

** Remote Sensing News for and About Industry **

The Quarterly Newsletter of the IEEE-GRSS Industry Liaison Group

Editor: Bill Gail, Vexcel Corporation (bill.gail@vexcel.com, 303-583-0229) - note: new contact info!

GRSS website: <http://ewh.ieee.org/soc/grss/>

Industry Liaison Group website: <http://quickplace.altarum.org/grssindustry>
(User ID - Industry, Password - GRSS)

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** 1. GROWING NEWSLETTER

The readership of the newsletter has been expanded to over 400 people from companies associated with remote sensing - and it will keep growing. In addition, a wide range of contacts from government agencies, international space agencies, professional organizations, non-government organizations, OMB, and Congressional staff have been

added. We in industry want to help keep our non-industry colleagues informed of the activities and capabilities of industry - and the role that the IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) plays in supporting and promoting industry.

** 2. IGARSS 2005 - 25th ANNIVERSARY

IGARSS 2005 is being held July 25-29 in Seoul (www.igarss05.org). For those who have attended previously, you know that IGARSS is the premier remote sensing conference for bringing together government, academia, and industry. Historic attendance has been running about 1500. This year is the 25th anniversary of IGARSS, and a number of special events are planned. Tutorial sessions of interest to industry include airborne laser scanning, SAR applications, and EO information mining. For questions about exhibiting, please contact Lisa Ostendorf directly (ieeegrss@adelphia.net, +1.540.658.1676). See you there.

** 3. GEOSS IMPLEMENTED

The Earth Observing Summit, held in DC July 31, 2003 and attended by 34 nations, spawned an organization called the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) chartered with developing an international plan for a coordinated global observing system, currently called the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS). The final plan was approved at the third Summit to be held 16 February in Brussels. The IEEE, through the Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS), petitioned to become an official observer at the meetings. Al Gasiewski, GRSS President, attended in this role, accompanied by the IEEE President-Elect Michael Lightner, and Jay Pearlman of Boeing who led the petition process. More information on these activities can be obtained at <http://earthobservations.org>. GRSS will focus on contributions to four activities: technology/capacity building, user requirements, standards, and education/outreach. These are consistent with the recognized capabilities of the IEEE. The Alliance on Earth Observations has played an active role in promoting the private sector within GEOSS - more information can be found at their website <http://www.strategies.org/Alliance/>.

** 4. NRC DECADAL SURVEY PRELIMINARY REPORT

The National Research Council (NRC) two-year decadal survey of earth science and applications titled "Earth Science and Applications from Space: A Community Assessment and Strategy for the Future" is expected to release a preliminary report in April. This report will provide a vision for the coming decade and near-term actions needed to support that vision. The charge of the study is "to generate consensus recommendations from the Earth and environmental science and applications community regarding a systems approach to space-based and

ancillary observations that encompasses the research programs of NASA and the related operational programs of NOAA". More information can be obtained at <http://qp.nas.edu/decadalsurvey>. Substantial community has been sought in performing the study through a Request for Information that is available at the website - your participation is requested.

** 5. NASA ROADMAPS

NASA has initiated a process to "roadmap" their activities over the next several decades. NASA describes this process as "a coordinated and comprehensive longitudinal strategy, with key achievements, options, and decisions points identified, that provides a foundation for NASA's long-term priorities and investments." To address the wide variety of NASA activities, there are 13 "strategic" roadmaps and 15 "capability" roadmaps. The teams developing each roadmap include government, academia, and industry personnel. Earth science planning is addressed by several of the capability roadmaps, and two of the strategic roadmaps (No. 9, Earth Science and Applications from Space; No. 10. Sun-Solar System Connection). The process will be completed by July 31. Additional information is available at <http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/apio/earth.htm>.

** 6. KYOTO PROTOCOL

After years of wrangling, the Kyoto Protocol went into effect 16 February. The final approval required to achieve the needed international participation level was given by Russia late in 2004. The US is not a signatory. Anticipation of the Protocol has already led to increased demands for remote sensing information for such applications as land cover change. We will likely all see the fallout from Kyoto in terms of increased opportunities for the remote sensing industry.

