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FUGRO TO PURCHASE SHOALS-1000T AIRBORNE LIDAR BATHYMETER

Worldwide survey leader Fugro announces today its intent to purchase an Optech International SHOALS-1000T Airborne LIDAR Bathymeter for coastal zone mapping. Through its operating company, Fugro Pelagos, Inc., Fugro has issued a Letter of Intent to Optech International. A purchase agreement shall be finalized in May 2004, with system delivery scheduled for February 2005. Fugro has been providing airborne LIDAR bathymetry services, utilizing the SHOALS-1000T, since a teaming agreement was signed with Optech in February 2003. These services will continue without any interruption. With this purchase, Fugro will become the first commercial survey company to acquire a SHOALS-1000T and will become the only commercial provider of airborne LIDAR bathymetry surveys utilizing the SHOALS-1000T in the world. Fugro has years of airborne LIDAR bathymetry experience, supporting the United States Army Corps of Engineers' SHOALS and CHARTS programs since the early 1990s.

In addition to addressing shallow water hydrographic charting markets, the SHOALS-1000T is the perfect tool for coastal zone mapping. It is the only LIDAR bathymeter in the world that provides both a hydrographic and topographic mode of operation within the same airborne sensor and is configurable in mid-flight at the switch of a button. In addition, the system comes fitted with a co-registered digital camera, providing high quality images at one frame per second.

Fugro is now able to provide integrated mapping services that go from land across the beach through to full ocean depth. The SHOALS-1000T, which can provide both bathymetry and seabed imagery in water depths of up to 50 meters, perfectly complements the company's world-renowned acoustic multibeam bathymetry and backscatter capabilities.

The portable SHOALS-1000T can be installed on suitable aircraft of opportunity, allowing cost effective worldwide operations, even in the most remote areas. The system comes with sophisticated mission planning and spatial data processing software, including a three-dimensional "fly through" viewing capability.

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About Fugro:

Fugro Pelagos, Inc. is a member of the international Fugro group of companies. Fugro collects, processes and interprets data related to the earth's surface and soil composition and provides advice based on the results. As an extension to these activities, Fugro provides services such as precise positioning, construction materials testing, reservoir engineering and data management. Fugro's operations have been organised into three divisions: Geotechnical, Survey and Geoscience. Fugro has over 275 offices, more than 7,000 staff and a permanent presence in over 50 countries.

About Optech:

Optech is the global market leader in the development, manufacture and support of advanced laser-based survey instruments. In addition to SHOALS-1000T, Optech offers client-driven solutions in airborne terrestrial mapping, laser imaging, space-based atmospheric monitors and spaceborne landing / docking systems, mine cavity monitoring systems and industrial process control.

For further information and or for a selection of images in support of this announcement, please contact:

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Fugro is listed on Euronext N.V. in Amsterdam and is included in the Amsterdam Midkap index. Fugro has over 300 offices, about 8,800 staff and a permanent presence in over 60 countries.