

Leica Geosystems Enters Lidar Bathymetry Market

Leica Geosystems is strengthening its market position in airborne surveying through Hexagon's acquisition of Airborne Hydrography AB (AHAB, Sweden), a provider of airborne laser survey systems for hydrographic and topographic surveys.

Founded in 2002 and based in Jönköping, AHAB serves international survey companies and governmental organisations around the world, with hydrographic and topographic software and systems to map land, coastal zones and sea floors. Their product portfolio includes airborne bathymetric Lidar technology, which provides the equivalent of above-water topographic maps, enabling underwater objects to be detected and deep and shallow waters and coastal zones to be mapped and monitored.

The AHAB portfolio of products will enable Leica Geosystems to expand into the growing deep and shallow water bathymetry and coastal topography markets and complements its existing Lidar product offering. Key products include the deep-water HawkEye bathymetric survey system, the DragonEye pure topographic survey system and the Chiroptera airborne Lidar system for shallow water surveys which are ideally suited to being combined with Leica Geosystem's Mission Pro software and mid-format cameras.

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