

PEOPLE AND AWARDS

PEOPLE

SPRINT recruits new Head of Programme and National Innovation Manager

The national SPRINT (SPace Research and Innovation Network for Technology) business support programme has made two new appointments in senior roles. **Rain Irshad** joins as the new **Head of Programme** and **Ann Swift** is the new **National Innovation Manager**. In her new role as the Head of SPRINT, Rain Irshad will be responsible for delivering the SPRINT programme successfully to target, on time and on budget, as well as looking at ways of ensuring the long-term sustainability of the programme by developing high value research and innovation partnerships. Ann Swift brings considerable industry experience to her new role as SPRINT National Innovation Manager, having formerly supported advancements in the space sector, first through the South Coast Centre of Excellence in Satellite Applications at the **University of Portsmouth** and then at the **University of Surrey** in the Surrey Space Centre. www.sprint.ac.uk



PEOPLE

Gemma Polmear appointed to provide fire service modelling consultancy at Cadcorp

Geographic Information System (GIS) software and services company, Cadcorp, has appointed Gemma Polmear as a GIS analyst focused on fire and rescue service activities. The new appointment supports the company's expansion of its **risk and workload modelling consultancy services**. Gemma comes from Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service where she served for 11 years. She brings extensive experience in scenario modelling, risk profiling and maximising operational efficiencies. She is an established national specialist in the application of **GIS for fire service response, prevention, and protection**. Her role at Cadcorp will include performing analysis on behalf of fire services, quality assurance consultancy, and training. With her industry knowledge, she will also provide valuable input into Cadcorp software application development. www.cadcorp.com



AWARD

Fraunhofer IPM awarded for development of AI tool that creates smart planning maps

Digital processes facilitate much more rapid and efficient planning and construction of urban infrastructure. Fraunhofer IPM has developed a tool which **automatically interprets 3D environmental data** using artificial intelligence methods to generate smart planning maps. Baden-Württemberg Minister of Economic Affairs, **Dr. Nicole Hoffmeister-Kraut**, has crowned the team of researchers "AI Champions Baden-Württemberg" for their innovative development. An AI based solution, developed by Fraunhofer IPM, now allows for both automated data interpretation and integration into smart maps for the first time. These maps lay the foundations for a fully automated planning process. www.ipm.fraunhofer.de



AWARD

Lakshay Narula Receives Parkinson Award

The Institute of Navigation's (ION) Satellite Division presented Dr. Lakshay Narula with its prestigious Bradford W. Parkinson Award September 24, 2021 during the ION GNSS+ 2021 conference. Dr. Narula was recognized for his thesis, "**Towards Secure & Robust PNT for Automated Systems**". The Bradford W. Parkinson Award is awarded annually to an outstanding graduate student in the field of **Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS)**. This award, which honors Dr. Parkinson for his leadership in establishing both the U.S. Global Positioning System and the Satellite Division of the ION, includes a personalized plaque and a \$2,500 honorarium. www.ion.org



AWARD

Riegl Vux-120 Wins The Wichmann Intergeo Innovation Award 2021

The RIEGL VUX-120 UAV LiDAR Sensor was awarded with the Wichmann Innovations Award in the hardware category. This award has been awarded now for the ninth time. Despite strong competition, the lightweight and versatile **VUX-120** convinced both the jury of experts and the public with its high performance, efficiency, and user friendliness. The scanner can be easily mounted to unmanned platforms (UAVs), as well as to helicopters, gyrocopters, and other small manned aircrafts. The **innovative scan pattern** (NFB Nadir/ Forward/ Backward – Scanning) allows complex and vertical targets to be acquired. With an extremely fast data acquisition rate the sensor is perfectly suited for high point density low-altitude corridor mapping applications like power line, railway track or pipeline inspections. www.riegl.com



PEOPLE

ABPmer welcomes aboard metocean scientist Martin Williams

Marine consultancy and survey company ABPmer announced the appointment of Martin Williams to its metocean services division. Joining ABPmer in September 2021, Martin brings with him more than **27 years' experience** providing technical input and advice to inform offshore and coastal infrastructure design, build and operations across the world. Supporting a wide range of marine sectors, including renewable energy, infrastructure and maritime, Martin has previously worked for **JBA Consulting, Fugro and BMT**. Damon O'Brien, ABPmer Managing Director, said: "I'm delighted to welcome Martin to ABPmer. His knowledge and experience supports our continued growth in the provision of **high value metocean and marine consultancy**. His appointment affirms our strategy of providing metocean services to a wide range of industry sectors working in the coastal and marine environment." www.abpmer.co.uk

