

Velodyne Lidar and Topodrone Enter Multi-year Partnership



Velodyne Lidar has announced a multi-year agreement to provide its Lidar sensors to Topodrone, a Swiss-based company that develops affordable, high-precision solutions for aerial surveys. Using Velodyne Lidar sensors has enabled Topodrone to bring high-precision mapping and 3D modelling to demanding environments including farms, forests, infrastructure and more to support

development that advances economic and sustainability goals.

“Velodyne’s Lidar sensors enable our solutions to capture intricate, precise measurements that are essential in producing a high-quality survey,” said Maxim Baklykov, founder and CEO of [Topodrone](#). “The sensors’ light weight and compact form factor provide great synergy with one of Topodrone’s major principles of building some of the lightest Lidar-based survey solutions in the market. Velodyne’s sensors provide best-in-class power consumption which allows drones to fly longer. Working with [Velodyne](#) has helped us leverage their well-known brand and product quality, which adds great value and customer confidence in our solutions.”

Topodrone is using Velodyne’s Puck, Puck Hi-Res and Ultra Puck as the 3D data perception and mapping sensors in its survey solutions. Topodrone 100 LITE and Topodrone 200 ULTRA are lightweight and accurate solutions that can be installed on drones, vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs or ‘drones’) and backpack systems for mobile laser scanning. Topodrone 200 ULTRA, together with a Supercam SX350 VTOL, allows surveyors to cover more than 10 square kilometres per flight with high-density and accurate RGB Lidar point cloud data generated from 150m altitude.

Precision surveying for customers around the globe

Topodrone provides Velodyne Lidar-powered scanner solutions to global markets with customers that include some of the world’s most renowned research universities. Researchers and specialists at the Natural Resources Institute Finland working on sustainable development of the Finnish bioeconomy used a Topodrone laser scanner mounted on a drone, quadbike and person. Even operating under hard winter conditions, such as flying under -20°C and during night, the scanner delivered high positional accuracy of collected point cloud data.

Another customer is Track Your Build, based in Sierra Leone, which offers remote sensing services for construction and infrastructure management. The company used a Topodrone scanner to conduct a successful topographical survey for a hydroelectric dam project. Track Your Build has now brought Lidar-based surveying into its workflow for urban and rural areas to negate the need for spot elevations.

In Costa Rica, Eduardo Sáenz, a professional land surveyor, uses Topodrone 100 LITE to survey forests, teak plantations, various types of farms and land for development. He commented, “The system has definitely made an impact, cutting costs and delivery times dramatically. It has proven reliable in tough working environments. The gain in time and detail are substantial. The possibilities for this tool are almost endless.”

“Topodrone has built an impressive global customer base by helping companies address a range of challenging mapping conditions and delivering accurate survey data,” said Erich Smidt, vice president of Europe, Velodyne Lidar. “Their solutions demonstrate the performance and flexibility of Velodyne’s sensors by having a product family with multiple deployment modes.”



Velodyne Lidar has signed a multi-year agreement to provide its Lidar sensors to Topodrone, the Switzerland-based developer of high-precision solutions for aerial surveys.