

# **GEO** Informatics

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# 2

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? Autodesk and Pitney Bowes Strategic Software Alliance ? AHAB's Chiroptera laser scanner  
? Geoinformation provision in the Safety Chain ? RapidEye

## Present and future of the industry in Europe and Spain

# 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium "Geomatics, Surveying, Land and Real Estate Property"

The Spanish Association of Geodetic Surveyors (COITT) held its first congress in 2012 at the Palacio de Congresos Europe Vitoria. The event was held in Vitoria-Gasteiz (Basque Land – Spain) during January 4th 2012. The conference, attended by 125 experts related to earth sciences, discussed the professional future in Europe and Spain for professionals involved in land management and physical description of the property.



Mr. Andrés Díez



Mr. Jean-Yves Piriot

The aim was to bring together professionals in the region, represented by the Spanish Association of Geodetic Surveyors, as graduates will be called after its adaptation to European standards, to discuss the future opportunities of the sector.

The definition of property boundaries in Spain is source of many problems, disputes and inconsistencies, which can be seen as an opportunity for technical experts in land management. In addition to attenuating the judicial system overhead, the resolution of these problems would be a qualitative and quantitative improvement in all aspects related to the ownership of land, and a job opportunity for many land management professionals.

The conference was opened by the President of The Spanish Association of Geodetic Surveyors, Mr. Andrés Díez, who noted that events like this, which incite an exchange of knowledge, provide the groundwork for enhancing the professional profile of Surveying Engineer. This happens by consolidating and expanding its scope of skills, and matching it with what exists in other European countries. He outlined that our professional Association must take part adding a revitalizing element to the programs of studies elaborated by the Universities and he considers indispensably "to "accredit" the technical knowledge and professionals acquired by the university graduates.

The president of the CLGE, Mr. Jean-Yves Piriot, opened the lectures by outlining the sta-

tus of the profession and its relationship with the European framework. The CLGE (French acronym: Liaison Committee Géomètres des Européens) is the European Council of Surveyors, which includes the Official College of Technical Engineers in Topography. This association represents more than 50,000 experts in the territory of all Europe, which gives an idea of the importance of the group it represents. In some countries they are called Surveyors, in other Geometres, in Spain Topographical Engineers. He confirmed the huge opportunities that lay ahead and insisted on the role that COITT could play in helping its members to grasp them. The president of the Swiss Surveyors, Mr. Maurice Barbieri, exposing the continued success story of Switzerland, a world leader in the representation of the territory through the maps and the structure of property management, where the profession of PAS (Publicly Appointed Surveyors) is essential.

Mr. Pedro Ortiz, member of COITT's Executive Board and Head of International Affairs, as well as CLGE's Delegate, explained the steps taken by The Spanish Association of Geodetic Surveyors to promote the function of the PAS (Publicly Appointed Surveyor) in Spain, using the support of our European colleagues and the work done by the newly created "Interest Group Publicly Appointed and Liberal Surveyors" (IG-PARLS-SP), outlining the broad horizon and job opportunities that would open in the same way as in other European countries applying this approach.

The afternoon session continued with the pro-

gram, the discussion included land management as a fundamental pillar of the sustainability and the environment, in line with the fact that green capital of Vitoria-Gasteiz, and finally involved several representatives from both, the public and private sector. The civil servants were represented by Mr. Miguel Angel Castilla. From the private firms we had, Alejandro Guinea (Geograma), Álvaro Arroyo (Estudios GIS), Ricardo Antequera (Altais) and Ricard González (Infracplan), ending with a round table that discussed actively about the changes that society needs to take advantage of opportunities.

As a conclusion we remark how important the role of CLGE is when it comes to the development of all European countries with the aim of promoting changes in their cadastral/property systems.

There were not only discussions about cadastral surveying topics but also about geoinformation in a broader sense. The important role of the firms and entrepreneurs of the surveying industry for the development of the geoinformation industry and its support to the cadastral system.

The local organisation committee wants to thank for the support, the City Council of Vitoria-Gasteiz and the sponsors of the event: Leica, Al-top and Faynot-Feno.