



PRESS RELEASE

Map Middle East 2007: The Largest Geospatial Middle East Geospatial Forum

7 March 2007, NOIDA, India: The third **Map Middle East** conference is scheduled to be held in Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Dubai, UAE from 9 - 11 April, 2007. Jointly organised by Dubai Municipality and GIS Development, the conference is being sponsored by Digital Globe, ESRI and Intergraph as Platinum Sponsors, Trimble and Bentley as Gold Sponsors and Global Scan, Leica Geosystems Geospatial Imaging, Map Info, IIC Technologies, Tele Atlas Maps and Topcon as Silver Sponsors.

The conference has also gathered tremendous support from both national and International level agencies like International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS), Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), UAE Society of Engineers, Military Survey Department of UAE, Space Reconnaissance Centre of UAE, Land Department of UAE, General Organisation of Remote Sensing, Syria, Iranian Space Agency and Remote Sensing Authority of Sudan. United Arab Emirates University is the Knowledge Partner for the show.

Geospatial Convergence: The Next Step is the Theme of the conference this year. The various plenary and technical sessions conference have been designed around this theme. An impressive line of speakers will ensure that there is not just regional, but an International representation of views. Some of the confirmed speakers for the conference are:

- Mathew O'Connell, President and CEO, GeoEye, USA
- Dr. Vanessa Lawrence, Director General and CEO, Ordnance Survey, United Kingdom
- Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, India
- Prof. Josef Strobl, Centre for GeInformatics, Salzburg University, Austria
- Prof. A. R. Dasgupta, Editorial Consultant, GIS Development, India
- Prof. Ian Dowman, President, ISPRS, United Kingdom
- Peter Moulson, Senior Consultant, EFI International, Australia
- Prof. Orhan Altan, Head Division of Photogrammetry, Technical University of Istanbul, Turkey
- Prof. John Trinder, First Vice President, ISPRS, Australia
- Ashutosh Pande, Managing Director, Sirf Technology India Pvt. Ltd., India

Map Middle East will be host to various programmes, like the **Geospatial Executive Leadership Forum** with theme **GeoSpatial Enterprises** which will have personalities from leading organizations from the geospatial

industry & academia addressing the participants on project management, leadership challenges, various successful business development strategies etc. The Forum is meant to enable executives/managers from the government and corporate sectors to differentiate, grow and defend themselves within their unit, within the organization and the organization within the industry.

A conference on **Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry** is also being hosted by **ISPRS** (International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing), which is being co-organized by GIS Development, India and Dubai Municipality, UAE.

Also a part of the conference would be a **Round Table Discussion on Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI)**. A great development has been recorded, particularly in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. This discussion forum on Spatial Data Infrastructure will review the status of SDI activities within the various organizations using Geo-information on local and national levels.

This year's conference will also witness four seminars as a part of Map Middle East 2007. The topics that are considered are in respect to the ongoing development and progress in different vertical segments like Construction & Engineering, Oil & Gas, Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Management and Open Source Geospatial.

The **2nd GIS Educational Forum** is being organized by Dubai Municipality in collaboration with Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Affairs and Zayed Center for Children of Spatial Needs from 10-11 April, 2007 under the umbrella of Map Middle East 2007. The forum aims at spreading awareness and setting up a sound foundation of geospatial science and technologies by educating future generations. The forum will address the awareness and the need for GIS among the students and how it is going to help them in day to day life. It is being sponsored by Pictometry Middle East.

In parallel to the conference, almost 50 Industry leaders like ESRI, Rolta, Topcon, Bentley, Sokkia, Pictometry Middle East, Global Scan Technologies, Intergraph, GeoEye, Leica, Trimble, Digital Globe and many more will be showcasing their products in the exhibition of the conference.

For more details on the conference, please contact:

Sharmishtha Seth

Manager Sales

GIS Development Branch

P O Box No: 54664

Dubai Airport Free Zone Area

Dubai , United Arab Emirates

Mobile: +971 50 3051645

Tele: +971 4 2045350 (D), 2045351

Fax: +971 4 2045352

Email: sharmishtha.seth@gisdevelopment.net

Web: www.gisdevelopment.net; www.mapmiddleeast.org