

Italy in the Geoinformation worldwide

In this issue, traditionally released in English language every year, GEOmedia provide its readers the presentation of two international projects where Italian companies play an important role.

AMPERE (Asset Mapping Platform for Emerging countries Electrification), a project created to bring to Dominican Republic, a GNSS-based integrated platform for energy decision makers. It is finalized to the solution to one of the problems in the Central and South America countries regarding the precarious, often chaotic status of large part of the electricity distribution network, which, besides making the service unreliable and sometimes dangerous, takes away from the simple beauty of the area. The old lines are being replaced with several dedicated interventions to make areas more appealing. Moreover, the electricity distribution companies experience serious problems with electricity leakages and were losing vast amounts of resources from illegal connections to the grid. AMPERE, with the participation of the Italian company Sistematica SpA, proposes a solution based on a GIS cloud mapping technology, collecting on field data acquired with optical/thermal cameras and LIDAR installed on board to an UAV as well as other data captured with conventional sensors on ground.

DeepCube is an Horizon 2020 project implemented by 9 European partners coordinated by the National Observatory of Athens. In this project the Italian company TREA Altamira (TREA) will analyze the deformation trend change detection on PSI (Persistent Scatterer Interferometry) time series for critical infrastructure monitoring using InSAR derived services.

TRE has been a pioneer in developing new products from satellite SAR data, born as a Politecnico di Milano University spin-off in 2000, the company was funded to market the first PSI technique worldwide and in 2016, it merged with Altamira, an InSAR service company too. When asked to join the DeepCube project, TRE was thrilled to contribute to the challenge of exploiting the mass amount of Sentinel-1 SAR data combined with in-situ geodetic and other measurements with the final goal of creating a commercial service to monitor critical infrastructure at large scales.

Another important contribution is coming from the Italian Register of Territorial Data (RNDT) talking about the Data Discoverability. This is described as one of the main tasks, next to availability and interoperability, that public policy makers and implementers should take into due consideration in order to foster access, use and re-use of public sector information, particularly in case of Open Data.

An overview on the Team of HERE Technologies working on modern map-making and maintenance that requires the normalization and conflation of combined datasets from many different sources and channels. The Local Data Intelligence Team (known as LDI team) is a global team, with geo spatial experts in each region. Different cultures and local knowledge allow for a rainbow of expertise in this team. Although they are local, they state to contribute toward global solutions.

Finally an interview to Kevin Dowling, CEO of Kaarta will bring us a new vision of actual modern cartography. Kevin explain us that the name 'Kaarta' is a phonetic reference to the science or practice of map making in cartography. The name captures the company's pioneering on mapping to produce 3D models in real time, and it is not about the technique used, but it's about the problems solved.

*Buona lettura,
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