

Peter Fitzgibbon, Editor

# Linked Data: the glue that binds



The benefits of publishing data from different sources in a way that makes it easy for users to understand and combine are widely acknowledged. This is certainly so in the public sector and where linked geospatial data is seen as fundamental to realising its potential value to the national economy, estimated at up to £10 billion.

The message was reiterated by Owen Jackson, deputy director of the Geospatial Commission, at iSpatial's 'Smarter Data Smarter World' event in November (see page 50). Yet practical guidance on how persistent and unique identifiers can be designed, created and managed to achieve

the goal has, so far, been in short supply.

Help is now at hand with the publication of a 16-page guide from the Geospatial Commission that makes it quicker and easier to get an exact overview of all the information at particular locations.\* The first of its two sections suggests design identifier schemes that promote the efficient and reliable linking of data, while the second section explores the complementary need for common reference data. Although the primary focus of this work is on geospatial data held by the Commission's six partner bodies (the Geo6), the guidance is applicable to all data

publishers, with the aim of helping them save time and money.

Commenting on its publication in October, Minister for Implementation (now Secretary of State for Wales), Simon Hart MP, said, "Organisations that follow the guidance will really help to start unlocking the value of this data for the benefit of users, innovators, businesses, and ultimately the wider UK economy."

\* *Linked identifier schemes: Best practice guide. Geospatial Commission. October 2019. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/linked-identifier-schemes-best-practice-guide>)*

NEWS EXTRA

## Pointfuse Launches Simple BIM Solution for Facilities Management

Pointfuse has developed smart software that automates the identification and classification of objects for facilities management applications using data from mobile mapping systems like the new Leica BLK2GO. Pointfuse software converts the millions of individual measurements captured by laser scanning and photogrammetry into useable 3D mesh models. It can now realize real time records for space utilization and optimization projects, reducing costs and speeding workflows within facilities management. Pointfuse 'Simple BIM' (sBIM) leverages the core functionality of Pointfuse - the segmented mesh model; automatically converting classified mesh models into 'family' groups, such as walls, floors, doors, windows, etc. for use with popular downstream BIM and FM software. Pointfuse sBIM data can then be exported as IFC (Industry Foundation Class) parametrized objects and 2D floors plans and space management reports easily derived. Pointfuse sBIM also automatically calculates quantities, areas and dimensions in an easy to read PDF report. [www.pointfuse.com](http://www.pointfuse.com)



## UK accident prevention charity RoSPA deploys SPOT Gen3 satellite trackers

Globalstar Europe Satellite Services, a wholly owned subsidiary of Globalstar and a provider of satellite messaging and emergency notification technologies, announced that UK charity the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) has gone live with SPOT Gen3 satellite communications devices to safeguard its team of consultants as they work on projects around the world. With a growing number of organisations relying on RoSPA's expertise to prevent accidents and save lives, RoSPA's team of consultants travel around the world working on improving occupational health and safety, water safety, road safety and other public safety issues. Because these projects take consultants to a diverse range of countries and, even in the UK, can include working in remote or secluded locations, RoSPA has equipped each member of the team with a SPOT Gen3 device to track their location and provide help in an emergency using its one-touch SOS button. [www.rosipa.com](http://www.rosipa.com)



## Gaist recognised for technical innovation at esteemed INCA awards

Gaist, a multi-award-winning highway surveying and mobile mapping solutions provider, has been presented with the Technical Innovation award at the INCA Golds Awards 2019, recognising the continuing ground-breaking success of its solutions for the telecommunications

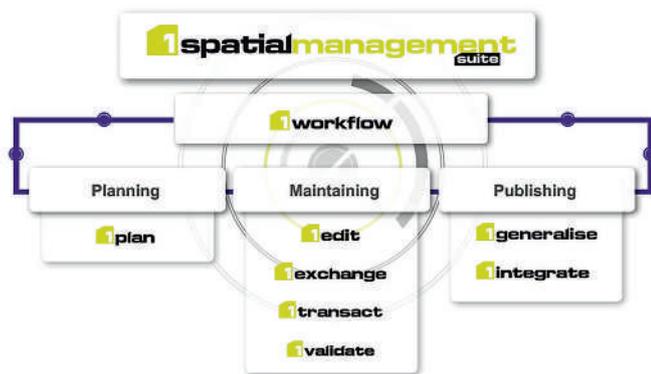
sector. The prestigious award emphasises the technical ingenuity showcased in Gaist's support of a Fibre-to-the-Premises (FTTP) Nationwide Roll-out project, which saw Gaist provide a highly detailed footway and carriageway condition analysis of more than 18,000 kilometres

to assist with the planning and design of fibre roll-out in cities around the UK. The project recently hit the milestone of providing fibre connectivity to more than one million homes in collaboration with one of the UK's leading alternative providers. [www.gaist.co.uk](http://www.gaist.co.uk)

## 1Spatial announce release of 1Spatial Management Suite (1SMS) v2.5

1Spatial announced the general release of 1Spatial Management Suite (1SMS) v2.5.

