

Increasing Productivity



Dimensions 2009, the fifth in this conference series, took place from 23rd to 25th February at the Mirage Hotel in Las Vegas. Attendees had the opportunity to network with industry leaders, develop new contacts, build partnerships and discuss new opportunities. With more than three hundred sessions across multiple specialty tracks, the conference theme focused on increasing productivity in the field and office.

The event attracted some 2,500 attendees from around the world, including large contingents from Asia, South America and the Dutch dredging community. Many Trimble-owned companies and technology partners also contributed to the conference exhibition, extending the range of products and applications available. Trimble took the opportunity to make a host of major new product announcements and updates of interest to the survey, marine and engineering sectors.

Partner Pavilion

Trimble Dimensions included an off-site demonstration and training area, together with a Partners Pavilion showcasing the complete range of Trimble construction, survey and marine-engineering products. Featured at the conference were the new Trimble SPS361 and SPS461 combined GPS Heading and Positioning receivers: modular, dual-antenna systems designed for marine, construction and hydrographic-survey applications provide precise GPS heading and position. Combined with HYDROpro software, the receivers provide the tools for precise placement of piles, bridges, caissons, offshore drilling rigs and coastal defences.

Construction Applications

Previewed at the conference was the Trimble Site Controller Tablet Edition (TE) bundled with the SCS900 software package. This construction software enables supervisors to view, review and edit designs from a working vehicle or vessel. The software provides features for setting up base-stations, computing volumes, on-line grade checking and real-time display of cut/fill operations. Also demonstrated were the Ohmex extensions to the SCS900 program, providing an echo-sounder application from the Tablet PC platform. Trimble MGIS representatives displayed the Trimble Juno SB, featuring a compact Windows Mobile PDA computer. Standard wireless capabilities include built-in Bluetooth and wireless LAN that enables access to an organisational secure network. The rugged Otterbox Juno SB was demonstrated on the Seafloor Systems stand, along with the company's 'Micro HydroLite' system, arguably the world's smallest complete inshore-survey system and known to military users as 'Survey on a Stick'.

Ted Read, Zeework Ltd, UK