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K S GOPALAKRISHNAN APPOINTED TECHNICAL DIRECTOR FOR GETMAPPING

Getmapping has appointed a new Technical Director to help drive the business forward through the introduction of new products and services.

K S Gopalakrishnan, known in the company as Gopal, has been appointed as Technical Director. He has been with the company for six years and has been the inspiration behind Getmapping's market leading website. Gopal has ambitious plans for the next phase of Getmapping's development.

Commenting on his promotion he said: "Being appointed Technical Director is a great opportunity to influence the strategic direction of the company.

"Getmapping has so far been focused on the sale of vertical aerial photography, but in this fast-moving market we need to innovate to stay ahead. Over the next few months we will be expanding the scope of our activities to provide customers with a more complete and integrated service.

"Our vision includes three main elements. First we will be moving increasingly into the third dimension, offering datasets which combine our aerial photography with Intermap's NEXTMap Britain data, as well as 3D Urban environments including the use of Oblique photography. "Secondly, we will be introducing new datasets which are derived from our current photography," continues Gopal.

"And finally we recognise that our customers need information tailored to meet their particular requirements. To achieve this we will be offering them consultancy and system development services.

"In parallel with these goals we will be scaling up the internet services on which our professional customers rely. Over the last 6 years we have built a high performance/scalable software suite for managing and serving raster data over the web. This includes our raster engine, GmServer, WMS, REST API and a Tile server.

"We've also accumulated a great deal of expertise in the GIS arena. We now need to improve our availability figures from 99.85% to an enterprise-class 99.9% and at the same time we will expand our popular WMS service to include OGC-compliant WFS services. "I am looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead," Gopal concludes.

A graduate of the University of Pune, India, KS.Gopalakrishnan holds a BE in mechanical engineering. Before being recruited by Getmapping, he worked for MBT (Mahindra British Telecom), a subsidiary of British Telecom.
January 2007

For more information, please contact Babita Wakelin or Jane Nuthall at Getmapping's press office on 0116 278 7788 or via email: babita@leapfrog.uk.com or jane@leapfrog.uk.com