

GIS ASIA PACIFIC

DEVELOPMENT

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www.gisdevelopment.net



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data capturing. The purpose of population censuses/by-censuses is to obtain up-to-date benchmark information on the size and socio-economic characteristics of the population and on its geographical distribution.

www.news.gov.hk

JAPAN

Space agency to offer free launch for private satellites

Privately developed small satellites in Japan will be launched by the H-2A rocket free of charge through its space agency from fiscal 2008. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) will launch one or more private satellites, weighing one to 50 kilograms, along with its own larger satellites at least once a year. The programme is designed to promote research activities that will lead to the expansion of the use of space and promote satellite development for the purpose of educating people studying in the field. The first private satellites will be launched with JAXA's gases observing satellite (GOSAT) in fiscal 2008. JAXA starts receiving applications for the first free launches from 11 May to 31 Aug 2006. The expense to launch a one-kilogram private satellite can run from 3 million yen (27,000 U.S. dollars) to 4 million yen (\$ 36,000). The free launch offer is expected to encourage students in the

aerospace field.

www.english.people.com.cn

KOREA

Daewoo introduces 3DVU's Visual Map Navigation Technology

Daewoo Precision Industries has developed a car navigation system in Korea, showing its next generation of 3D image maps with terrain elevation based on 3DVU technology at Busan International Motor Show held in May 2006. This was the first public showing of 3DVU-patented technology running on Daewoo's car navigation system. Daewoo's car navigation system is based on the



Freescal MPC5200 CPU with QNX's operating system showing aerial imagery and terrain elevation in a 3D perspective. 3DVU, a global provider of 3D digital visualization of imagery, map data and other geographic content, overcome major technical barriers to enhance the mobile navigation experience. 3DVU patented technology provides smooth continuous movements with a 3D perspective over images that include terrain elevation in such limited comput-

ing devices. 3DVU has developed a unique and patented technology that streams imagery and elevation and presents it in a 3D perspective on any digital device, anywhere in the world. The company is strategically partnered with carmakers; navigation systems, mobile devices and handset developers; major satellite and aerial imagery-sensing entities; and mapping and GIS data providers.

www.theautochannel.com

PAKISTAN

QuakeZone MapKit QuakeZone MapKit Developed

The Humanitarian Information Centre (HIC) and United Nations Joint Logistics Centre (UNJLC) have developed the QuakeZone MapKit, which is a CD that allows the creation of maps with newly collected data and building on existing spatial data. This toolkit is a compilation of HIC and UNJLC spatial data sets and includes basic GIS software. A training programme on the QuakeZone Mapkit will be conducted in Mansehra, Muzaffarabad, Bagh and Islamabad. Participants will learn how to gather data on location attributes using a GPS device and settlement list and how to transfer these data into GIS to produce a map using their collected data and existing data layers. UNJLC continues

to collect data on road conditions. Currently, special attention is being given to obtaining data on tertiary roads, as the status of these roads is less known than the status of primary and secondary roads. Many UNJLC maps have been updated over the past month.

www.unjlc.org

NESPAK wins mega project in Iran

National Engineering Services Pakistan Private Limited (NESPAK) achieved a major breakthrough in its overseas business development by winning a highly competitive mega project in Iran. It is a World Bank funded project which will cost \$120 million, and the Iran Government short-listed six leading international firms of consulting engineers including NESPAK to bid for the project, said a company spokesman on Wednesday. The project relates to development of databases and computer models for integrated land, water and environment management in northern Iran along the eastern Caspian Coast. It involves the use of latest satellite technologies and GIS for computerizing earth surface data consisting of thematic map layers such as land, soils, elevation, geology, slopes, roads and floodplain layers and their integration with hydrologic, groundwater, watershed and river flow models.

www.dailytimes.com