

A public entity satisfied with Topcon's GIS Solutions



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"Having our own tools enables us to work better"

Agricultural Engineer Pau Llobera works in the Rural-Development Directorate-General of the Agriculture and Fishing Ministry of the Govern de les Illes Balears (Balearic Islands Government). "The responsibilities of the directorate-general include the supervision of irrigation and ditch modernization projects, new-irrigation projects, regulation bases, survey of the working area, and sometimes cover large extensions of municipalities, or survey linear strips of several kilometers. The scope of action covers all of the Balearic Islands."

Pau Llobera: "In this task, in addition to the survey, it is necessary to position or locate various elements such as valves, ventilation outlets, pumps or elbow joints and indicate necessary data such as codes or features that define and identify them, along with their position. All this information is downloaded into a software package with GIS tools for orderly access and control, in this case in AutocadMap. It is also necessary to measure property for correct land subdivision and subsequent acquisition to establish irrigation facilities; at least sub-meter precision is therefore required."

Up to just over a year ago, some of the indicated tasks were subcontracted to third parties, but this created some problems related to flexibility, speed and quality of the work. To resolve this, the Rural-Development Directorate-General decided to purchase a Map-R model Topcon receiver with a renewable annual Omnistar licence, a Topcon FC-1000 controller, and a local application adapted to its needs. This has led to sub-meter precision sufficient for some of its operations. They also rounded off their topographical equipment with a Topcon GTS-725 Total Station.

"Having our own tools enables us to plan our work better, directly control the quality of the work and also remain independent of third-party companies." With regard to the Topcon service and its Inland distributor, Pau Llobera said: "As an example of service, I would like to mention the initial problems that we had in getting Omnistar to work in the Balearic Islands, because in the beginning it was restricted to the Iberian Peninsula. Topcon, in liaison with Omnistar managed to enlarge the working area and thus provide sub-meter precision in the Balearic Islands also." When he learnt about the new GMS-2 GIS Topcon receiver, Pau Llobera gave it a very positive evaluation, especially the capability of including and linking to the position the photographic image of the element being located or measured.

grupo  land
www.inland.es

Grupo Inland
Avda. de la Industria, 35
28760 Tres Cantos
Phone: +34.91.484.19.00

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