

GENERAL INFORMATION

The city of Bruges

Bruges is a historical town situated in the lowlands of Belgium. In the Middle Ages, it was the main trading centre and port of northern Europe. Nowadays it is one of Europe's best-preserved medieval cities and its beautiful buildings, beguinage, quiet back alleys and serene canals lend it a totally unique atmosphere.

Location of the congress centre

By car:

The workshop will take place in the "Oud Sint-Jan" Event & Congress Centre, situated in the historical centre of Bruges. It is easily accessible via the highway E40 Brussels-Ostend. Take Exit 8 till the second traffic lights where you turn right. Follow the signs to the railway station of Bruges. As you approach the station you will see a sign "Oud Sint-Jan" on your left. Follow the signs along the "Oostmeers and Zonnekemeers" streets. A large parking area is available for workshop participants.

By train:

The "Oud Sint-Jan" Event & Congress Centre is a 5 minute walk from the railway station. When you walk out of the station (front-side) go straight towards the main road. There you will see a sign "Oud Sint-Jan". Follow the signs through the "Oostmeers and Zonnekemeers" streets. The centre is on your left-hand side.



REGISTRATION

Participants must register before 23 September 2005 as the number of participants is limited.

For registration and additional information, please contact:

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A list of hotels can be found at www.hotels-brugge.org. As Bruges is very much favoured by tourists, it is highly recommended to make your hotel reservation as soon as possible.

AIRBORNE IMAGING SPECTROSCOPY WORKSHOP

7 October 2005 – Bruges, Belgium

Results of the Belgian airborne
imaging spectroscopy campaigns

First announcement



BELGIAN SCIENCE POLICY



Organized by the Belgian Science Policy
in collaboration with VITO

INTRODUCTION

Airborne imaging spectroscopy is an established remote sensing technique with an expanding range of applications in the environmental and earth sciences.

In 2002, 2003 and 2004 campaigns were undertaken in order to provide Belgian scientists with a range of airborne imaging spectroscopy data in support of national research programmes, to encourage international collaboration and to promote the awareness, application and technology of airborne imaging spectroscopy among the wider scientific community.

During the 2002 and 2003 campaigns, the CASI-2 sensor was deployed in combination with either the SASI or the ATM sensor. For the 2004 campaign the HyMap sensor was used. The CASI-2, SASI and HyMap sensors are imaging spectrometers measuring the reflected solar spectrum in the VNIR and SWIR wavelength range in hundreds of narrow contiguous bands to allow identification of terrestrial materials by their reflectance spectrum, while the ATM sensor measures the thermal radiation emitted by the Earth's surface. Hence, the combination of the CASI-2 and SASI or ATM sensors and the HyMap sensor support diverse fields of applications.

Proposals by scientists to explore the use of airborne imaging spectroscopy data in their field of application were evaluated by experts. The proposals finally selected, dealt with a wide range of topics. These included monitoring and classification of natural sites (wetlands, forests, estuaries, mudflats), mapping of mine waste disposal, classification of man made objects, fusion of imaging spectroscopy and SAR data, urban classification and soil productivity.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

To encourage the exchange of knowledge and experience between Belgian and international scientists and to receive feedback from the scientists about the flight campaigns, the Belgian Science Policy Office organizes in collaboration with VITO a 1-day AIRBORNE IMAGING SPECTROSCOPY WORKSHOP on 7 October 2005 in Bruges (B).



Dr. Walter Debruyn (Head, VITO Local Remote Sensing) and Dr. Ils Reusen (VITO Local Remote Sensing) will chair the workshop.

Participation is open to all users of airborne imaging spectroscopy data acquired during the Belgian 2002, 2003 and 2004 flight campaigns or other imaging spectroscopy flight campaigns and is free of charge.

The official language of the workshop is English.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Papers will be presented by Belgian scientists and their international partners on each of these topics:

- Application of machine learning techniques for ecotope classification
- Linking biochemical and biophysical parameters to ecological models
- Nitrogen indicators for maize
- Crop productivity – soil erosion relationship
- Mapping of lead dispersal
- Characterisation of sediment properties
- Vegetation stress in forests
- Classification of man-made objects
- Validation of SPOT data products

In addition, international experts will deliver key note presentations.

Participants can submit abstracts for poster presentations on additional topics by 4 July 2005.

Deadlines

- Submission of abstract: 4 July 2005
- Notification of acceptance of abstract: 31 August 2005
- Final Programme: 15 September 2005
- Registration and submission of paper: 23 September 2005
- Workshop: 7 October 2005