

XIXth Congress of ISPRS

Geoinformation for All

Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 16-23 July 2000



The Netherlands' Society for Earth Observation and Geoinformatics (NSEOG) hosts the XIXth Congress of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) in the year 2000 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the International Institute for Aerospace Survey and Earth Sciences (ITC).

To make the Congress 2000 a trend-setting event, much attention will be focused on the contribution of photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information systems to the well-being of human society through the generation of reliable information when dealing with the complex transition processes towards sustainable development, including food security, sustainable rural and urban development, poverty reduction, equity, environmental protection and global change. In line with this, the motto of the Congress is: **'Geoinformation for All'**.

Several interpretations of the Congress theme have been made:

- Geo-information for the benefit of all
- Geo-information available to all
- Geo-information accessible to all
- Geo-information useful for all
- Geo-information producible by all
- Geo-information understandable for all

These reflect the wide variety of interest fields of the ISPRS and will form the basis for further deliberation in Amsterdam. Amsterdam, the capital of The Netherlands and location for the ISPRS 2000 congress, was once the world capital for the production of maps and globes. Its richness in culture, theatres, museums and restaurants draws huge numbers of visitors from all over the world. The Netherlands is also the gateway to other tourist attractions in Europe. Amsterdam, with its 700,000 inhabitants is a city with a highly individual atmosphere, created by its beautiful symmetrical rings of canals with over 1,000 bridges. Its sense of energy and purpose and its richness in culture, museums, theatres contribute to a cosmopolitan character with restaurants from all over the world.

Some Thoughts on the Congress Theme

The president of the ISPRS, Dr. Larry Fritz, reflects in his opening Letter to the second announcement on the theme as

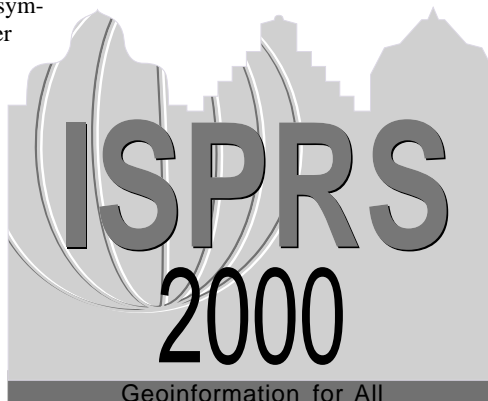
follows: "This theme is quite appropriate as it identifies the remarkable achievements of our community and related technologies in the creation of Information from Imagery". The Dutch Minister for Development Co-operation, Mrs E.L. Herfkens, says: "The theme for the turn-of-the-millennium ISPRS Congress in Amsterdam, 'Geoinformation for ALL' reflects a spirit of worldwide solidarity, the wish to contribute to a better quality of life for all and a productive environment for present and future generations". In addition to these fine words, the congress Director, Prof. Dr. Klaas Jan Beek, and president of the Netherlands Society for Earth Observation and Geoinformatics, Prof. Dr. Martien Molenaar, formulate the congress theme in these terms as: "We want to emphasise, that our spatial sciences belong to the pillars on which the future of our planet Earth and its inhabitants depend".

The Congress

The congress scientific programme will be held at the RAI Convention Centre, Amsterdam. Amsterdam RAI has 22 congress halls, eleven exhibition halls covering a total of 87,000 square metres, seven restaurants and countless multipurpose lounges. Within this enormous complex, each group can find its own 'niche' to suit the occasion. Aside from the vast ultramodern facilities, Amsterdam RAI is renowned for its unrivalled and flexible services. More information can be found on the RAI Homepage: <http://www.rai.nl>.

The main body of the conference features technical sessions, poster sessions, special sessions on the conference theme, joint sessions with sister societies, general assemblies and an opening and closing session. Further, an international exhibition and Exhibitor Showcases will be part of the programme as well as technical tours to various renowned Dutch institutes. Finally, workshops and tutorials will be offered partly in Amsterdam

but also on site at various institutes in The Netherlands and surrounding countries. An enlightening social and partner programme will be offered. The local organising committee of the ISPRS 2000 conference consists of Klaas Jan Beek (Chairman and Congress Director), Martien Molenaar (Chairman of the Scientific Committee), Rob Neleman (Treasurer), Freek van der Meer (Scientific Secretary), Saskia Tempelman (Technical Secretary), Johan Boesjes



(Member), Nico Bunnik (Member), Fred Hagman (Member), Cees IJsendoorn (Member), Gerard Nieuwenhuis (Member) and Jan Timmerman (Member) and is complemented by Congrex Holland B.V. (congress bureau) and Rose International (exhibition bureau).

Present Status of the Congress

The deadline for submission of abstracts, 31 August 1999, has now passed and indeed many abstracts have been submitted. The organisers are happy to announce that over 1,300 abstracts were received for the 110 sessions. The sessions receiving the highest numbers of abstracts are: IC-15 DTM generation and ortho-images, fifty abstracts, TC VII-1 Resource and environmental monitoring, 95 abstracts, WG VII/2 Application of remote sensing, 49 abstracts, and IC23 Sustainable resource management, forty abstracts. Looking at the countries of residence of the person submitting the abstracts provides an interesting insight into the geographic dissemination of the ISPRS theme. The countries from which more than one hundred abstracts were submitted are: Germany (170), Japan (105), Netherlands (101) and the United States (105). However, memorable submission should be acknowledged for Brazil (65), China (76), Egypt (12), India (38)

and Greece (22). Perhaps more important than the numbers is the high scientific quality of the abstracts being submitted. Authors have been notified of receipt of their abstracts; in due time they will also receive further instructions.

Further Advertising the Congress

To ensure a wide diffusion of information on the congress and to maintain up-to-date information, the website for the congress has been renewed and all information on the programme can be found and downloaded. The URL is: <http://www.itc.nl/~isprs/>. On this website not only do we provide information about the congress, but we also provide all documentation in formats that can be downloaded and read by the interested participants. The secretariat can be reached at a special e-mail address: isprs@itc.nl. We from the ISPRS 2000 local organising committee will be present at many forthcoming meetings and you will see our stand. We look forward to meeting you in Amsterdam in the year 2000!

On behalf of the ISPRS 2000 local organising committee,

Prof. Dr. Freek D. van der Meer, Scientific Secretary



ISPRS Amsterdam Congress 2000 Pre-Congress Workshop 6
Models and Strategies for Object Reconstruction
Bonn, 14-15 July 2000



CALL FOR PAPERS

Dear colleagues,

This is one of the workshops organised preceding the ISPRS congress. The workshop will focus on several topics that are of relevance to the ISPRS community and are meant to give participants the opportunity to discuss these topics in depth.

Target group

Specialists in Photogrammetry and Computer Vision to foster the mutual exchange of experience.

Keywords

Semantic Modelling, Object Models, Object Recognition, Reconstruction Strategies, Knowledge Representation, Levels of Abstraction, Geometric Reasoning, Learning, GIS-Integration, Fusion of Multiple Sensors and Data Sources, Contextual modelling, Appearance Based Modelling, Multiple Representations, Statistical Modelling, Modelling of Function.

Please find information on the Workshop, paper submission, timetable, registration etc. on the Workshop homepage: <http://www.ipb.uni-bonn.de/~ebs/workshop2000.html>

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Yours sincerely,

W. Förstner and E. Guelch (Convenors)

