra-high resolution aerial survey from Bluesky to map land cover and vegetation down to individual species level. Part of the MoorLIFE 2020 project, a €16 million, five-year programme to protect extensive areas of internationally important blanket bog, the Bluesky 6cm resolution imagery and associated height models will also be used to monitor land cover change across the project area, specifically increases in the extent of Sphagnum moss. The Bluesky data will also inform studies into reductions in the dominance of cotton grass, purple moor grass, heather and bare peat, as well as changes in rates of peat accumulation and erosion.

### East View Geospatial Partners with AllSource Analysis to Offer Finished Geospatial Intelligence

East View Geospatial (EVG) and AllSource Analysis have established a new partnership to bring forward authoritative geospatial intelligence & analytical products. AllSource Analysis is a provider of geospatial intelligence with a worldwide network of expert analysts and access to the most cutting-edge tools and technologies. This partnership combines EVG's unparalleled data sourcing and production capabilities with the finished geospatial intelligence.

### Trimble VRS Now Network Covers More than One Million Square Miles in North America with the Acquisition of MidStates VRS

Trimble has announced that it has acquired MidStates VRS, a network previously owned by Butler Machinery and Frontier Precision. The addition of the network, located in North and South Dakota, increases the footprint of Trimble's VRS Now® GNSS corrections service to cover more than one million sq. miles in North America. The new coverage for the VRS Now subscription service helps users in more places achieve high-accuracy positioning to increase productivity, reduce operational costs and improve safety. The correction service is ideal for professionals in agriculture, geospatial and construction as well as emerging autonomous applications including lane-keeping for passenger vehicles, Vehicle-to-Anything (V2X) position identification and unmanned aerial system guidance. Adding 105,000 square miles of coverage, the acquisition expands Trimble's VRS Now network to be one of the largest in North America—over one million square miles, contributing to Trimble's shift toward a software, services and subscription business emphasis.

### Improved Protection Platform Connects Slope Monitoring to Mine Operations

Hexagon is a leader in sensor, software and autonomous solutions. Recognizing the risks miners face, the company now connects systems for safety and radar-based slope stability hazards. The single platform is part of HxGN MineProtect Collision Avoidance System (CAS) 4.6. It means mines can now receive real-time equipment visualization with timely alerts about hazardous areas for people and machinery. Workers and equipment are protected from injury-threatening events by being forewarned of no-go-zones. No-go zones are identified in IDS GeoRadar's IBIS Guardian software, which creates geofenced zones and hazard maps, and is correlated with radar alarms. Guardian's integration with CAS 4.6 and complementary HxGN MineProtect solutions, Personal Alert and Tracking Radar, ensures that alarms are automatically triggered when a no-go zone is approached.

## PRODUCT LAUNCH

June 16, 2020 - September 15, 2020

**Trimble Announces the Next Evolution of its Flagship GNSS Solution**

Trimble has introduced the Trimble R12i GNSS receiver, the latest addition to its Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) portfolio. The Trimble R12i incorporates Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU)-based tilt compensation using Trimble TIP™ technology, which enables points to be measured or staked out while the survey rod is tilted, empowering land surveyors to focus on the job at hand and complete work faster and more accurately.

**ZEB Go Launches a New Era for Mobile SLAM**

There's a smarter way to map and understand spaces, and it's called the ZEB Go. The latest member of the ZEB family has arrived, bringing lower cost SLAM to even more people. In a familiar shell, but with new components and the smartest SLAM, it's already delivering cost effective 3D data for some of the world's largest construction companies. Optimised for use in indoor and underground environments, the ZEB Go lets operators, regardless of experience or technical surveying skill, rapidly create 2D and 3D digital models. Collecting 43,000 points per second with its rotating sensor, accuracy of 1-3cm, and with an IP rating that'll withstand life on a construction site or down a mine, the ZEB Go is renowned for being easy to use and robust.

**Locus GIS to Collect Geospatial Data with a Comfort of Your Mobile Phone, Even Without the Need of Internet**

The application allows the easy and fast collection and updating of geodata directly in the field, using a phone or tablet running on the Android operating system. Adding to the advantage filed data can be collected even without the need for an Internet connection. Geographic features can be collected as Points, Lines, and Polygons features, all using a mobile phone that captures movement and GPS position. For a more accurate localization, the application uses Bluetooth to connect to an external GPS antenna.

**OnPOZ Collect and Cloud Mappings Apps for Geospatial Data Collection**

OnPOZ Collect™ is a powerful GIS mapping app that transforms a phone or tablet into a geospatial data collection tool. You will be ready for the field, whether you are completing an inventory assessment, infrastructure inspections, damage reporting, forestry projects or a variety of other project types. OnPOZ Cloud lets you manage your data and monitor field workers from anywhere via your favourite web browser. All projects and field data are synchronized and securely stored in the cloud.

**Pointly - Next Level 3D Point Cloud Classification Tool Launched**

Supper & Supper has launched Pointly, a SaaS solution allowing to manage and classify 3D point clouds with the help of AI. With Pointly, information from 3D point clouds can be extracted with minimal effort and high accuracy. Pointly enables the user to select large swathes of ground with one click and small objects like street signs with the next. What is important, the point clouds are available in their full resolution without compression.

**PCI Geomatics Releases New Features & Full ICEYE SAR Sensor Support in Geomatica Banff**

PCI Geomatics has announced the release of new features, and enhancements, as well as full support for data from ICEYE's constellation of SAR satellites. Leading the list of new capabilities and enhancements are: Super Registration, Automated Object-based Classification and InSAR performance boost.

## GEO EVENTS

**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/>**December 1-3, 2020****Commercial UAV Expo Europe**

Virtual

<https://www.expouav.com/europe/>**March 24-25, 2021****Geo Connect Asia 2021**

Singapore

<https://www.geoconnectasia.com/>**April 23-25, 2021****GISTAM 2021**

Prague, Czech Republic

<http://www.gistam.org/>**May 19-20, 2021****GEO Business**

London, UK

<https://www.geobusinessshow.com/>**July 4-10, 2021****XXIV ISPRS Congress**

Nice, France

<http://www.isprs2020-nice.com/>**August 24-27, 2021****FME International User Conference 2021**

Vancouver, Canada

<https://www.safe.com/fmeuc/>