THE MARTIN INSTRUMENT FAMILY FUNDS THE NEW LIFE FAMILY CENTER

TSPS Launches PR Campaign! See Page 14
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THE TEXAS SURVEYOR

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Managing Editor: Doug Loveday

In This Issue
On the cover – TSPS Sustaining Member Martin Instrument has gone all in with the New Life Children’s Center. You can read about this charitable endeavor on page 16 (Cover photo by Nick Simonite.) And TSPS announces its launch of a new Public Awareness Campaign, coinciding with Texas Surveyors Week. Read more on page 14!
Providing Trimble Solutions for 18 years

18 years ago Martin Instrument was the only distributor in Texas promoting and selling robotic surveying solutions. Today 100% of Heavy Highway Contractors and the majority of Land Surveyors utilize this technology daily. Today, we are showing surveyors and contractors how BIM (Building Information Modeling) is providing opportunities. Whether you need a 3D scanned point cloud of an existing building or the ability to stakeout complex buildings and interiors, Martin Instrument has the solution. Call us today and let us show you how Trimble solutions can help your bottom line.

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The Martin Instrument Freedom Lease can best be described as an open window lease. The open window allows you to get out of the lease at any time for any reason with no penalties. So whether your company wants to have the ability to continually trade up for the newest technology or you just have a short term need of equipment because of work load spikes, the Martin Instrument Freedom Lease is the perfect choice for you.
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- when it has to be right
Great news! TSPS had a remarkable recovery year in 2013. The association ended the year with over $143,000 in net revenue. During the February 1, 2014, Board of Directors meeting the following motion was unanimously approved, “At this time I would like to make a motion to deposit $25,000 in the TSPS Short Term Fund and $50,000 in the TSPS Long Term Fund.” I know it was a great feeling for all present to be able to put money back into reserves.

For the second year in a row, the Business Model Task Force presented a balanced draft budget to the Budget & Finance Committee who then presented the budget to the Board of Directors for approval. The 2014 Operating Budget is printed on page 22 for your reference. There is one line item that might catch your attention. The Public Relations Committee has a larger than normal budget this year because of the PR Campaign that is being launched this month during National Surveyors Week. You can read more about the campaign in PR Chairman Jamie Gillis’ article, titled “IT’S WHAT WE DO” on page 14.

In late March, TSPS will have over more than 100 boxes delivered from a storage unit it has rented since 1999. TSPS leadership and staff felt it was time to close the unit and inventory the items being stored. The conference room at the TSPS office will be out of commission for several months as this process takes place. I know the history of the association is very important to many so we hope to preserve some of the old documents for display in the future.

In April, the staff will begin preparing for the May 3rd Board of Directors meeting and the Ray Wisdom Auction and BBQ. BOTH EVENTS HAVE MOVED! The May 3rd Board meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites in San Marcos and the BBQ will be held at the Rio Vista Park, Pavilion A. The hotel is only four miles from the park. The park is beautiful and has many activities for children, so bring your family and plan to attend.

Also in April I will be attending the NSPS Spring meeting where I will have the opportunity to meet with other Executive Directors from across the country. Now that many states have signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NSPS it will be good to hear how the joint membership program is working for them. Last October, the membership of TSPS approved the 100% State Affiliate Membership program pending the approval of the MOU agreement. Any learned experiences from other states are always helpful when thinking about the terms of agreement for Texas.

Spring is the best time of year in Texas (in my opinion). Enjoy!
TSPS SUSTAINING MEMBERS

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I don’t know about each of you, but it sure seems like this winter has been one of the coldest we have had in a while. I’m ready for some warmer weather! We are also getting close to finishing out the first quarter of 2014. I hope that business is good and spring like weather is upon us. I believe that we have had a great first quarter for TSPS.

At our First Quarter Board of Directors meeting that was held in February it was announced that we had a budget surplus of $143,583 in 2013! That is great news. It shows that our Board, committees and staff are working hard to spend wisely and save money for the betterment of our organization. With this added revenue, we invested $50,000 into our long-term fund account and $25,000 into our short-term account. The Board also approved another balanced budget for 2014. You can see a complete breakdown of the approved budget on page 22.

Included in the approved budget was a public awareness campaign. This campaign comes from the TSPS membership survey that was done back in August and its mandate to increase the public awareness of the surveying profession. We have enlisted the help of an ad agency to produce a public relations campaign that will span across social media, online, print and television. We will have print ads, online banners and two 15 second commercials available for TSPS chapters to use in their local media outlets. The launch of the campaign is scheduled to coincide with National Surveyors Week, March 16-22, and will continue through the rest of the year. You can read more about the campaign and view the print ad in an article by PR Committee Chairman, Jamie Gillis, on pages 14 and 15.

“We also need to continue chapter level participation in legislative events. It is imperative that we meet and talk with our state leaders and educate them about our profession and our governing board.”

– Shane Neally

We also need to continue chapter level participation in legislative events.

(See From The President, page 26)
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An Attorney’s Angle

Mark Hanna – TSPS Legal Counsel

Mark J. Hanna practices law in Austin and has served as TSPS Legal Counsel since 1992. In addition to providing legal and legislative representation for the Society, Mr. Hanna specializes in representing the interests of individual business and professional clients located throughout the State.

Texas Real Estate Law Recent Cases

The following is a summary of the recent Texas ad valorem property tax law cases as prepared by the Real Estate Section of the State Bar of Texas. For more information regarding these cases or other legal issues of significance to the surveying profession, contact TSPS Legal Counsel, Mark J. Hanna, 900 Congress Avenue, Suite 250, Austin, Texas 78701; telephone: (512) 477-6200; facsimile: (512) 477-1188.

99% Ownership of a Limited Partnership by “For-Profit” Entities Does Not in and of Itself Disqualify Low and Moderate Income Housing Apartment Complexes from Obtaining Property Tax Exemptions.

McLennan County Appraisal District v. American Housing Foundation,
No. 10-08-00416-CV (Tex. APP. - Waco, March 9, 2011, no pet. h.). (to be published).

