

ACSM Survey Summit

The annual ACSM Annual Survey Summit, which took place from 21 to 24 July 2012 in the Grand Hyatt in San Diego, USA, brought together 265 industry professionals from 13 different countries and covered a wide range of topics. Lidar and 3D laser scanning appears to be gaining increasing ground across various industries. Thanks to technical features having improved over the past decade and the costs for performing a Lidar and terrestrial survey having decreased significantly in recent years, it has become an increasingly attractive alternative to traditional methods.

Kourosh Langari explained that 3D laser scanning offers many more capabilities to the industry than regular traditional surveying techniques. Results can be provided in many different end formats, such as 3D pdf, solid models, KML, etc.

An interesting non-profit initiative, CyArk, was demonstrated. This organisation is collecting laser scan data from important cultural heritage sites around the world in order to preserve them and expose a wider community to interesting cultural heritage globally. One example of the CyArk initiatives provided was a project to preserve the Historic El Camino Real.

Mr. Paiva gave an overview of what Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Lidar involves. This emerging technology is predicted to become a game-changer in the industry. It is however an instrument for professionals only, and training is of great importance in order to operate UAS systems safely and effectively. Currently, the FAA does not allow UAS to be used for commercial purposes although new regulations are expected by 2014.

<https://www.gim-international.com/content/news/acsm-survey-summit>
