



World Geospatial Industry Council

HORIZONS NEWSLETTER

October 2025

WGIC UPDATES

[Join Geospatial Leaders At the Horizons+ Dinner In Calgary](#)



WGIC invites geospatial leaders to the Horizons+ Dinner in Calgary, Canada—an exclusive evening bringing together senior executives for high-value conversations in an intimate setting on the eve of GoGeomatics 2025, one of the industry’s most influential conference.

This edition will feature Gitane De Silva, Founder and Principal of GDStrategic, speaking on “Mapping the Energy Transition.” The event provides a unique platform for industry leaders to connect, exchange insights, and explore opportunities shaping the geospatial sector’s future.

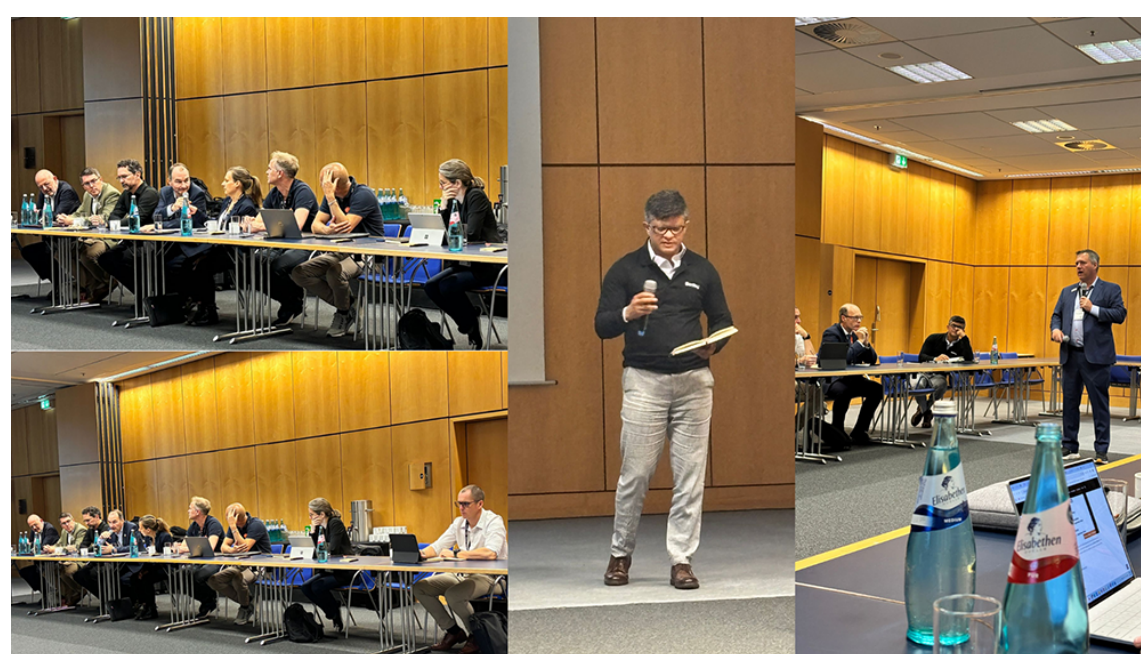
[Strong demand—almost sold out](#)
[Watch this space for upcoming Horizons+ Dinners](#)

Nadine Alameh Joins WGIC Secretariat As Advisor



WGIC is pleased to welcome Dr. Nadine Alameh to the WGIC Secretariat as Advisor to the Partnerships & Industry Engagement Committee. A globally recognized leader in geospatial and AI, Nadine brings extensive experience from roles with the UN-GGIM, International Society for Digital Earth, Taylor Geospatial Institute, OGC, and as Founder of LunateAI, a WGIC member. Her expertise and vision will strengthen WGIC’s efforts to advance collaboration, innovation, and sustainable growth across the global geospatial ecosystem.

WGIC Board And Member Meetings Held On The Sidelines Of INTERGEO 2025



On October 8, WGIC leadership and members convened on the sidelines of INTERGEO 2025 to discuss strategic priorities, ongoing projects, and upcoming initiatives. The Board meeting, chaired by Executive Director Aaron Addison, brought together representatives from across the globe, highlighting WGIC’s commitment to advancing collaboration and innovation in the geospatial sector.

During the discussions, President Zubran Solaiman emphasized the growing centrality of geospatial technologies in shaping decisions across industries and governments. He highlighted WGIC’s ongoing commitment to fostering collaboration and aligning its initiatives with the evolving priorities and the global geospatial community. The meeting was followed by a Board Working Lunch and a collaborative WGIC reception co-hosted with AI-InfraSolutions, fostering meaningful exchanges among members and partners.

Community, The Catalyst For A Flourishing Geospatial Future



In this insightful blog, WGIC Executive Director Aaron Addison reflects on how community lies at the heart of a flourishing geospatial future. He explores the powerful role of collaboration among government, industry, academia, and citizens in shaping healthier, more resilient societies. Aaron emphasizes that the future of geospatial is built not only on technology, but on trust, openness, and collective problem-solving—where prosperity and purpose go hand in hand.