1SMS is a spatial data management environment and provides a suite of products to efficiently and consistently plan and execute the maintenance of your master data by automating production workflows. 1SMS v2.5 is a new release, available to new and existing customers, which provides: security improvements, user efficiencies through rapid creation of multiple similar jobs,



usability improvements for managing map overlays and filtering jobs, support for newer versions of integrated software such as **Wildfly, FME and Java**, as well as various bug fixes. [www.1spatial.com](http://www.1spatial.com)

## Silicon Sensing develops inertial measurement systems for the space market

Two all-silicon inertial measurement systems, developed to meet the specific demands of the small satellite and launch vehicle markets, were exhibited at Space Tech Expo, 2019 by Silicon Sensing Systems. The new RMU30 combines below one-watt power consumption with performance that is comparable to much larger and higher consumption fibre optic-based gyro systems. This is a small, lightweight, 3 axis micro electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) device incorporating three Silicon Sensing high performing sensor heads manufactured at the company's foundry in Japan. The company also showcased its new IMU20 high-end, industrial grade MEMS IMU that can withstand extremely high shock environments and has a dynamic range that makes it ideal for use on satellite launch vehicles. This device combines three of the company's gyros with Silicon Sensing's own highest performing MEMS capacitive accelerometers. [www.siliconsensing.com](http://www.siliconsensing.com)



## Racelogic announce a major breakthrough in Indoor Positioning

Racelogic are launching a brand-new Indoor Positioning System, called VIPS, which is an advanced system for measuring real-time 3D position to an accuracy of  $\pm 2\text{cm}$  in areas where GPS is not available, making it an ideal tool for construction applications both indoors and in urban areas. The system has been designed for any application that requires accurate measurement and recording of 3D positioning and enables GPS based technologies to operate in GPS denied environments. VIPS consists of Fixed Ultra-Wideband (UWB) beacons which are placed around the perimeter of the operation area (e.g. floor plan of building or construction site), in known positions which have been manually surveyed using a handheld laser, Total Station or, if time

is of the essence, a self-survey can also be performed. A fixed or hand-held receiver continuously communicates with the beacons and triangulates its position. This data is combined with the measurements from a highly accurate inertial measurement system, providing a real-time 3D position to within 2cm. [www.racelogic.co.uk](http://www.racelogic.co.uk)



## Plowman Craven receives BIM Certification from BSI

Plowman Craven has received its BSI Kitemark certification. Having formally achieved the BSI Kitemark for BIM to reflect BS EN ISO 19650 in July 2019 - the first survey company and BIM consultancy in the UK to do so - a delegation from Plowman Craven was presented with the certificate by BSI's UK Managing Director, Anne Scorey, at the organisation's headquarters in Milton Keynes. Following a comprehensive audit from BSI earlier in 2019, Plowman Craven gained the coveted BSI Kitemark, which includes both Part 1 (concept and principles) and Part 2 (delivery phase of assets). These new international standards cover the organisation and digitisation of information about buildings and civil engineering works, including Building Information Modelling. [www.plowmancraven.co.uk](http://www.plowmancraven.co.uk)

## Yotta's Alloy Set to Transform Street Lighting in North Somerset

Technology company Yotta has won a major contract working with North Somerset Council through their IT and Business Services provider, Agilisys. Under the contract's terms, Yotta is providing North Somerset Council with its flagship connected asset management software platform, Alloy to enhance street lighting services delivery for the council. Following the signing of the multi-year contract, Yotta, working in conjunction with Agilisys, will begin transitioning North Somerset's street lighting function over from its existing Mayrise asset management system, also supplied by Yotta, to Alloy. Using Alloy for street lighting will enable the council to gather data from its network using sensors; view, accurate real-time information about their street lights as well as keeping continuously up-to-date with related maintenance tasks. It also enables it to streamline and drive efficiencies across engineering and maintenance processes. [www.agilisys.co.uk](http://www.agilisys.co.uk)

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