Two low and moderate income apartment complexes were owned by a limited partnership. The general partner, a wholly owned subsidiary of a tax exempt community housing development organization, owned .02% of the limited partnership. The balance was owned by private investors who provided equity for the projects and received federal income tax credits and depreciation in return. The partnership sought property tax exemption and were denied by the appraisal district due to the “for-profit” ownership in the property. The court disagreed with the appraisal district and found that the constitutional provision authorizing the granting of exemptions to “institutions engaged primarily in public charitable functions” does not focus on the ownership of the property, but rather focuses on “whether the owner of the property is engaged primarily in public charitable functions.” The court held, “The fact that other persons or entities with a profit motive have invested resources in these entities is irrelevant. These limited partners have no control over the operation of the limited partnerships. They are no different than a person or entity that makes a donation to a charitable organization.”

Property Foreclosed May Not Be Redeemed with a Promissory Note; Redemptions Must Be Made in Cash.

Deutsche Bank National Trust Co. v. Stockdick Land Co.,

Property, subject to a mortgage, was foreclosed for nonpayment of property taxes, penalties and interest totaling $6,847 and sold to a third party for $370,000. Through a series of transactions, the third party resold the property back to the original owners by accepting cash, including the excess proceeds from the sale totaling $370,000 and a promissory note in the amount of $92,500, which was the amount of the redemption premium. Thereafter, the original owners defaulted on the promissory note and the third party foreclosed the property. The original mortgage company sued to set aside the foreclosure contending that the purchase transaction constituted a redemption of the property and thereby reinstated the original mortgage. The court held that the transaction did not constitute a redemption because redemptions had to be made wholly in cash. The court held, “It is reasonable to expect that many owners whose real property is sold at a tax sale are experiencing financial difficulties. In this context, it would not be reasonable to allow an owner to redeem the property based on a promise to pay, especially when the purchaser bought the property by paying cash at a tax sale.”

Partial Owner of a Residential Homestead, Residing in the Homestead, Is Entitled to the Full 10% Annual Cap on Increases in Taxable Valuation; The Limitation Provision Is Not an Exemption; the Award of Attorney’s Fees to a Prevailing Taxpayer in an Excessive Appraisal Dispute Is Mandatory; “Minimum” Optional School Property Tax Exemption Must Be Prorated If Property Is Not Owned Entirely by the Occupant of the Homestead.

Martinez v. Dallas Central Appraisal District,
339 S.W.3d 184 (Tex.App.-Dallas, 2011, no pet.).

A residence was owned in undivided interests by four siblings, but only one of the siblings utilized the property as a residential homestead. The appraisal district applied the ten percent constitutional limitation on increases in taxable value to only 25% of the property, increasing the taxable valuation of the rest of the property annually to its market value. The appraisal district based its calculation on Section 11.41(a) of the Tax Code. That provision mandates the proration of exemptions identified in Chapter 11 of the Tax Code in situations where property is jointly owned by qualifying and nonqualifying individuals. The court reviewed that section and disagreed, ruling, “…the character of a residence homestead is not dependent upon a one hundred percent ownership interest vested in a single individual … [Section 11.41(a)] of the tax code expressly refers to exemptions. But there is nothing in the tax code to suggest the statutory cap in section 23.23 [the 10% annual limitation on increases in taxable valuations of homesteads] is an exemption. And even if the cap were to be characterized as an exemption, it is not among the enumerated exemptions ‘provided

(See Attorney’s Angle, page 12)
by ‘chapter 11.’ The court further held that the granting of attorney’s fees to a prevailing taxpayers under the Tax Code is mandatory as the provision states, “A property owner … may be awarded reasonable attorney’s fees,” meaning that an award of fees is amongst the benefits that a prevailing taxpayer is entitled to obtain. It contrasted this provision with statutes granting discretion to a trial court to award attorney’s fees which read, “The court may award attorney’s fees.” Finally, the court considered the taxpayer’s claim that he was also entitled to a minimum optional, $5,000 school district homestead exemption because the constitutional provision authorizing the exemption states, “The percentage may not exceed twenty percent. However, the amount authorized … may not be less than Five Thousand Dollars…” The court disagreed, pointing out that the balance of the provision states, “unless the legislature prescribes by general law other monetary restrictions on the amount of the exemption.” The court held that the provisions contained in Section 11.41(a) requiring the proration of exemptions on properties jointly owned by qualifying and nonqualifying individuals as an appropriate limitation within the meaning of the constitutional provision.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY PROCEDURES FOR REDEMPTION OF FORECLOSED PROPERTY CREATES A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION THAT REDEMPTION WAS COMPLETED; REDEMPTION STATUTES ARE CONSTRUED LIBERALLY IN FAVOR OF REDEMPTION; BURDEN OF PROOF IN REDEMPTION SUIT IS ON PARTY CHALLENGING REDEMPTION; CHALLENGER MUST PROVE THAT PROPERTY WAS NOT THE HOMESTEAD OF THE FORECLOSED PARTY DURING THE TWO YEARS PRECEDING THE FORECLOSURE SALE; A PROPERTY DOES NOT HAVE TO BE HABITABLE TO QUALIFY AS A HOMESTEAD IF IT IS DESIGNED FOR HUMAN HABITATION; PAYMENT OF 98.98% OF THE REDEMPTION AMOUNT DUE IS SUFFICIENT TO REDEEM A PROPERTY; COSTS INCURRED IN REMOVING MOBILE HOME FROM PROPERTY AND TO EVICT A PERSON LIVING ON A PROPERTY ARE NOT RECOVERABLE REDEMPTION EXPENSES.

Gonzalez v. Razi, 338 S.W.3d 167 (Tex.App.-Houston (1st Dist.) 2011, pet. filed). Property was foreclosed for nonpayment of ad valorem taxes and sold at a sheriff’s sale. After six months had elapsed, but before two years had passed, the foreclosed parties tendered a redemption amount to the tax assessor along with an affidavit stating that they could not locate the purchaser of the property at foreclosure. One month later, the purchaser filed a declaratory judgment suit seeking to set aside the redemption and contended that the property was not the homestead of the foreclosed parties and thus the six month redemption period applied. At trial, he testified that the property was not listed on the appraisal district’s records as possessing a homestead exemption, that he visited the property once prior to foreclosure and multiple times after the sale and never saw the foreclosed parties there. He testified that although he did not enter the mobile home on the property, his view through its windows showed it to be uninhabitable. Finally, he testified that he met a man who was running an automobile repair shop on part of the property and the man told him that no one other than he and his wife lived on the property. The court of appeals ruled that redemption laws are to be liberally construed in favor of redemption and that once a person...
COMING EVENTS

MARCH

March 16-22
Surveyors Week in Texas

Texas Surveyors Week is held in conjunction with the NSPS’s National Surveyors Week.