[Read the full blog](#)

HORIZONS PODCAST VIDEOS

[AI Tools Are Evolving Faster Than Humans Can Respond To Them](#)



Leonard Sands, Global Director Land at Fugro, in an in-person conversation with Aaron Addison, WGIC Executive Director, explores the accelerating impact of AI in the geospatial

industry. They discuss how AI tools are reshaping workflows, the role of human expertise in guiding technology, and the challenges of trust, interoperability, and liability in digital twin adoption. The dialogue highlights the balance between automation and human judgment in a rapidly evolving industry.

[Watch here](#)

Jeroen Zanen, AI-InfraSolutions: We Manage And Improve Outdoor Spaces With AI-driven Solutions



Jeroen Zanen, Founder & CEO of AI-InfraSolutions, shares the story behind building a geospatial company driven by artificial intelligence. He discusses integrating imagery, LiDAR, and location data for nationwide infrastructure mapping, innovations like Spatial Ops, AI Lenses, and the Spider Camera, and how structured, localized data and predictive analytics drive smarter asset management. Jeroen also reflects on AI-InfraSolutions’ global expansion and collaboration with WGIC to shape the geospatial industry’s future.

[Watch here](#)

EVENTS & OUTREACH

WGIC Engages Global Geospatial Audience At INTERGEO 2025



WGIC participated in INTERGEO 2025 in Frankfurt, Germany, bringing together global geospatial leaders to advance innovation, workforce development, and industry collaboration. Over three dynamic days, WGIC hosted panels, meetings, and a networking reception focused on shaping the future of geospatial technologies.



On October 7, the panel “Data to Decisions” brought together experts from RIEGL, Woolpert, DataDev, Planblue, Bluesky, and Esri. Moderated by John Renard, the panel discussed how geospatial data transforms decision-making across sectors. The session drew an audience of over 100 participants, reflecting the growing interest in how advances in data production and processing workflows are transforming the way we generate, interpret, and apply geospatial information. With faster and more efficient capture methods—from mobile mapping to satellite and aerial systems—participants discussed how the industry is achieving new levels of scalability and precision across the value chain.

The lively discussion highlighted how AI-driven information extraction and automation are enabling the creation of product stacks that go beyond visualization to deliver true decision intelligence. The session reinforced a shared vision among WGIC members: turning data into trusted, actionable insights is key to realizing the full potential of the geospatial sector.



The final day, October 9, featured two standout sessions: The panel, “The Future of Earth Observation,” with speakers from Sparkgeo, Bentley Systems, EOMAP, Wingtra, GeoSolutions, Esri, discussed innovations in satellite data integration and ground-based geospatial applications. A key discussion during this panel was the emergence of “fake maps” often AI-generated or altered imagery that challenges how we govern, verify, and trust data. As Earth observation evolves toward operational, real-time decision support, panelists emphasized the critical need for verification frameworks that trace data integrity from pixels to attributes. The session, with an audience of 75+, underscored that transparency and accountability in geospatial data impact every part of our industry.



The panel was followed by a session on “Geospatial Workforce” presented by WGIC Executive Director Aaron Addison, who highlighted the evolving skillsets, challenges, and opportunities shaping the next generation of geospatial professionals.

The session drew over 40 engaged participants and featured a dynamic 15-minute Q&A. Questions ranged from the relevance of current university models amid rapid tech change to how AI is reshaping skills and job availability. Participants also explored how upskilling, reskilling, and flexible talent models can meet the growing demand for geospatial expertise. The discussion reflected a shared sense of urgency and optimism about how academia and industry can collaborate to equip the next generation of geospatial professionals.

WGIC Strengthens Ties With Surveying Community In Ireland



WGIC Associate Director Helen Gilmartin attended the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland (SCSI) event in Dublin, engaging with professionals from across the geospatial and surveying sectors. The gathering provided an excellent opportunity to exchange insights, explore new ideas, and build connections that advance collaboration within the industry. WGIC extends its appreciation to SCSI for their continued partnership and support in fostering professional growth and dialogue within the global geospatial community.

Aaron Addison Joins Women+ in Geospatial Webinar On AI And The Future Of The Profession

WOMEN+ IN

GEO

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GEO

BUSINESS

VIRTUAL

Thriving as a geospatial professional in the age of AI

Wed, Oct 22 (16:00 - 17:00 GMT)

Featuring:

MODERATOR

Kristen O'Shea

Julia Wagemann

Aaron Addison

Sam Roy

Charlette N'guessan

Women + in Geospatial is proudly sponsored by

sparkgeo
Geospatial is changing everything

WGIC Executive Director Aaron Addison joined leading geospatial professionals at the Women+ in Geospatial webinar, “Thriving as a Geospatial Professional in the Age of AI.” The discussion focused on how geospatial experts are navigating and leading in the age of artificial intelligence, fostering innovation, inclusion, and professional growth across the global community. Aaron shared his perspectives on the evolving intersection of AI and geospatial technologies, emphasizing collaboration and shared responsibility in shaping a resilient and forward-looking industry.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Horizon+ Calgary Dinner | November 3, 2025
GoGeomatics 2025 | November 3, 2025
Trimble Dimensions | November 10-12

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