

ISPRS Congress Daily

HIGHLIGHTS

ISPRS COUNCIL | PHOTON LIDAR | STUDENTS | DUBAI

16 Years' Experience on the ISPRS Council

Looking back, I have been able to carry out the priorities set at the beginning of my term. In 2000, when I was elected as Congress Director, my priority was to organise an excellent event that would be memorable in the minds of people for a long time and I can confess that I have achieved this goal, as I still meet many people around the world who thank me for the wonderful congress in 2004. Another interim goal that arose during my time as congress director was the request of young scientists to have their own programme at the congress, which resulted in the establishment of youth sessions and, after the congress, a summer school for more than 80 students. This became a sustained tradition at

many ISPRS events and congresses and led to the establishment of a student consortium. The path from Congress director to secretary general (2004-2008) was a very different one, but past experiences as manager at different governmental and private organisations made my task to fulfill my duties easy. Then came my term as the president of the Society (2008-2012). When I look back at the last days of my term as president, I realize that the priorities are reflected in the preamble of the Strategic Plan of the Society, which was approved in Vienna at the Centenary Celebrations of the ISPRS in 2010: "as the mission of ISPRS... to advance the photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial

information sciences through international cooperation in research, development and education for the benefit of society and for environmental sustainability... Implementation of the strategy will produce an efficient, professional organisation, ready to meet the challenges of changes to the environment...". In the Strategy Definition we say: "use core disciplines in applications such as disaster management, health, cultural heritage and maintenance of a sustainable environment" and "develop interest in key international issues such as working towards the Millennium Development Goals and climate change". We work closely with members of the Joint Board of Spatial Information Societies



Orhan Altan.

(JBGIS), the ICSU GeoUnions, UNOOSA, COPUOS, GEO and the UN initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM).

Read Orhan Altan's full story at www.gim-international.com/isprs



COLUMN

Making geomatics more attractive

What is geomatics? What is the geospatial industry? These are questions put to me quite regularly. Friends and family are interested in what I do in my daily life. They know that I work for a publishing company, on occasion they even know that we write about some kind of technology, and even rarer are those friends who remember that I "do something with geomatics". OK, that's nice! But doesn't this say an awful lot about the status of the geospatial sector? Doesn't this necessitate us to bridge the gap between the man on the street and geomatics?

Over the past years I've interviewed many people for GIM International and education was often the topic of at least one of the questions. In many countries there is a lack of new geomatics professionals. I was discussing this with the people of Hexagon Geospatial and Leica Geosystems during their media roundtable at this ISPRS Congress. I touched a sensitive subject of the geomatics community. Why don't young talented people at college decide to study geomatics or related subjects? Probably because they have no clue as to what it entails. And if they do, surveying – unless they know how great the job really is – sounds like a dusty word to many youngsters. Not appealing at all to young people. The truth can be hard to swallow, but let's face reality!

Creating 3D worlds is already much more exciting. The links between the gaming and the geospatial industry are getting stronger. Students use Google Maps and many other geo-applications are becoming intertwined with everyday life. Actually, Pokémon Go also has a geospatial element in it! I'm sure we can make the geospatial sector much more attractive. This will result in many more students at the geomatics departments. It's time for a transformation, it's time to make use of the great opportunity being offered by the smart phone revolution. Geospatial has become so visible to the citizens of our wonderful planet, but they're not aware of it. They are living a geomatics life without knowing what geomatics is. We're on a mission – will you join us? Let me know! I'm sure GIM International can be perfect platform to help this operation succeed!

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Geospatial Week 2017



Yellow Crane Tower, Wuhan.

During the ISPRS Geospatial Week 2015 in La Grande Motte, France, the decision was taken to hold the next Geospatial Week in China, organised by Wuhan University. A strong Chinese delegation submitted a winning application to the panel and was successful in their bid. Wuhan University is the largest university in the field of photogrammetry, remote sen-

sing and spatial science, with approximately 4,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

The 2017 edition of the Geospatial Week will take place from 18 to 22 September with Deren Li, honorary member of ISPRS, as director. He will be joined by a large team headed by Jianya Gong (currently president of Commission VI), Huayi Wu and Bisheng Yang.

The organizing committee looks forward to an interesting and successful Geospatial Week in 2017 and already welcomes all readers to join them in Wuhan!

You will find more on ISPRS Geospatial Week 2017 in one of the upcoming issues of this newsletter.

KOMPSAT-3A Imagery

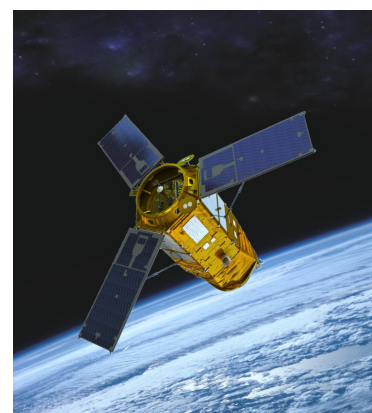
SI Imaging Services (SIIS) has started commercial services of KOMPSAT-3A imagery with the world's second highest resolution satellite on 5 July. KOMPSAT-3A is part of the Korean Multipurpose Satellite Programme developed and operated by the Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI) for Earth observation purpose.

The Earth observation satellite offers clear imagery with a resolution less than 0.5metre. KOMPSAT-3A, also known as Arirang-3A, was launched into orbit in March 2015. After more than a year of successful test operation, SIIS began commercial services on 5 July. It would make South Korea the world's second country to enter the less-than-0.5-metre-resolution satellite imagery market after the United States.

KOMPSAT-3A is the sister of KOMPSAT-3, using the same

satellite bus and payload. Its local access time is unique in the afternoon, 13:30, which is the same as KOMPSAT-3. However, since KOMPSAT-3A was put into lower orbit than KOMPSAT-3, it delivers clearer and sharper view.

You are welcome to visit the SI Imaging Services booth (nr. 89) to learn more about the possibilities KOMPSAT-3A imagery offers.



Editorial and Advertising Opportunities

From 12-19 July 2016, the 23rd ISPRS Congress is being held in Prague, the beautiful capital of the Czech Republic. As the GIM International team, we are proud that we are publishing a daily round-up of all the latest congress news and developments during this gathering of photogrammetry and remote sensing experts from all over the world. The 'ISPRS Congress Daily' will be available as both a digital and a print publication. We welcome your press releases and other content ideas, so please feel free to contact Wim van Wegen (wim.van.wegen@geomares.nl), editorial manager, with your suggestions for editorial contributions. For attractive promotional opportunities in the 'ISPRS Congress Daily', please get in touch with Sybout Wijma (sybout.wijma@geomares.nl), key account manager.

Youth Forum

The the new Student Consortium Board will be elected in the Small Hall on Sunday 17 July starting at 4:30 pm.

Contributions by young scientist cover all the main domains of photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial scientists.

There will be two Youth Forum Best Paper Awards and two Youth Forum Best Poster Awards for the best papers presented at

the ISPRS Youth Forum Sessions.

The main purpose of the Student Consortium is to link students, young researches and professionals in different countries and provide a platform for exchange of information, to organize student specific events and other actions that integrate youth effectively into ISPRS.

More info at www.isprs2016-prague.com