March 20-22
Heart of Texas Boundary Retracement Seminar
The Heart of Texas Boundary Retracement at Wulff Cedar Creek Ranch in McCulloch County will be a modern day search for original survey corners, led by instructors: D.G. (Greg) Smyth, RPLS, LSLS; C.B. (Ben) Thomson, RPLS, LSLS; Bill O’Hara, RPLS, LSLS; and Davey Edwards, RPLS, LSLS, CFedS.

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APRIL

April 12
CST Exam - Arlington, Texas
Proctor: Erin Merkel
Contact: erinnm@wierassociates.com
Deadline for application through TSPS office:
Monday, March 17, 2014
Contact Brenda Null at BrendaN@tsps.org if after March 17, 2014.

Location: Wier & Associates
701 Highlander Blvd. Ste 300
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April 11-12
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Hosted by TSPS Chapters 1, 10, 16 and 18

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Maxey Sheppard, RPLS, LSLS from Abilene
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TSPS Launches Public Awareness Campaign About Land Surveying

By Jamie Gillis, RPLS #6019
Public Relations Committee Chair

It has been a busy couple of months for the TSPS Public Relations Committee. As most of you know, back in June President Neally initiated a Strategic Planning questionnaire in order to get a feeling for what members and non-members think the society is doing well, and where it needs to improve. The results of that survey formed the agenda for the TSPS Strategic Planning meeting and, ultimately, served as a roadmap for prioritizing the focus and strategic plan for President Neally’s term.

Public Relations was, one way or another, a recurring theme in the survey’s results. The lack of awareness by the general public about who Surveyors are, what Surveyors do, and why Surveyors are so important is clearly an issue that TSPS members and non-members alike identified as a top priority. The strategies and objectives for the PR Committee can be seen below, as determined at the Strategic Planning meeting in Kerrville, last August.

Priority 2 PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNICATION
TSPS is the trusted advisor to the profession, providing education and elevating the practice of land surveying.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014 Objectives</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Increase awareness of land surveying to the general public.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Increase awareness of land surveying as a profession to students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Communicate the role and benefits of TSPS to non-members.</td>
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</tbody>
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EXTERNAL STRATEGY: COMMUNICATE THE IMPORTANCE/ROLE OF TSPS AND LAND SURVEYING TO DIFFERENT AUDIENCES

INTERNAL STRATEGY: COMMUNICATE AND INCREASE MEMBER BENEFITS

• Offer benefits that members value.
• Increase engagement of existing members.

Clearly, educating the public about our great profession is a tall order, but a critically important one. If we are to help the public understand the role Registered Professional Land Surveyors play in protecting their property rights, the amount of specialized education, training, and knowledge that is required to practice Land Surveying and, ultimately, elevate the public’s opinion of a Land Surveyor to that of a learned professional, on par with those who practice other professions such as law or engineering, we need to first grab their attention. As Land Surveyors, we are all aware of the rich history and compelling stories chronicling Land Surveying in this great State, but how do we share our story with the uninitiated?

At the strategic planning meeting, it was suggested that TSPS look into the idea of hiring a PR or marketing firm to help us develop a “campaign” designed to spread the word and educate the public about Land Surveying. Our Executive Director, DJ Kyle, did a fantastic job of researching these possibilities and she set up various meetings to discuss our ideas with a few different firms so we could hear what they thought they could do to help TSPS accomplish its goal. In the end, the committee decided to go with an Austin-based company called Big Blue Sky Advertising (bigblueskyadvertising.com), who has helped to develop marketing campaigns for Fuzzy’s Tacos, NASCAR Performance, and Alamo Drafthouse, among others. After a few meetings and some email communication back and forth, Big Blue Sky presented TSPS with four concepts upon which to base our PR campaign. All four were great, and all four managed to touch on different priorities within the campaign. The unanimous favorite, though, was the ad pictured on the next page.

This concept quickly and directly emphasizes the importance of having a survey performed when you purchase real estate, as well as the risk involved in not doing so. The most important investment many people make in their lifetime is purchasing real property. The idea behind the campaign is to quickly communicate to the public that without a survey, there is no way for them to know what they are actually buying.

The landing page at the bottom of the ad, FindATexasSurveyor.com, will link to a page on the TSPS website specifically designed for the campaign. On this page will be information about Land Surveying, a Frequently Asked Questions area, as well as a search feature allowing individuals to find a Land Surveyor who is a TSPS member in their area. This campaign is, as far as we know, the

(See Public Awareness, page 27)
THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND...

THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND, TOO.

Protect your investment with a survey by a Registered Professional Land Surveyor.

Sometimes you don’t get what you pay for. If you own or plan on buying real estate, make sure what you pay for is what you get. Have a new boundary survey performed and protect what’s rightfully yours.

Find your Surveyor today at FindATexasSurveyor.com

The Texas Surveyor/March 2014
New Life Children’s Center

Martin Instrument Focuses On

On the edge of the Central Texas Hill Country lies a refuge, the New Life Children’s Center in Canyon Lake, where young women whose lives have been upturned from abuse and neglect can recover and heal in a peaceful residential environment, nestled within the beauty of Canyon Lake.

Thanks to a generous donation from Martin Instrument—an Austin-based, employee owned provider of Trimble precision layout surveying tools and equipment—the New Life Children’s Center can expand their services and offerings to continue supporting young girls through therapy, education and healing.

Martin Instrument donated $50,000 to Lutheran Social Services’ New Life Center at the beginning of 2014, after nearly a year of company-wide collaboration on the nonprofit selection process. About a year ago, Martin Instrument launched an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) to thank and reward their employees for their dedication to and tenure at Martin Instrument, by providing them with the opportunity to become owners and partners of the company through shares of stock. And because their employees were now major stakeholders in the company’s activities, Martin Instrument’s founders Marty and Gina Richardson wanted to involve every employee in the nonprofit selection process.

