

## **Conference Programme Launched for UK's Biggest Geospatial Event: GEO Business 2015**

GEO Business 2015, which takes place at the Business Design Centre in London from 27-28 May 2015, is excited to reveal its conference programme, which promises to deliver cutting-edge information through a series of high calibre presentations.

As the UK's biggest geospatial event, the conference attracted an exceptionally high standard of papers when it issued a call for papers at the end of last year. Over 170 abstracts were received from authors representing 28 countries, which is an increase of 55% on the previous show.

Conference Chairman, Graham Mills, (Chairman of Technics Group and President of The Survey Association) commented, "With such incredible industry support, we are delighted to present a programme which reflects the vibrancy of technology in the geospatial sector. In fact with so much innovation within the industry, the committee felt the need to introduce two new sessions this year, making a total of 16 sessions with a variety of presentations in each."

There will be an informative keynote address opening the show each day including a presentation on day one from Andrew McNaughton, Technical Director from HS2 (the UK's proposed new high speed rail line). Day two will open to a presentation about the 'BIM Toolkit and Digital Plan of Work Project' by Dr Stephen Hamil, Director of Design & Innovation at NBS (National Building Specification, UK, which is part of RIBA Enterprises and wholly owned by the Royal Institute of British Architects).

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One of the new sessions is for 'Emerging and Developing Technologies' and includes topics which focus on the future of geospatial technology. These include a talk about 'wearable GIS tools' by Jaak Laineste, founder of Nutiteq; 'the future of maps' by Gary Gale, founder of Malstow Geospatial; and the 'evolution of geospatial technology' by Lee Braybrooke, Marketing Manager at Trimble. The other new session, 'Is your Asset Management Fit for the 21st Century', looks at how geospatial solutions can be used to support the management of assets in a variety of different situations.

Highlights of the programme include a thought-provoking talk by Andrew Thompson, Director of Savills (UK), about the role of geospatial professionals in the resolution of development neighbour disputes, following an increased parliamentary interest in the subject for new legislation.

In an enlightening session on 'Specifications and Standards', Mr Chris Preston, Senior Engineer, Network Rail will be discussing attitudes to risk and risk mitigation, including affordable solutions to control risk associated with geospatial data capture. In the same session, David Andrews, Geospatial Imaging Officer at English Heritage, will be presenting English Heritage's new edition of 'Metric Survey for Specifications' which is due to be released in May. The new version reflects changes in technology, including digital cameras, motion software and unmanned aerial platforms, as well as BIM. This will be of interest to all those in the commercial sector who work on cultural heritage projects.

With BIM sweeping through businesses, the programme includes two sessions on the subject. On day one, Tim Wood, Global Business Architect at Arup, will be 'joining the dots between GIS and BIM' as he talks about Arup's role in regenerating Croydon, a city in the UK. Similarly, Fred Mills, Founding Director of The B1M, will be delivering a topical paper explaining the opportunities and benefits of mass BIM adoption on the second day of the conference.

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Other important talks on the subject of data come from John Carpenter, Director of Strategy and Planning at Ordnance Survey, who will provide insight into how geospatial data has been maintained at Ordnance Survey and how there is a need for new initiatives to extend the reach and impact for the next generation of stakeholders. On a similar subject, Dr Adam Iwaniak, President of the Wroclaw Institute for Spatial Information and Artificial Intelligence, will present information about a recent project to develop the GeoMedia Semantic Toolkit which is able to create and integrate linked data, making it possible to deliver geospatial knowledge in the Linked Data Web.

With 50 presentations at the conference, the committee has ensured there is something to benefit everyone. In addition, delegates can enjoy an extensive programme of workshops with GEO Business' exhibitors demonstrating their products and services through a choice of over 140 workshop sessions; a 34% increase on the year before and there is also an outside demonstration area. GEO Business' dynamic international exhibition is 64% bigger in physical square metres and will include over 200 exhibitors from 20 countries - it is nearly sold out with 3 months still to go!

