Trimble Introduces New Surveying Products for the Connected Survey Site

Trimble® (NASDAQ: TRMB) introduced five surveying products as part of its new connected survey site model: the Trimble® GX™ 3D Laser Scanner; the Trimble R8 system with Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) capabilities; the Trimble M3 Total Station; the Trimble R3 GPS System; and the Trimble S6 Total Station with GPS Search. The new positioning products add greater flexibility and versatility to provide seamless and streamlined workflow for all of the critical phases of surveying.

The announcement was made today at Intergro 2005, the world’s largest conference on geodesy, geoinformatics and land management.

“Each of our new products is an important part of Trimble’s connected survey site model, which empowers surveyors with ultimate flexibility and connectivity while on the job,” said Jürgen Kliem, General Manager for Trimble’s Survey Division.

“The Trimble survey product portfolio is a complete, compatible set of tools built with the latest positioning technologies designed to seamlessly streamline and automate the surveyor’s workflow. The connected survey site provides the surveyor with total flexibility to choose just the right tools for each survey task. From robotic and mechanical total stations to real-time kinematic GPS systems and 3D laser scanning to precise leveling systems, everything a surveyor needs for any project is available from a single source.”

Trimble’s connected survey site model creates powerful working relationships among all Trimble products, technologies and services including support, infrastructure and partnerships.

Taking integrated surveying™ to the next level, the connected survey site enables surveyors to choose from a broad range of options; including surveying techniques, communications channels and facilitating services such as GPS infrastructure in one fully integrated and interoperable surveying solution. Surveyors benefit from complete data compatibility with all Trimble field and office software; increased flexibility in employing the best tools and techniques for the job at hand; the adaptation of specialized technologies to fit the ideal workflow of surveyors; and the localization of surveying solutions to address specific market needs throughout the world.

As the first 3D laser scanner to offer a true surveying workflow, the new Trimble GX scanner “thinks like a surveyor” with features that include flexible power supply options, station setup and a surveying data collector. The scanner’s surveying workflow provides significant benefits such as faster and fewer setups, easy portability, smooth interaction with other surveying systems such as optical and GPS instruments, and a quick learning curve for fast productivity and return on investment.

Gulf Offshore Oil Platforms on Safe Foundations

Offshore oil platforms are typically supported by very deep steel pipe piles. These piles must be carefully installed, and should be tested to verify that they can support the load for which they were designed.

GRL Engineers, Inc., a provider of foundation quality assurance services, successfully tested the foundations of almost 20 new offshore oil platforms in the Persian Gulf between 2004 and 2005. Most of the piles GRL recently tested approximately 62 of them in the waters off Qatar and Saudi Arabia - were 1 to 1.7 meters in diameter and were driven with a hydraulic hammer. GRL monitored their installation and ensured that the hammer energy was sufficient to drive the piles as efficiently as possible but without incurring stresses that would damage them.

The monitoring involved installing accelerometers and strain transducers on the piles and analyzing the data collected by these sensors with a Pile Driving Analyzer®. The data collected also allowed GRL to evaluate pile capacity at the end of driving. For a sample of the piles the ultimate capacity was verified by delivering a few more hammer blows to an already driven pile after a waiting period of about 24 hours, collecting data from those blows and analyzing the data with a sophisticated capacity prediction software called Capwap®.

GRL Engineers, Inc. is headquartered in Cleveland, OH, USA, and has been providing foundation testing services both offshore and on land projects for more than 30 years. The equipment utilized in these tests is manufactured and distributed by USA based Pile Dynamics. Pile Dynamics equipment is sold throughout the world.