

Geomatching



Where should I start in this, our thickest issue of the year? We're in the midst of exciting times, not only in our profession but also within our publishing company, and this Intergeo-themed issue is a reflection of both. Behind the scenes, we've been working hard to get ready to launch Geo-matching.com during the biggest event in geomatics. Geo-matching.com is a natural successor to the product surveys which were published in GIM International for many years. Do you remember those large tables providing technical overviews of products such as total stations or GNSS receivers, GIS or laser scanners? Our readers appreciated them, and the information was indeed valuable, but we decided it was time to bring you technical specifications for geomatics products in a more contemporary and dynamic way. And you can see the results at www.geo-matching.com, where you'll find the 'old' product

survey in a new format. The website aims to be your ultimate tool for comparing new products: you can browse detailed, specbased comparisons for more than 500 products, read reviews by your peers and share your own product experiences, sign up for alerts when your favourite manufacturers have updated their products, print or save spec tables, watch demo videos, and the list goes on. I'd strongly encourage you to explore Geo-matching, and moreover to become an active member of the Geo-matching community. I'd love to hear your reactions.

We wouldn't be *GIM International* if we didn't take a closer look at technological developments too. To coincide with the launch of Geo-matching.com, this issue contains an article on GNSS receivers, explaining the state-of-the-art developments over the last few years. Our senior editor Mathias Lemmens delved into all the specs that manufacturers submitted to Geo-matching.com and has composed a topical overview for you to read.

I'm delighted to tell you that this issue also carries an interview with president and chief executive officer of Trimble, Steven Berglund. Berglund shares his views on how he expects UAS to impact the daily work of surveyors all over the globe, on Trimble's acquisition strategy, and on the growth of geospatial technology and its role in several segments of the global economy.

In line with tradition, this edition also once again features a preview of the Intergeo, which is taking place in Hanover from 9 to 11 October. You'll be able to walk the floor with a copy of *GIM International* in your hand, checking up on the latest news from more than 500 exhibitors. If you're unable to attend Intergeo, the preview will certainly give you a feel of what's happening in Hanover. But if you are travelling to Germany for the show, I'd like to wish you a successful visit, both in terms of catching up with old friends and acquaintances from the industry and making valuable new contacts. The team of *GIM International* and *Geomatching.com* will be located at stand 7I.50. We are all looking forward to meeting you!

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