GEO Business 2015 plays host to a vibrant social programme to maximise possibilities for informal networking, including a gala dinner that was a sell-out at the 2014 show. With so much positive feedback about the launch event, the organisers are expecting an even greater turnout of visitors to GEO Business 2015, surpassing the level of 2014 with visitor registrations up by an incredible 50%!

For full information about GEO Business 2015 at the Business Design Centre in London on 27-28 May 2015, please visit: [www.GeoBusinessShow.com](http://www.GeoBusinessShow.com).

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### Notes:

*Diversified Communications UK Ltd is the UK division of an international media company with a successful portfolio of sector leading exhibitions, conferences, publications and websites. Industry events with relevance to the geospatial marketplace include the International and European LiDAR Mapping Forums, the SPAR Point Group 3D Imaging events and the Ocean Business event in Southampton. [www.divcom.co.uk](http://www.divcom.co.uk)*

*GEO Business 2015 is the UK's biggest geospatial event for everyone involved in the gathering storing, processing and delivering of geospatial information. Launched in 2014 and organised in collaboration with the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors (ICES), the Association for Geographic Information (AGI), the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), The Survey Association (TSA) and the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE).*

*The Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors (ICES) is an international qualifying body dedicated to the regulation, education and training of surveyors working within civil engineering. ICES is now recognised as the leading chartered professional body for civil engineering surveyors. They have introduced relevant and meaningful competencies for geospatial engineers and commercial managers which make a difference. [www.cices.org](http://www.cices.org)*

*The Association for Geographic Information (AGI) exists to represent the interests of the UK's GI industry; a wide-ranging group of public and private sector organisations, suppliers of GI software, hardware, data and services, consultants, academics and interested individuals. The AGI, by way of its unique membership forum, brings together this previously disparate GI community to share ideas on best practice, experience and innovation, and offers access to unparalleled networking opportunities with significant business benefits. As such it acts on behalf of the community as a whole. Since its formal inception in 1989, it has built up a significant membership base and established itself as the respected voice in GI and is the membership body for everyone with an interest or involvement with GI. <http://www.agi.org.uk>*

*RICS - the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors - was created in 1868 in the United Kingdom. It received a royal charter in 1881. Their members are known as chartered surveyors, and are recognised by the designation after their name - FRICS (for Fellow of RICS) or MRICS (for Member of RICS). Today we are a global property professional body which aims to: regulate and promote the profession; maintain the highest educational and professional standards; protect clients and consumers through a strict code of ethics; provide impartial advice, analysis and guidance. [www.rics.org](http://www.rics.org)*

*The Survey Association, known generally as TSA, is the trade body for commercial survey companies in the UK. The association was formed in 1979 to give a focus for private sector businesses in land and hydrographic survey. It is important to realise, however, that it is not a regulatory body. The role of TSA is to promote best practice amongst its members, provide a forum for members for discussion, debate and continuing professional development and, to the wider audience such as engineers and architects, provide*

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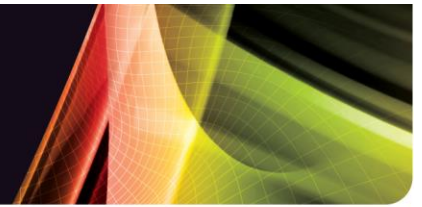




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*guidance on new methods and techniques and a list of suitably qualified and experienced companies. [www.tsa-uk.org.uk/](http://www.tsa-uk.org.uk/)*

*The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) strives to promote and progress civil engineering. ICE was founded in 1818 and was granted a royal charter in 1828 where they declared that their aim was to “foster and promote the art and science of civil engineering”. That is still their aim today and they represent around 80,000 members worldwide. <http://www.ice.org.uk/>*

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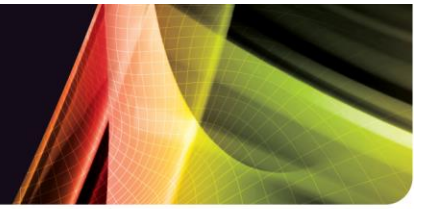
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