“Before the ESOP, Gina and I would give to nonprofits of our own choosing because we’ve always felt a commitment to give back,” Marty Richardson said. “Martin Instrument has been a successful venture for us and we want to be good custodians of that success. Now that we’re essentially partners in the company with sixteen other people, we wanted to continue this tradition of giving in a way that incorporates feedback and input from everyone in the company. It’s important for us to act on this promise of partnership and to provide tangible outcomes from the ESOP. Working together to identify and support a nonprofit underscores the values of Martin Instrument as a whole.”

Bobby Hempfling, a Martin Instrument employee of 9 years, volunteered to be a part of the nonprofit selection committee and was intimately involved in the process from start to finish. “I volunteered to be a part of the nonprofit selection committee because it was a great opportunity to do something good for the community, and it was a way to become more involved in the goings on at the company,” he said. “We had some parameters laid out for the kinds of organizations we wanted to reach out to, and everyone on the committee found three or four nonprofits we thought would be valuable causes. After about a month or so, we came back together, voted on our top three and invited those nonprofits to present at the Austin office of Martin Instrument.”

Lutheran Social Services was one of the organizations selected by the committee to present, and their presentation laid out the mission of the organization, what they do in the community and the project that the donation would make possible: the Martin Instrument Suite at the New Life Center’s Humana House.

“Lutheran Social Services’ presentation was professional, thoughtful and touching,” Martin Instrument employee Mike Minick said. “They had renderings of the future facility, heartfelt stories about individuals they’ve helped in the past, and, honestly, they were my personal choice when we did the company-wide vote. This was the first time I’ve taken part in something like this,” he said. “And I appreciated the fact that we all were involved in the decision-making process. It’s indicative of what it’s like to be a part of Martin Instrument.”

For over 20 years, the New Life Children’s Center in Canyon Lake has served as a safe haven where abused, neglected and troubled young girls can heal and overcome emotional burdens in a tranquil residential setting. According to Lutheran Social Services CEO Dr. Kurt Senske, the New Life Center is known as the “best residential treatment center in the state serving abused and neglected children,” and the facility offers these girls a daily balance of meaningful therapy sessions, academic classes, exercise, activities and socialization.

With Martin Instrument’s donation, Lutheran Social Services plans to expand the residential offerings at the New Life Center to include a complex for families visiting the girls at New Life. “One of the pieces we’ve been missing is the capacity for including family members in our girls’ therapy and treatment,” Senske said. “The problem is, most of those families don’t have the financial capacity to come out to Canyon Lake for a number of therapy sessions. So, we decided to build a facility on-site to allow us to provide intensive therapy with the patient and their family, and to help them work on reunifying and repairing the family unit.”

Martin Instrument’s $50,000 donation will facilitate the creation of the Martin Instrument Suite within the Humana House, and construction is set to begin this spring. The suite will serve as a multi-purpose

(Continued on next page)
residential space where families can stay while visiting the New Life Center for therapy, treatment and phased family reunification. The 875-square-foot space includes two bedrooms, a full-sized, fully-outfitted kitchen, a family room with additional sleeping capacity, and a full bath and a shower – all ADA accessible.

“This generous donation helps make this new aspect of New Life a reality,” Senske said. “And we’re especially excited because it allows us to participate in the family therapy dynamic, furthering our mission to help stop multi-generational abuse and ideally putting a stop the abuse pattern within that family. Of course, the suite only works in some abuse and neglect cases, but it provides a major added value to the Center.”

So, through collaboration and collective decision making, the employee owned company of Martin Instrument have made a difference in the lives of abused and neglected girls in Central Texas. As one of the founders of Martin Instrument, Gina Richardson put it, “as a company, we collectively found Lutheran Social Services ability to effect and interact with troubled girls in our community inspiring. They have the capacity to reach out to these young girls in a positive manner – repairing broken homes and broken hearts. We are all excited at the opportunity of working with Lutheran Social Services in helping to create a solid structure and a foundation for families in Texas.”

About Martin Instrument:
Martin Instrument is an employee owned surveying and construction solutions provider in Texas, founded in 1992 by Marty and Gina Richardson. For more than 20 years, Martin Instrument has provided the latest precision layout solutions for land surveyors, engineering firms, construction, mining and oil companies, as well as the government and education industries. Martin Instrument is a leading distributor of Trimble Navigation, a manufacturer of advanced positioning solutions best known for their GPS and Robotic technology.

(Story by Kelsey Kemper.)
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- Live Data Exchange
- Map View of Field Data
- Data Secure Backup
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Field and Office.

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The software solution that streamlines the workflow for surveyors, contractors, engineers and mapping professionals.

• Web Browser Access
• Live Data Exchange
• Map View of Field Data
• Data Secure Backup
• Chat and Communicate with Others

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Don’t forget to ask us about our GeoShack Advantage programs – where you can get support, training, and other services along with your equipment purchase.
The 2014 Texas811 Damage Prevention Summit held in San Marcos, Texas on February 10 – 12 was a huge success and TSPS was a part of it! Executive Director DJ Kyle was at the event and staffed an exhibit assisted by TSPS President Shane Neally, East Texas Chapter 4; and Garrett Thompson, Jerry Fults and George Sanders, all of Capital Area Chapter 13. TSPS’ participation in the 3-day event is the result of a mutually beneficial partnership with Texas811, which has no doubt contributed to a reduction in damage to underground utility lines, improved jobsite safety, and improved relationships with utility operators.

In addition to raising the profile of the surveying community to some 400 utility operators and industry support representatives in the exhibit hall, TSPS representatives participated in the Damage Prevention Councils of Texas Roundtable (pictured above). This session was a vehicle for stakeholders of the 23 regional Damage Prevention Councils to gather and share successes and challenges in solving issues associated with the One Call system and excavating around underground facilities. Many TSPS member companies participate in these regional stakeholder-driven meetings, but not to the extent where the surveyor’s voice is consistently heard by the utility operators and their facility locators. As a surveyor and professional excavator working in Texas, you are invited to participate in any of the stakeholder roundtables which meet on a regular basis all across Texas. You have a seat, and a voice at the table; all you have to do is show up and contribute to the discussion. Dates, times, and locations of these meetings can be accessed at http://www.texas811.org/damage-prevention.

