AERIAL LIDAR ACQUISITION REPORT

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WOOLPERT

BLUESTONE LAKE AND DOWNSTREAM DIGITAL ELEVATION MODEL AND ORTHOPHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

USACE HUNTINGTON DISTRICT

SUBCONTRACT TO 3001 INC. PROJECT 08033.04

WEST VIRGINIA

WOOLPERT PROJECT #69422

May 2009

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PREPARED BY:

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SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

Project Name: Bluestone Lake and Downstream DEM and Digital Orthophotography Project

Woolpert Project #69422

Woolpert was contracted to perform an aerial acquisition survey of Bluestone Lake and Downstream covering the 1,425 square mile project area, for the purpose of ultimately producing 1"=200' scale orthoimagery with a 1-foot pixel resolution, 1"=400' scale orthoimagery with a 2-foot pixel resolution and a Bare Earth Digital Elevation Model including breaklines. Among other products the data will be used for flood and surface water modeling.

LiDAR data was collected by the Leica ALS50-II 150kHz Multi-Pulse enabled LiDAR system in Leica roll-stabilizing mounts. The ALS type-II 150kHZ LiDAR sensor collects up to four returns per pulse, as well as intensity data. The aerial LiDAR was collected at the following sensor specifications:

Post Spacing (Average): 3.3 ft / 1.0 m AGL (Above Ground Level) average flying height: 7,500 ft / 2,286 m MSL (Mean Sea Level) flying height: varies with terrain Average Ground Speed: 130 kts / 150 mph Field of View (full): 35 degrees Pulse Rate: 104.100 kHz Scan Rate: 39 Hz Side Lap (Average): 30%

Flight line acquisition was performed in as few missions as possible, as close together as possible, to ensure consistency across the project area.

The data collected was flown back to the Woolpert Dayton, Ohio office, processed and quality controlled immediately such that re-flights for GNSS and coverage were determined and relayed to the flight crew.

Woolpert's Aerial Acquisition Team coordinated with the necessary Air Traffic Control and Restricted Airspace personnel prior to flying to ensure access.

Woolpert Flight Crews were onsite, running GNSS base stations at Charleston (KCRW) and Beckley (KBKW), West Virginia Airports.

SECTION 2: GNSS-IMU TRAJECTORY INFORMATION

Equipment

Woolpert owns all the equipment used for the ground control and ABGNSS missions with the exception of CORS stations.

Flight navigation is performed using IGI CCNS (Computer Controlled Navigation System). The pilots are thoroughly trained and highly skilled at maintaining their planned trajectory, while holding the aircraft steady and level. If atmospheric conditions are such that the trajectory, ground speed, roll, pitch and heading cannot be properly maintained, the mission is aborted until suitable conditions occur.

The aircraft are all configured with a NovAtel Millennium 12-channel, L1/L2 dual frequency GNSS receivers collecting at 2 Hz.

All Woolpert aerial sensors are equipped with Litton LN200 series IMU's operating at 200 Hz.

A base-station unit was mobilized for each acquisition mission, and was operated by a member of the Woolpert survey and/or flight crew. Each base-station setup consisted of one Trimble 4000 – 5000 series dual frequency receiver, one Trimble Compact L1/L2 dual frequency antenna, one 2-meter fixed-height tripod, and essential battery power and cabling. Ground planes were used on the base-station antennas. Data was collected at 1 or 2 Hz.

Woolpert flight crews were onsite, running GNSS base stations at Charleston (KCRW) and Beckley (KBKW), West Virginia Airports.

GNSS Base Stations operated during the acquisition missions, are listed below.

Table 2.1: GNSS Base Stations:

Data Processing

All airborne GNSS and IMU data was post-processed and quality controlled using Grafnav Waypoint software and either Applanix POSPac or Leica IPAS software. GNSS data was processed at a 1 or 2 Hz data capture rate and IMU data was processed at 200 Hz.

Trajectory Quality

Example graphs from: **Day095B, N404CP & ALS LiDAR S/N77:**

The GNSS Trajectory, along with high quality IMU data, is a key factor in determining the overall positional accuracy of the final sensor data.

Flight Trajectory:

Within the trajectory processing, there are many factors that affect the overall quality, but the most indicative are the Combined Separation, the Estimated Positional Accuracy, and the PDOP.

The Combined Separation is a measure of the difference between the forward run & the backward run solution of the trajectory. The Kalman filter is run in both directions to remove directional specific anomolies. The closer these two solutions match (in general) the better is the overall reliability of the solution.

Woolpert's goal is to maintain a Combined Separation Difference of < 10cm, often achieving results well below this cap.

The Estimated Positional Accuracy plots the standard deviations of the east, north, and vertical directions along a time scale of the trajectory. It shows loss of lock issues as well as issues arising from long baselines and noise or other interference.

Woolpert's goal is to maintain an Estimated Positional Accuracy of < 10 cm, often achieving results well below this cap.

Estimated Positional Accuracy:

PDOP, the Positional Dilution of Precision, is a factor that describes the effects of satellite geometry on the accuracy of the airborne GNSS solution. The geometric distribution of the satellites is measured relative to the locations of the receivers on the ground and in the aircraft. PDOP can be computed in advance, based on the approximate receiver locations and the predicted location of the satellite, which is called the satellite ephemeris.

Low PDOP numbers are preferable; the higher the PDOP number, the weaker the geometric quality of solution between the satellite, aircraft and reference receivers.

Woolpert's goal is to maintain a final PDOP of < 3.0 during acquisition missions. Satellite geometry and the resultant PDOP levels are dynamic, changing with the position of the aircraft. Occasionally, one satellite in the network will drop below the horizon, breaking its connection to the receiver, and the PDOP level will spike above 3.0 momentarily. Small deviations of this type are accounted for during postprocessing of the data through the use of Kalman filtering. If PDOP in the aircraft rises above 3.0 for a significant time period, the survey is usually stopped until the geometry improves or flight is marked for a re-flight if post processing signifies a significant loss of accuracy due to the PDOP.

PDOP:

SECTION 3: FLIGHT LOG(S)

This section contains the Flight Log(s) covering the project. Flight Logs list mission specific details such as crew members, airports, weather conditions, real time DOP values and document any issues encountered during the mission. Flight Logs are filled out by the sensor operator during the acquisition flight.

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SECTION 4: LIDAR SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS

The LiDAR data was acquired using two ALS50-II 150kHz Multi-Pulse enabled LiDAR systems, both which are on board Cessna 404 Titans. The ALS50-II LiDAR system, developed by Leica Geosystems of Heerbrugg, Switzerland, includes the simultaneous first, intermediate and last pulse data capture module, the extended altitude range module, and the target signal intensity capture module. The system software is operated on an OC50 Operation Controller aboard the aircraft.

The ALS50-II LiDAR System has the following specifications:

