

Grafton Technologies Uses QuickBird Imagery for Airport Management

Space Photos Reduce Cost and Complexity of Developing Airport Spatial Data

Longmont, Colo., November 13, 2002 – DigitalGlobe announced that its QuickBird satellite imagery is being used by Grafton Technologies Inc. to aid in airport development, management and maintenance. The photos offer the highest resolution in commercially available space imagery.

Grafton Technologies began using orthorectified QuickBird satellite imagery in July 2002 to map airport features at the Portland International Jetport in Portland, Maine. Combined with a geographic information system (GIS), the 60-centimeter resolution satellite images provide airport planners and developers with spatial data that can support airport expansion and improvement projects as well as environmental analysis.

"Airports throughout the world are undergoing substantial changes to accommodate higher capacity and stronger security without sacrificing safety," said Randy Murphy, president of Grafton Technologies. "QuickBird imagery can help airport managers, engineers and planners stay up to date on the information necessary to develop, operate and maintain rapidly changing facilities."

For the Portland International Jetport project, Grafton Technologies will use DigitalGlobe's satellite imagery to identify urban growth patterns that can constrain future airport development, evaluate the effect of airport changes on surrounding roadways, and illustrate areas where roadway construction might affect airport operations. Black and white QuickBird satellite images will serve as the primary data underlays, over which Grafton Technologies will insert colored vector data to illustrate engineering and planning details.

"Many airports cannot afford traditional aerial photography as frequently as they need it," said Murphy. "QuickBird satellite imagery offers an affordable, high-resolution option for gathering airport spatial data on a regular basis."

The company plans to use QuickBird imagery for similar projects at two additional airports in the near future.

"The implications for the use of high-resolution space imagery are far-reaching," said Herb Satterlee, president and CEO of DigitalGlobe. "The imagery is now being recognized as an efficient tool for managing airport facilities, especially those experiencing rapid growth and expansion."

"We're proud to be working with Grafton Technologies and DigitalGlobe to extend the use of technology for transportation planning," said Tony Follett, senior vice president and division manager of AeroMap U.S., an AERO-METRIC Company and the DigitalGlobe reseller who worked with Murphy on this project. "High-resolution satellite imagery is the perfect complement to our traditional photographic methods for surveillance and change monitoring."

Note to Photo Editors: QuickBird images showing Grafton Technologies' projects are available for download in a gallery on DigitalGlobe's Web site: www.digitalglobe.com/gallery/grafon. Any images used by print, electronic or broadcast media must be attributed to DigitalGlobe and Grafton Technologies.

About DigitalGlobe

DigitalGlobe is an imagery and information company located in Longmont, Colorado. DigitalGlobe is establishing a market leadership position by providing the highest resolution satellite imagery product offering, the greatest collection capacity, and the largest image size commercially available. Currently, there are no plans to launch a comparable commercial satellite until at least 2004. The company offers geographic information products through its digitalglobe.com on-line imagery store, an Internet-based global archive of geographic information available to commercial businesses. More information can be found at www.digitalglobe.com.

About Grafton Technologies

Grafton Technologies Inc. implements Geographic Information Systems and other spatial technologies for the aviation industry. Located in Newburyport, Massachusetts, Grafton Technologies has worked with airports, municipalities and the FAA to design, develop and implement custom systems as well as off-the-shelf software. Airports Grafton Technologies has worked with include Los Angeles International, Phoenix Sky Harbor International, Portland International Jetport in Maine, Ted Stevens Anchorage International and San Jose International. More information can be found at www.GraftonTech.com.

About AeroMap U.S.

AeroMap U.S. is a full-service mapping sciences firm with expertise in aerial photography, photogrammetry,

remote sensing, satellite image processing, GIS services, geodetic surveying, photo laboratory processing, digital orthophotos, topographic mapping, and custom software development. The company is a member of the AERO-METRIC family of companies and has been in business in Alaska since 1960.