** 7. OTHER INDUSTRY OPPORTUNITIES

A quick reminder of items mentioned in previous newsletters:

- The monthly "GRS Newsletter" provides opportunities for companies to publish corporate profiles.

- The GRSS technical committees are accepting volunteers - see <http://www.ieee.org/grss>.

- Short contributions of news or other items for this newsletter will be accepted.

** 8. COMPANY NEWS

This space will be available in the future to briefly advertise company news or events at no cost. Please submit 1-4 sentence requests to the editor with lead time appropriate for a quarterly periodical. To kick off this service, here is a brief pitch from the editor's company.

> VEXCEL - Vexcel will host a Users Forum at ASPRS (Tuesday 8 March, 1:30-4:30, Marriott Waterfront, Harborside Ballroom Room D). The Forum will provide an update on the latest products available from the Vexcel group of companies, focusing on the transition to a fully-digital workflow for photogrammetric production. Current and prospective users will have the opportunity to talk directly to Vexcel staff about all aspects of photogrammetric operations. Please register with Joe Thurgood (303-583-0250, joe.thurgood@vexcel.com) if you plan to attend.

** 9. EVENTS AND EVENT CALENDARS

- 6- 9 Mar GITA's Annual Conference 28, Denver, CO, <http://www.gita.org>
- 7- 9 Mar Intergeo East, Zagreb, Croatia, <http://www.hinte-messe.de>
- 7-11 Mar ASPRS Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, <http://www.asprs.org>
- 8-10 Mar Munich Satellite Navigation Summit 2005, Munich, Germany, <http://www.munich-satellite-navigation-summit.org>
- 14-16 Mar URBAN 2005 / URS 2005, Arizona, <http://ces.asu.edu/urs/>
- 4- 7 Apr 21st National Space Symposium, Colorado Springs, CO, <http://spacesymposium.org/national05/agenda/>
- 25-29 Apr XXX Gen Assy of Euro Geophys Soc, Nice, France, <http://www.copernicus.org/EGS>
- 9-12 May IEEE Radar Conference, Arlington, VA, <http://www.radar05.org/>
- 23-27 May American Geophysical Union (AGU), New Orleans, LA, <http://www.agu.org>
- 20-25 Jun Intl Symp on Rem Sens of Environ, St. Petersburg, Russia, <http://www.symposia.org>
- 25-29 Jul IGARSS 2005, Seoul, Korea, <http://www.igarss05.org>

31- 4 Jul SPIE Optical Science and Technology, San Diego, CA,
<http://www.spie.org>

19-22 Sep SPIE Remote Sensing Europe, Bruges, Belgium,
<http://www.spie.org>

19-23 Sep Oceans 2005 IEEE/MTS, Washington, DC,
<http://www.oceans2005.org/>

23-29 Oct XXVIII URSI General Assembly, New Delhi, India

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE)

<http://www.ieee.org>

American Geophysical Union (AGU)

<http://www.agu.org>

American Meteorological Society (AMS) Conferences, Meetings, and Symposia

<http://www.ametsoc.org/>

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS)

<http://www.asprs.org/>

International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)

<http://www.isprs.org/>

SPIE - The International Society for Optical Engineering

<http://www.spie.org>

United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Conferences and Meetings

<http://www.unep.org/Documents/Default.asp?DocumentID=303>

Earth Observing System (EOS) Science and Global Change Calendars

<http://eosps0.gsfc.nasa.gov/calendars/index.php>

The IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) Ad-Hoc Industry Liaison Group was formed in 2002 to increase collaboration between industry, academia, and government in the remote sensing field. More than 200 industry organizations are currently included. Should you need further information about the Industry Group, require that contact information for you or your organization be updated, or request to be removed from the list, please contact Bill Gail (bill.gail@vexcel.com).