

## **New Association to Promote Aerial Surveying in Europe Announced**

Brussels, 11 June 2019 – Some of the leading names in European aerial mapping have come together to create a new association promoting the benefits of aerial surveying to the wider commercial and government sectors.

Similar in concept to MAPPS (the national association of firms in the surveying, spatial data and geographic information systems fields) in the US, the European Association of Aerial Surveying Industries (EAASI) was incorporated on the 6 June, followed by the first Association Board meeting. In attendance were Simon Musäus, Senior Vice President, COWI, who was elected as EAASI President, André Jadot, CEO of Eurosense and appointed Vice President and Rachel Tidmarsh, Managing Director of Bluesky International appointed Treasurer of the Association.

Also in attendance were EAASI founding members Giovanni Banchini, President and CEO of CGR SPA, Aicke Damrau, Managing Director of GeoFly, Klaus Legat, Area Manager for Vermessung AVT and Florian Romanowski, President of OPEGIEKA.

“I am very excited to be part of this important chapter in the history of aerial surveying in Europe,” commented Simon Musäus, President of the European Association of Aerial Surveying Industries. “By working together across geographical boundaries, political divides and commercial opportunities we can create a platform from which our industry can develop the strong future it deserves.”

Rachel Tidmarsh, Managing Director of UK based Bluesky International and newly appointed Treasurer of EAASI, added, “This is an exciting time for aerial surveying with many opportunities being created by technological innovations in virtual reality, smart cities, connected systems and digitalisation. By working together we can create a future for aerial mapping that is far greater than the sum of its parts.”

Following the inaugural meeting, EAASI published its articles of incorporation including a public manifesto, administrative documents and an action plan to achieve its goals. These include promoting the benefits of aerial surveying, improving awareness of aerial survey data within fields such as digitalisation, information systems and virtual reality and defining, maintaining and promoting best practice within the aerial surveying industry.

The newly elected EAASI Board also announced the next Annual General Meeting which will take place on 4th and 5th December 2019 and an eagerly anticipated Aerial Survey Summit, both taking place in Brussels, Belgium. These events will enforce the Association’s objective to facilitate networking, provide information and promote the generation of a sustainable market for geo-information using aerial surveying.

The Association Founders encourage industry stakeholders from across Europe to join and become part of the future of aerial surveying in the region.

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