

ISPRS Council makes landmark improvement to management of ISPRS sponsored events

ISPRS Council has made a landmark improvement to the management of ISPRS sponsored events with the signing by President Orhan Altan of a contract with Copernicus Gesellschaft mbH on 4 May 2011 which defines two new conference management packages. The contract is a major new venture for ISPRS and reflects the wishes of many Technical Commission Presidents who stated during the ISPRS Centenary Celebrations in Vienna in July last year that ISPRS should provide improved conference management services for ISPRS officers. The contract will assist ISPRS event organizers to facilitate the management of their event through service Packages A and B. Service Package A will include management of Abstracts, Full Papers while Service Package B will be optional and provide for registrations of delegates, names badges etc.

In more detail, Service Package A will provide: online Tools for conference participants to submit abstracts and full papers (including all PDF files); online Program for Session Organizers / Program Committee Members; development of the official meeting website; an online program; a master PDF file of a program book to be printed and distributed; and master CD of an abstract/paper CD-Rom or the master of an USB flash drive to be duplicated and distributed. Use of Package A in this contract will be **mandatory** for all organizers of ISPRS events. A separate agreement will be established between organizers of each ISPRS event and Copernicus Gesellschaft mbH, which will permit considerable flexibility in content to satisfy specific needs of each event.

Service Package, B which is optional, will include: an online shopping system for fast and easy registration; an event specific registration form that combines product related information as well as other user information or statistical data; online and offline credit card payment (American Express, Mastercard, VISA or JCB); receipt of revenue and payment of administration charges on behalf of the organizer; name badges for and lists of the pre-registrants to be forwarded to the venue, or software to execute on-site registrations; and generation of name badges, including receipt of payment and acknowledgement of participation; and staff to manage the on-site registration, if necessary.

The contract will commence from 1 July 2011 and prices for the services will be effective until 31 December 2014. Specific details in the ISPRS Orange Book – *The Manual of*

Operations of ISPRS Technical Commissions and Working Groups – particularly those relating to the management of abstracts and papers for ISPRS events will be modified to reflect the conditions of this new contract.

Apart from providing a service to all ISPRS event organizers, the contract will enable indexing of papers in the proceedings of the ISPRS sponsored events in citation indices. To facilitate this process and to separate refereed from non-refereed volumes in the International Archives of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences, ISPRS Council will in future rename the refereed volumes as the ISPRS Annals of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences.

ISPRS Council believes this is a very significant advancement in the quality of services provided to ISPRS Officers and looks forward to a long and very fruitful relationship with Copernicus Gesellschaft mbH.

Orhan Altan
President