

Integration of satellite image samples into Geocento's EarthImages platform

Code: 20/24

Company: Geocento Limited

Location: Harwell Campus, Didcot

Company Description:

Geocento has as its mission “making imagery accessible”. Founded in 2011 with offices in the UK and Spain, the company has built its business using the following strategy:

- To provide access to imagery from a wider range of suppliers than anyone else;
- To optimise the use of web technologies in supporting wide-ranging, efficient, scalable and user-friendly access to imagery;
- To maintain expertise and independence in order to be able to support and advise our clients in a fully impartial and informed manner.

Geocento is now recognised across the space sector as being a leading industry innovator in the development of web-based image platforms. The company has leveraged this technology to support imaging projects and sales in 28 countries around the world, for commercial applications as diverse as airport obstacle mapping in India, pipeline mapping in Oman, bridge construction planning in the UK, deforestation and oil spill detection in Malaysia, monitoring of herring spawn off Canada, baseline mapping of national parks and a television documentary in New Zealand.

Project Description:

Geocento's EarthImages platform is well known in the space industry as a platform for discovering, selecting, ordering and exploiting satellite imagery. The platform has been deployed in customised form in other key space organisations and is being used by Geocento to license imagery around the world to multiple markets. We are currently implementing an upgraded version of this platform with many more capabilities, including hosted processing, satellite image tasking, access to digital elevation models and more.

To support the new platform, it is important that the user experience is positive right through the discovery, ordering and delivery process from start to finish. A key component of this is in the effective use of image samples. All users like to see understand what they are buying before they pay and the use of image samples is a key way to support this. We are looking for an intern who can use coding and a library of image samples to create a capability by which a user can readily view and understand the nature of the imagery before they buy. This will include consideration of user workflow, sample rendering and visualisation, tagging and integration with our website and EarthImages. It will involve liaising with the key marketing and technology development staff as part of a small and dynamic team.

Applicant Specification:

The position is primarily around enhancing the experience for the user when they look for and order imagery on Geocento's EarthImages platform. As a result, the applicant needs to have an appreciation of what "good user experience" is about in terms of convenience, user-oriented design, aesthetics, good design standards, etc. This does not necessarily translate into formal training, but there needs to be an intuitive understanding and appreciation of this. Also, the applicant should have the following skills: good organisation, interest in satellites and earth observation (that can "come through" in the quality of the experience for the user) and web design. In terms of coding, skills are needed in python scripting for publishing and rendering imagery (using gdal for reading, true colour conversion, display optimisation and exporting to JPEG).

Minimum Requirements:

- Scientific or engineering degree; ability to code (Python)
- Year 2 of bachelors completed, demonstrable coding ability through university or other project, demonstrable appreciation of user-oriented design.

Preferred Additional Requirements:

Geospatial knowledge (GIS, imagery, etc)

Further details:

8 weeks minimum fixed term contract to be agreed with successful candidate but nominally with a start date around 15 June 2020 to attend the SPIN Induction day at the Satellite Applications Catapult, and completion before 20 September for the Showcase the following week. Salary is £1,500 per calendar month gross.

Closing Date for Applications: 5pm Friday 15 May 2020

Applications should be made through the online form attaching a CV, before the closing date. Please note that elements of the form left incomplete will be deemed to render the application ineligible. They will be checked for eligibility and forwarded to the employer.