

GEODIS and SINERGISE Join Together in the Field of LPIS

A strategic partnership was concluded between the GEODIS company, a leading European supplier of aerial imaging services and producing geographical data, and Sinergise, a top supplier of software solutions for administration and audit of agricultural subsidies in August, 2012. The aim of this agreement is to offer clients from ministries of agriculture and payment agencies, which supervise the payment of subsidies, complex solutions including the supply and regular actualisation of LPIS data, together with a new generation of SW solutions, including support for end users.



Programmes and subsidies in agriculture represent nearly half of the budget of the European Union. These subsidies are paid out via the Integrated Administrative and Control System (hereinafter IACS). The greatest emphasis is placed on the fair and just distribution of agricultural subsidies. To aid in the administration of subsidies member states use a system of registers of land usage (LPIS), which enable the use of aerial and satellite images to control the legitimacy of the subsidies for individual field units and to restrict the possibility of abuse. In order to improve the quality of LPIS and eliminate possible faults, the European Commission (DG Agri), in cooperation with the Joint Research Centre (JRC), have introduced new procedures and criteria for these systems. These changes must be reflected in the architecture of the SW solutions used, and also in the process of collecting and actualising data. These are exactly the issues on which GEODIS and Sinergise would like to concentrate.

"Together we are capable of ensuring the highest quality throughout the process, from acquiring images, processing aerial images, digitalisation of LPIS, up to quality control. Joining our knowledge and experience is the correct response to the increasing requirements of DG Agri at the European Commission," said Ondřej Tomas, the General Director of the GEODIS group.

The joint offer from both companies can be characterised in the three following steps:

- **Quality Evaluation** – carrying out analyses of current solutions on the basis of technical specifications according to the JRC requirements. This analysis involves qualitative and quantitative analysis of the conditions and results, which should be submitted to the European Commission by member states every year. It also analyses all of the data used in member state's LPIS, in such a way that enables the production of a list of recommendations for improvements to all parts of the system, from methodology to the technological part of LPIS.
- **LPIS Upgrades** - The results of the last quality audits in many member countries showed that overall upgrades of LPIS are essential, and that all agricultural lands must be rechecked. This audit included several very demanding tasks, such as upgrading the reference orthophotomaps, comparing all agricultural plots with the orthophotomap, solving any discrepancies and establishing the related process and methodology of regular upgrades. Thanks to our trained experts and considerable experience with data collection technology and EU directives, the GEODIS and Sinergise consortium is prepared to fulfil these tasks. Depending on the legislative framework in each member country, the results can include completely updated data or proposals for the structure of updates which are easily applicable in that member state.
- **Upgrading LPIS Processes** - to ensure long-term concordance of the LPIS in individual member states with the EU specifications, GEODIS and Sinergise are able to offer complete solutions for updating data and software platforms.



"The strategic partnership between Sinergise and GEODIS allows us to jointly offer complex solutions for LPIS, from modern software up to high quality data. Thanks to mutual cooperation, we are prepared to implement higher quality LPIS systems, which help state administrations to achieve better control over the payment of subsidies and the possibility to significantly reduce the percentage of farmers selected for on-the-spot checks" adds Grega Milčinski, the Director of the Sinergise company.

About the companies

GEODIS

GEODIS is one of the most important European companies offering services in the fields of surveying, cadastral systems, photogrammetry and geographical information systems (GIS) for the public and private sectors. The group employs more than 460 experts in six countries. GEODIS has a wealth of experience in data processing for LPIS in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Macedonia, Slovenia, Romania and Poland. In addition to processing aerial images, producing orthophotomaps and digitalising individual production blocks and their updates, GEODIS also provides services in the fields of subsidy auditing using aerial and satellite images and terrestrial GPS measuring.

The concept of LPIS services is closely related to the portfolio of other services which GEODIS offers directly to farmers, including supplying technologies for telematics, operation of agricultural machinery TOPCON and consultancy in the fields of precision farming, subsidies and legislation.

More information can be found at <http://www.geodis.cz>.

SINERGISE

Sinergise is a leading GIS laboratory, focused on the development of software systems for agriculture and cadastral registers. Sinergise currently provides software solutions for LPIS and IACS in Slovenia, Croatia and Macedonia, and also participates in on-site physical checks and off-site remote checks. Our previous projects include the cadastral system and land register in Mauritius and herbal and veterinary information systems in several other countries. Sinergise offers its clients software solutions ranging from desktop and web applications up to solutions for hand-held GPS technology and mobile platforms. The company puts great emphasis on quality data and processes and regularly shares its experience with the GeoCAP community.

Further information can be found at <http://www.sinergise.com>

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