

Velodyne Lidar Claims Major Improvement in Mobile Mapping



Velodyne's Lidar division, a manufacturer and supplier of real-time Lidar sensor technology used in a variety of commercial applications, has announced a quantity order for HDL-32E sensors for a mobile mapping application that leverages the advantages of 'Calibrated Reflectivities'.

The Calibrated Reflectivity data measured with the company's 360° HDL-32E Lidar sensors helps with localising license plates, street signs and lane markings within 2D pictures and surround video data for classification/cataloguing during asset management and blurring of privacy information. Knowing the location of the street signs and license plates in the 2D video data allows for automation of the post-processing, resulting in shorter process times and significant cost savings.

As a result of the enhanced sensor technology, Velodyne reported that the Lidar division has received a significant follow-up order for its popular HDL-32E multi-channel Lidar sensor. The technology will be deployed worldwide in a complex mobile mapping application using hundreds of Velodyne sensors.

Additional features

Among other notable additional features: the HDL's web server GUI, combined with the Internet-based script language (.json), that enables users to routinely monitor and control performance parameters during operation without wasting valuable collection time. The sensor's compact footprint – together with its acquisition rate of ~700,000 data points per second – makes it a key component of the map provider's powerful collection system. The unit is small enough to be shipped anywhere in the world using regular airfreight carriers. The 32 angled laser beams enable objects to be measured from different viewpoints, minimising shadows and capturing three sides of a building in a single pass.

When mounting the lightweight HDL-32E (~1kg) on an UAV, the multi-angle approach can be the enabling factor to see objects that would otherwise be obscured by overhanging roofs or large-size covers.

The image shows Velodyne's HDL-32E with Calibrated Reflectivities for easy locating of street signs (red circle) and license plates (green square).

https://www.gim-international.com/content/news/velodyne-lidar-claims-major-improvement-in-mobile-mapping