Perhaps the most important session at the Texas811 Summit was a presentation by the Railroad Commission of Texas on proposed rule changes of Chapter 18, the underground pipeline damage prevention law. Chapter 18 has had a significant impact on TSPS members as the application of the regulations and associated fines are based on the definition of Excavation as “the movement of earth by any means.” The Proposed Rule Changes (found at http://www.rrc.state.tx.us/education/seminars/Ch18-draftproposedrules.pdf) promise even more challenges to TSPS members as the compliance requirements become more restrictive and reduced penalties may become a thing of the past as the RRC has been approved to hire additional staff to process the damage reports. Current fines for violations to Chapter 18 range from $1,000 – $2,500 per violation and repeat violations can result in penalties up to 5 times the amount.

Texas811’s commitment to TSPS members is genuine. Our Damage Prevention Managers are available to assist your company in all regions of Texas by providing free safety meetings to your employees at your location or to serve as Guest Speaker at TSPS Chapter meetings. Our presentation can be tailored from the basic overview of the 811 system to the more complex requirements of Chapter 18 as they apply to Surveyors.

For more information, Contact Doug Meeks at dougmeeks@texas811.org or by calling 512-963-0034.
What To Do If You’re In An Auto Accident

SafetY COmmIttee

By Joe Breaux
Safety Committee Chair

What should a driver do if they are involved in a crash? Let’s hope we never have an accident while driving, even if it is caused by another driver. But, if this unfortunate event does occur then there are recommended actions to take immediately. These actions are suggestions that are not meant to override any action that is required in an emergency situation nor are they meant to supersede actions that law enforcement may require at the scene or that your insurance company may call for. But keep in mind that we are required to follow Texas Laws.

If you are involved in an auto/truck accident, the primary thing to remember is never leave the scene of an accident. Leaving the scene of an accident could be grounds for one’s driver license to be suspended or driving privileges to be revoked. It is important to remain on the scene and to render help, if needed. We must be responsible drivers.

Pay close attention to the vehicles involved, first because of the danger of fire or fuel leaking, and second because of oncoming traffic. Remain calm and check for injuries. Check yourself and then check for other injured drivers, passengers or pedestrians that also may have been involved.

Try to avoid moving anyone who is injured unless they would be in greater danger by remaining. If at all possible, wait for an ambulance. Call 911 as soon as possible and if there are fatalities, injuries or property damage, make sure that local law enforcement - police, county sheriff’s department or the Department of Public Safety (DPS/highway patrol) - is contacted.

Then if drivable, move your vehicle to a safer place to exchange information. Avoid blocking traffic if at all possible. “Steer it….Clear it”- its the law. According to the Texas Transportation Code, Section 550.022, “if a crash occurs on a main lane, ramp, shoulder, median or adjacent area of a freeway, and each vehicle can be normally and safely driven, each vehicle operator shall move the operator’s vehicle as soon as possible to a designated accident investigation site, a location on the frontage road, the nearest suitable cross street or other suitable location to complete the requirements of Section 550.023 and minimize the interference with existing freeway traffic flow.”

Texas law requires that all drivers, passengers or pedestrians involved in an accident must provide and exchange certain information with each other. That information includes name, address, contact information, driver license number, vehicle license number of all vehicles involved, and insurance information for each driver involved.

You may also want to look for and collect the name and contact information of any witnesses to a crash. You may need them to testify at a later time. If possible, take photos of the accident scene and vehicles involved. Just remember to be safe and watch for traffic when photographing.

“Leaving the scene of an accident could be grounds for one’s driver license to be suspended or driving privileges to be revoked. It is important to remain on the scene and to render help, if needed. We must be responsible drivers.”

– Joe Breaux

If you hit an unattended vehicle, then you are required to attempt to locate the owner. If you are unable to locate the owner, then you must leave a note that contains your information as previously listed.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) collects crash reports from every law enforcement agency in the state for crashes that occur on any public roadway, not just those occurring on the state highway system. The Texas Transportation Code, Section 550.062 requires any law enforcement officer who in the course of duty investigates a motor vehicle crash resulting in injury to or the death of a person or damage to the property of any one person to the apparent extent of $1000 or more, to submit a written report of that crash to TxDOT not later than the 10th day after the date of the crash. The retention schedule for these reports is 5 years plus the current year.

If the accident is not investigated by law enforcement, then Section 550.061 of the Texas Transportation Code requires that the driver must file a Driver’s Crash Report with TxDOT. Failure to file this report could result in a fine of $500 plus court costs. Forms and additional information are available on the TxDOT web site at http://www.txdot.gov/driver/laws/crash-reports.html. The retention schedule for these Driver’s Crash Reports is one year plus the current year.

Then contact your auto insurance provider and furnish all of the information. Texas law requires all drivers to carry basic liability insurance coverage. Without this coverage, you can be fined up to $350. The fine can be more if you have been ticketed previously for no insurance.

I sincerely hope that no one is involved in an auto or truck crash and more importantly, that no one is injured. But if a crash does occur, then maybe the preceding information will be of some assistance in dealing with the situation. Please be save and drive safely, avoiding accidents and crashes.

## OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>2014 Budget</th>
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## DIRECT MEMBER SERVICE

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**GENERAL EXPENSES**

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<td>Payroll Taxes—Seminars</td>
<td>1,326</td>
<td>1,062</td>
<td>1,190</td>
<td>1,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement expense</td>
<td>6,630</td>
<td>6,267</td>
<td>6,375</td>
<td>8,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance-Health/Disability -- General</td>
<td>22,313</td>
<td>23,807</td>
<td>23,835</td>
<td>30,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance-H&amp;D—Convention</td>
<td>3,594</td>
<td>3,032</td>
<td>3,362</td>
<td>3,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance-H&amp;D—Sym</td>
<td>1,797</td>
<td>1,732</td>
<td>1,223</td>
<td>1,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Services</td>
<td>2,246</td>
<td>2,041</td>
<td>2,140</td>
<td>1,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Services-education/seminars</td>
<td>26,000</td>
<td>28,895</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>54,820</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>9,250</td>
<td>9,210</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>9,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues-Professional</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair &amp; Maintenance—Bldg</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>1,274</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>1,736</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>3,467</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>3,632</td>
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<tr>
<td>Condo Association Dues</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>9,599</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>10,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental-Other</td>
<td>6,725</td>
<td>4,378</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>3,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone + telecommunications</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>6,926</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>6,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel-Executive Director</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>2,101</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>1,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel-ED—Convention</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,277.00</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel-ED—Sym</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>893</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel-ED—seminars</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel-Staff</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel-Staff—Convention</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,566</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel-Staff—Sym</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel-Staff—seminars</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance-av trailer</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance—Building</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>3,153</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>2,207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance—D &amp; O</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>1,903</td>
<td>1,760</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance—Convention</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing-Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Development</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>949</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>13,584</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>14,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges/Credit Card Fees</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>15,391</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>14,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS investment fees</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>4,324</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage-General</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions/Publications</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorials—inc Final Points</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janitorial</td>
<td>3,860</td>
<td>3,858</td>
<td>3,865</td>
<td>3,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes—property</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>9,653</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>9,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Expense</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous General Exp</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>5,700</td>
<td>5,732</td>
<td>5,400</td>
<td>3,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSE</td>
<td>416,365</td>
<td>394,459</td>
<td>403,575</td>
<td>494,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>839,815</td>
<td>794,328</td>
<td>800,125</td>
<td>953,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET REVENUES (EXPENSES)</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>143,579</td>
<td>827</td>
<td>-92,876</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
complies with the statutory provisions for redemption that a rebuttable presumption in favor of redemption is created. As a result, a party challenging a redemption has the burden of proving that a redemption was not properly effectuated. The purchaser’s testimony was insufficient to overturn the redemption because it did not establish that the property had not been the homestead of the foreclosed parties for the two year period preceding the foreclosure sale. The testimony that the mobile home was uninhabitable was also insufficient because a property qualifies for homestead exemption if it is “designed ... for human residence,” and an uninhabitable residence is nonetheless one designed for human habitation. Finally, the court held that the foreclosed parties’ tender of 98.98% of the redemption amount was sufficient to effectuate the redemption and that the foreclosed parties were not required to reimburse the purchaser for the cost of the removal of the mobile home from the property or for the cost of the eviction of the person running the automobile repair business on the property because those costs are not specified as recoverable costs in the redemption statute.
It is imperative that we meet and talk with our state leaders and educate them about our profession and our governing board. As I’ve said before, I believe our efforts in this endeavor will pay off during the next legislative session. Along this same line, we need to raise SurPAC funds. SurPAC provides TSPS the means to create and maintain a presence in the legislative process by providing financial contributions to those legislators who have helped us in the past and those we feel will be needed for future assistance. If you have not made a SurPAC contribution in 2014 please do so and help TSPS make a legislative difference for our profession. We still have plenty of the $65 SurPAC Coffee mugs for sale!

Our second Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting will be held in San Marcos on Saturday, May 3, 2014. We will be reviewing our strategic plan and checking on committee progress on the goals and objectives of the plan. After the board of directors meeting, join us for the Annual Ray Wisdom BBQ and TSFI Auction. The BBQ and auction will be held at the Rio Vista Park along the San Marcos River in San Marcos. The auction proceeds will benefit the Texas Surveyors Foundation, Inc. (TSFI) surveying scholarship fund. We need the chapters to donate great items and folks to bid on them to raise as much money as we can for the scholarship fund. It is a great time, with awesome food and camaraderie among surveyors and their families. I look forward to seeing you there.

I also look forward to visiting with you at a future chapter meeting or state function. As always, with your help we can make TSPS the premiere professional organization.
CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas—Many students at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi have to work while going to school, but they usually don’t have worry about bombs going off or terrorists attacking them on the way to class. But that is the life of Teresa Smithson, who completed her entire Geospatial Surveying Engineering master’s degree, online, from the Kandahar Air Field in Afghanistan.

“We have had mortars directly hit our compound and shred several of the housing units, including the room of one of my surveyors,” said Smithson. “A few months ago we were all told to stay indoors because there was a ground attack against the camp and several insurgents were on the base.”

Smithson is a civilian contractor, doing land surveying in parts of Southern and Western Afghanistan, supporting military efforts to close various camps there. While her family, including 4 grandchildren, lives in Colorado, Smithson says she bunks in what looks like a 20-foot shipping container with a doorway installed on the end.

“Some of these 63-square-foot rooms are shared by two people; I have the luxury of living alone in one,” said Smithson.

Prior to her three years in Afghanistan, Smithson worked in Baghdad, Iraq for 4 years and says that you have to adjust your definition of danger to your given situation because hazards are everywhere.

“You probably drive everyday on the freeway that goes through Corpus Christi without thinking about how dangerous it is,” said Smithson. “In February, more than 200 people died on Texas highways in just 6 weeks; more than died in all of the camps in Afghanistan during that period.”

Despite all of the potential dangers, Smithson says the biggest obstacle she had in earning her degree was having enough bandwidth for internet.

“Luckily, professors provided a link to downloadable versions of lectures,” said Smithson. “I would start downloads when I went to bed and watch them when I had time.”

The time difference was also a problem since Kandahar is 10 hours ahead of Corpus Christi time. Despite these difficulties, Smithson says she chose the Conrad Blucher Institute at the Island University for its unique program.

“It is difficult finding an online geospatial program that includes the land surveying component,” said Smithson. “Most of the programs are only geographic information systems and remote sensing, but the Texas A&M-Corpus Christi’s program had the land surveying component I was looking for.”

The Geospatial Surveying Engineering Master of Science at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi provides students with knowledge and skills focusing on the research, design, development, and use of technologies in geospatial surveying engineering. The program builds upon the ABET-accredited undergraduate Geographic Information Science program (GISc) and the geographic information science concentration in the Master’s in Computer Science program. The program satisfies the regional, state and national need for master’s-level graduates in geospatial systems design and surveying engineering.

