

## The Brock Gold Medal Award

The Brock Gold Medal Award is donated by the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, and is awarded for an outstanding landmark contribution in the evolution of the photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information sciences, which is a proven contribution to these sciences and technologies of whatever form, whether a major completed project or program, some fundamentally new equipment, system or fundamentally new technique, or other new departure. The winner is **Franz Leberl** (Austria).



Professor Dr Franz Leberl is awarded the Brock Gold Medal as he has achieved landmark developments in the fields of photogrammetry and remote sensing over the past 30 years. These can be summarized as follows:

- He was a pioneer in the development of radargrammetry and the applications of imaging radar and published a definitive textbook on the subject;

- He played a major role in projects on mapping the planets using radar images;
- He was an early innovator in ISPRS with the commencement of the Working Group Mathematical Pattern Recognition and Image Analysis from 1976 to 1984;
- He developed and marketed a photogrammetric precision film scanner, the UltraScan from 1998 with over 600 units sold, and a digital large format aerial camera UltraCam from 2003, with ~ 250 sold;
- He was President of ISPRS Commission III from 2000-2004;
- He has published over 330 scientific papers and holds 15 patents;
- He has received numerous honours both in the scientific arena and nationally.

Franz Leberl is a professor of Computer Science at Graz University of Technology in Austria. Born in 1945, he graduated from Vienna University of Technology [Dipl.-Ing., 1967, Dr. techn., 1972]. His career took him to the International Institute for Geo-Information and Earth Sciences [ITC, The Netherlands], to NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory [Pasadena, CA], a first professorship in Graz [Austria] in photogrammetry [1976-1984], and since 1992 in computer science. He founded the research Institute for Digital Image Processing at Joanneum Research Graz (1980), the Institute for Computer Graphics and Vision at Graz University of Technology, was the CEO of the Austrian Research Centers [Vienna, Austria, 1996-1998], started companies in the USA [Vexcel Corp., 1985] and in Austria [Vexcel Imaging GmbH, 1993], and exited from business by a sale of the company to Microsoft in 2006.