

## AWARD

### Unify is winner of the 'Best Emerging Drone Company' award

The first **EU Drone Awards** were presented at the European Parliament in Brussels. Out of 50 candidates from 14 countries 9 finalists were selected in 3 categories: Best Drone Manufacturer, Best Drone-based Application and Best Emerging Drone Company. **Unify** was presented with the award of **Best Emerging Drone Company**. This category awards the most attractive European emerging company taking into account market potential, impact of the solution, team, European dimension and technological innovation. "Unify was very honoured to receive the Best Emerging Drone Company award. We see it as recognition of everything we have achieved so far and as extra motivation to continue on the chosen path." said **Marc Kegelaers CEO Unify**. "The EU Drone Awards are a great way to put innovations and new developments in the drone industry in the spotlight and give young entrepreneurs a well-deserved boost." [www.unify.aero](http://www.unify.aero)



## PEOPLE

### Mark Clarke Joins Geospatial Marketing Specialist

The **Marketing Edge** has appointed **Mark Clarke**, previously Managing Director of Mayrise Systems and a former client of the geospatial sector PR and marketing consultancy, as **Business Growth Consultant**. Clarke built Mayrise Systems from a fledgling software company to a market leader in asset management and mapping systems prior to sale in 2013. Clarke brings invaluable experience in commercial business management, and will offer advice on how to build a business from start-up all the way through to forming successful partnerships, negotiating mergers or sale of the business. As well as a thorough understanding of the municipal and highways contracted services sector, Clarke brings specific experience in sales and marketing strategy. "Having built a successful software company himself, Mark adds an important new dimension to The Marketing Edge and can offer some highly valuable advice to those looking to grow their businesses" comments **Robert Peel, Founder of The Marketing Edge**. [www.market-it.co.uk](http://www.market-it.co.uk)



## PEOPLE

### Daniel Behnke Named URISA Young Professional of the Year

**URISA** is pleased to announce that **Daniel Behnke** has been named **URISA's Young Professional of the Year** in recognition of his outstanding contributions as part of **URISA's Vanguard Cabinet**. Daniel is the **Director of Asset Management Operations** for Data Transfer Solutions in Orlando, Florida. He notes, "It's been an honor to serve on the URISA Vanguard Cabinet the past two years. Being able to interact with such an innovative, passionate, and energetic group of young GIS professionals leaves me very hopeful for the continued growth and development of our profession." Daniel also serves on the planning committee for GIS-Pro, URISA's annual conference and is active locally in the **URISA Florida Chapter**. The Vanguard Cabinet is a URISA initiative which debuted in 2011 to engage young GIS practitioners, increase their numbers and better understand the concerns facing these future leaders of the GIS community. [www.urisa.org](http://www.urisa.org)



## AWARD

### Leica Geosystems wins prestigious PRISM Award

Leica Geosystems has won both the 2017 PRISM Award for Photonics Innovation and the 2017 Geospatial World Innovation Award. The 2017 PRISM Award for Photonics Innovation was presented to Leica Geosystems in the category of **Metrology by SPIE**, the educational not-for-profit international society for optics and photonics for groundbreaking technology and product inventions based on optics and photonics. The **Leica BLK360** won a 2017 Geospatial World Innovation Award in recognition for innovation and excellence among geospatial technology developers, professionals, end users and policy makers. "It's an honour to be recognised by the industry and our peers for the BLK360 in advance of its official availability to the market," said **Burkhard Boeckem, CTO, Leica Geosystems**. The Leica BLK360 is the world's smallest imaging laser scanner designed primarily for engineers, architects, construction managers and surveyors involved in computer-aided design (CAD) and building information modeling (BIM). [www.leicageosystems.com](http://www.leicageosystems.com)



## PEOPLE

### Quartix announces the appointments of two new directors

**Quartix Ltd.** is pleased to announce the appointment of two directors to its board: **Ed Ralph** as **Chief Operating Officer** and **Lynne Austin** as **Director of UK Fleet Operations**. Ed brings to Quartix extensive experience and a proven track record in technology management, digital marketing and eCommerce. From 2001 to 2015 he built and led the technology team at Abcam plc, having joined the company as the 7th employee and at a time when its revenues were just £200k. When Ed left the company in 2015 Abcam had revenues of approximately £140M p.a. Lynne has over 25 years of successful sales and account management experience, selling technical products and services to business clients and channel partners both in the UK and internationally. She has enjoyed a consistent record of achievement in a diverse range of dynamic and highly-competitive environments. [www.quartix.net](http://www.quartix.net)



## PEOPLE

### USGIF CEO Reappointed as Vice Chair of the National Geospatial Advisory Committee

The **United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF)** CEO **Keith J. Masback** was reappointed to a second three-year term as a member of the **National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC)**. He was also reappointed as NGAC's Vice Chair. The NGAC provides recommendations to the **Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC)**, the interagency executive group responsible for providing leadership and direction in federal geospatial programs. Additionally, Julie Sweetkind-Singer was reappointed as NGAC Chair, along with 14 new and continuing members of the committee. "It's absolutely humbling to have the opportunity to continue to serve with such a diverse and talented group in support of the vitally important work of the FGDC," Masback said. "I eagerly look forward to building on the tremendous legacy of the NGAC's many contributions over time." [www.USGIF.org](http://www.USGIF.org)