The fall commencement ceremony was held at the American Bank Center on Saturday, December 21st at 10 a.m. Smithson’s name was to be on the program that day, as a graduating master’s student, but she will receive her actual diploma by mail.

(Article and photo courtesy of Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi.)
SURVEY PROJECT MANAGER RPLS - WACO OFFICE

Location: Waco, TX
The Wallace Group is committed to precision, integrity and ingenuity in providing professional solutions to our associates and clients. The Survey Manager:
- Is responsible for administering surveying activities which include oversight of manpower, technical resources, and client communications for multiple projects, including boundary, topo, route, and design surveys and construction staking.
- Play a key role in business development

Requirements:
- 5 years’ experience as a supervising RPLS.
- Proficient in AutoCAD, GPS, and Robotics.
- R.P.L.S. registration in TX.
- Must possess excellent communication, diplomacy and listening skills; specifically, be accessible and responsive to the needs of clients and associates.

We offer an excellent compensation package. Email resumes to info@wallace-group.com or fax to 979-849-4689.

SURVEY PROJECT MANAGER RPLS

Location: Houston, TX; San Antonio, TX
T. Baker Smith is committed to precision, integrity and ingenuity in providing professional solutions to our associates and clients. We are searching for a Survey Project Manager. The Survey Project Manager will:
- Coordinate with clients
- Establish budgets and prepare proposals
- Coordinate and supervise field operations
- Post process field work in data collection and GPS formats
- Preparation of reports, metes and bounds and drawings
- QA/QC of survey work performed
- Certify work performed and assume legal responsibility
- Active in business development to secure future projects

Duties include but not limited to the following:
- Coordination with clients
- Establish budgets and prepare proposals
- Coordinate and supervise field operations
- Post process field work in data collection and GPS formats

Requirements:
- 5 years’ experience with knowledge of Oil/Gas exploration and Pipeline.
- Proficient in AutoCAD, and GIS.
- R.P.L.S. registration in TX or ability to become registered within 1 year.
- Must possess excellent communication, diplomacy and listening skills; specifically, be accessible and responsive to the needs of clients and associates.

We offer an excellent compensation package including base salary, profit sharing, 100’s match 401k, education reimbursement and health benefits. For more information about this position and T. Baker Smith please go to our website:
www.tbsmith.com

MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

RRC Surveying, LLC has openings in its Hobbs, NM and Midland, Texas offices and offers competitive salary, bonuses, comprehensive medical insurance, 401K. Applicants must be self-motivated, pass background/drug screen and have clean driving record.

R.P.L.S.: Ideal applicants must be licensed in New Mexico and will have 3 to 4 years’ experience supervising oil & gas, topographic, boundary and A.L.T.A. surveys. Construction staking experience preferred. Working knowledge of Topcon/Trimble GPS survey equipment, Survey Pro and Traverse PC and Carlson Survey preferred. Some travel may be required.

Survey Crew Chief: (Hobbs & Midland Offices) Ideal applicants will have 2 to 3 years’ experience, as a survey crew chief, conducting oil & gas, topographic and boundary surveys. Construction staking experience preferred. Working knowledge of Topcon/Trimble GPS survey equipment and Survey Pro/Trimble Access software preferred. Some travel may be required.

Rodman/Instrument Operators: (Hobbs & Midland Offices) Ideal applicants will have 1 to 3 years’ experience with Autocad drafting oil & gas, topographic and boundary surveys. Topcon/Trimble experience preferred. Some travel may be required.

Draftsman: (Midland Office) Ideal applicants will have 2 to 3 years’ experience with Traverse PC and Carlson Survey preferred. Some travel may be required.

Send resume to Surveying-Jobs@RRCcompanies.com or fax to: (512) 251-2518.

HOUSTON BUSINESS FOR SALE

HOUSTON BUSINESS FOR SALE - Action Surveying (Firm no. 10133600) with 30 years of established records. Web Site, Yellow Pages. Repeat and referred client base. Owner assisted transition.

Make Offer 713-941-8600

MULTIPLE POSITIONS - DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL

The Dawson Geomatics Department, which includes GIS, Mapping, Surveying, and Navigation components is expanding its staff to more adequately cover all of its responsibilities and has openings in all of its departments. In particular, we are currently searching for staff to fill the following positions:

1. Director of Remote Sensing Services – Manage and grow a remote sensing service primarily for our oil and gas clients, This would include developing staff competencies in aerial mapping, LiDAR, satellite imagery, etc.

(See CLASSIFIED ADS, page 29)
2. Technical Support Specialist – Troubleshoot, maintain and upgrade all GPS/GNSS hardware and software. Must be familiar with common survey and mapping hardware and software provided by the major manufacturers.

3. Seismic Survey QC Technicians – Survey Technicians preferably with seismic QC experience. Should be familiar with GPS seismic software and related mapping, performing QC checks, dealing with clients and client reps, as well as field crews.

4. TigerNav Stakeless Survey Technicians – Survey Technicians preferably with seismic survey experience who are capable of maintaining the GPS/GNSS equipment and operating base stations and repeaters for the TigerNav Stakeless survey system. Must be capable of dealing with recording crews, clients and client representatives.

5. Survey Crew Managers – Preferably with an Associate’s Degree in surveying and seismic experience and familiarity with GPS seismic software as well as Leica or Trimble GPS/GNSS. Must be capable of dealing with recording crews, clients and client representatives as well as field crews.

6. Assistant Survey Crew Managers – Preferably with some survey training and seismic experience and familiarity with GPS seismic software as well as Leica or Trimble GPS/GNSS.

7. Field Mapping Technicians – Preferably with a good knowledge of ARC GIS, Map Info and/or other mapping software, and seismic experience.

Dawson Geophysical is based in Midland Texas with staff that operate throughout the United States. Dawson has an excellent benefits package including 401(k), Health Insurance, Dental, Life, etc.

If interested in applying to Dawson Geophysical, please reply with a current resume and an indication of which position or positions you are considering to: DawsonSurvey@dawson3d.com

MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE - Corpus Christi, Texas

Urban Engineering, a Corpus Christi based firm, is seeking experienced land surveyors at all positions; for projects in Corpus Christi and surrounding areas.

