

## **Getmapping Partnership Delivers New Digital Imagery**

The Getmapping Partnership has started to re-fly the entire Millennium Map, the complete nationwide aerial photography dataset flown between 1999 and 2002. The new flying programme, uses a dedicated Piper PA31 Chieftain aircraft and will take three years to complete. The aircraft is fitted with a gyro-stabilised Vexcel Ultracam D large format digital camera, interfaced with the latest computer controlled navigation system with 'AEROcontrol' position and attitude sensor.

The Ultracam D started its acceptance testing in July, and full production flying started in mid-August. About 5000 sq km of new data has already been captured in Southern England.

“ We are delighted with the quality of the data that we are getting from the Ultracam” said Lyndon Yorke, the Getmapping Partnership Flight Operations Manager. “Because they are digital, the images do not suffer any of the drawbacks associated with analogue images, such as imperfections on the film emulsion or marks on the negatives which are captured on the scans. In addition the photographs have a wide radiometric range which means that shadow and haze penetration is excellent.”

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Notes for Editors:

## **The Getmapping Partnership**

### **Getmapping**

Formed in 1999 Getmapping announced that it was going to fly the whole of Britain and make its aerial photography available over the Internet through its web site getmapping.com. The excitement of this proposition attracted the Queen as one of its early investors and by 2002 a whole host of professional users from estate agents to engineers plus central and local government had become Getmapping customers. This was followed by highly successful reader offers through the Daily Mail that demonstrated the wide appeal of Getmapping's vision of affordable nationwide aerial photography. Scotland will be added to the Getmapping portfolio in 2004/2005.

### **Flight Images**

Flight Images was established in 2000 and rapidly gained a reputation, not only for providing superb aerial imagery, but also for undertaking technically challenging projects from photographing over 600km of pipeline in Kazakhstan for Chevron Texaco to infrared photography of the ancient site of Helike for BBC Horizon. In 2003 Flight Images was able to extend its services through the acquisition of London Aerial Photo Library, one of the largest and most up to date oblique aerial photography libraries in the UK. Flight Images has been keen to enter the survey market for some time and therefore welcomed the opportunity to become part of the Digital Millennium Map LLP.

### **Geosense**

Established in 1999, Geosense specialises in the provision of GIS data and services around the world. With offices in the UK and South Africa, Geosense work with a wide variety of clients including Mapping Agencies, Councils, Engineers and Surveyors to provide high quality, cost-effective solutions.

### **SCS**

Systems Consultants Services Limited (SCS) was founded in 1992 and has gained a first-class reputation for its ability to undertake a wide range of activity with a broad spectrum of competences. In particular, SCS is recognised for providing individual and team support to all levels in the defence sector with the emphasis on theoretical knowledge coupled with practical experience in its application. Always innovative, in collaboration with Mothership Technology, SCS has developed RealityMap™ advanced 3D graphics software for terrain representation and visualisation in both the commercial and defence domains. This and other advances offer great promise for the future of Digital Millennium Map.