Projects include Boundary, Topographic, and Construction Staking. Some travel and weekends may be required.

Urban Engineering offers a competitive compensation package and benefits including Medical/Dental/Vision/Life/401K and paid time off.

All offers of employment are contingent upon the prospective employee passing a background/drug screen, which will include the candidates driving record.

Please send all resumes and correspondence to jolenep@urbaneng.com.

RPLS - Dallas, Texas

Registered Surveyor – Dallas
Westwood Professional Services, Inc.

Westwood Professional Services, Inc. a leader in energy and land development, is seeking a fulltime Registered Surveyor to be based in our Dallas operation. Our Dallas operation has just relocated to Plano, Texas.

The position includes:

- Managing land surveying work on Solar, Wind, Transmission, and Land development projects.
- Candidate will work with office leader with survey proposals and producing survey bids, etc.

Qualifications:

- Position requires ten (10) plus years of land surveying.
- Must be a RLS (registered licensed surveyor).
- Experience and understanding of land or energy development business is preferred.
- Knowledge of all types of surveys, ALTA’s, Boundary, and Topo surveys along with construction staking and GPS experience.
- Must be able to adapt and perform in a fast-paced environment.

A full benefit package is available. Interested candidates should fill out the online application and at: http://www.westwoodps.com/careers/current_job_postings/

About Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood)

Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is a multi-discipline survey and engineering firm providing services for commercial and residential development, renewable energy, power delivery, and oil and gas projects. The firm was established in 1972 and serves clients across the nation from multiple U.S. offices. Westwood was recently named on The 2012 Zweig Letter Hot Firm List, which recognizes the 100 fastest-growing architecture, engineering, planning and environmental consulting firms in the United States and Canada.

RPLS PROJECT MANAGER

We are currently seeking a Texas Registered Professional Land Surveyor for a Project Manager position to work out of the El Paso, TX office. This position will manage survey projects throughout West Texas and travel is required. This position requires a minimum of 5 years managing multiple survey projects with experience in Boundary, Topographic, Oil & Gas, Route & Design and Construction Staking. The ideal candidate will have excellent written/verbal communication skills, able to communicate with clients, provide mentoring to staff and guide production activities. Candidate should have experience implementing QC/QA procedures for field data and deliverables, safety and survey ethics programs, and provide business development support. Experience with mobile mapping systems such as ground-based laser scanning is a plus.

If interested, please e-mail resume, references, and salary expectations to igrajeda@fxsa.com.

FOR SALE

SMALL PANHANDLE SURVEYING FIRM

Owner wanting to retire, will assist with transition 25 Years of records, with loyal clientele Boundary and Title survey orientated 806 665-0862 Email gelamb@sbcglobal.net

SURVEY CAD TECHNICIAN - INSTRUMENT OPERATOR

BASELINE CORPORATION, a professional land surveying firm with offices in Houston, Richardson, and College Station, Texas is currently accepting applications from qualified, organized and detail oriented personnel for the following positions:

Houston, TBPLS Firm No. 10030200 (Headquarters)

Survey CAD Technician –
A minimum of five (5) years of experience using MicroStation to develop Topographic Design Surveys, Digital Terrain Models and Right-of-Way Maps. GEOPAK, AutoCAD and Carlson Survey experience will be a plus.
Instrument Operator –
A minimum of three (3) years of experience as an instrument operator on a survey field crew using modern total stations, data collectors and RTK GPS. Experience using Leica equipment will be a plus.

Baseline Corporation offers a competitive benefit and compensation package, which includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, long term disability plans, 401k match and ESOP.

Email resumes to sew@baselinesurveyors.net

TEXAS RPLS – Brazoria County, Texas

Damian & Associates, Inc. (www.damianassociates.net) located in Freeport, Texas is currently seeking a qualified RPLS licensed in the state of Texas. Licensed in the state of Colorado a plus but not necessary. Qualified candidates experience includes but not limited to:

- Project Scheduling, Coordination and Management
- Quality Assurance and Control Procedures
- Site Development
- Client Camaraderie
- Business Development Support
- Boundary and Topographic Surveys
- Residential, Commercial and Industrial Complexes
- Oil and Gas Facilities
- Rights of Ways
- Pipelines
- Utilities

Competitive salary and benefit packages available. Candidates can e-mail resumes to pdamian@damianassociates.net. Damian & Associates, Inc. 1512 North Avenue J, Freeport, Texas 77541 is proud to be an EEO/AA employer.

SURVEYOR EXPERT WITH GPS

Tropical Contracting is looking for a Surveyor expert with GPS in San Antonio, $25 per hour. Please call 210-224-7920 for Patty or Charlie Winters.

SURVEY PROJECT MANAGER - Dallas, Texas

CRIADO & Associates, Inc. is seeking a Survey Project Manager for our Dallas office at 4141 Blue Lake Circle, Suite 133, Dallas, TX 75244. www.criadoassociates.com

Our practice focuses on a range of civil engineering, surveying and subsurface utility engineering services for a variety of projects including survey mapping, survey for design, transportation engineering, rail, water/wastewater, and utility design.

Responsibilities:

- Assisting Survey Department Manager in contract negotiations and proposal preparation
- Client coordination
- Direct supervision of research, computation of field work, and drafting
- Stamping and signing surveys done under his or her direct supervision

Basic Qualifications:

- College graduate, college credits, or equivalent
- Licensed surveyor
- Six or more years of experience, including supervisory experience
- Proficiency in Microstation
- Proficiency in Geopak
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- TxDOT precertifications a plus
- GPS and GIS experience a plus

Fax resumes to 972-392-9192.

PARTY CHIEFS / I-MEN / RODMEN

Doyle & Wachtstetter, Inc. is a land surveying and mapping company located in Brazoria County, Clute, Lake Jackson area. We are looking for experienced Party Chiefs, I-Men & Rodman. Excellent benefits, job training and advancement opportunities.

Email resume to ldoyle@dwsurveyor.com or fax to 979.265.9940

SURVEYING POSITIONS AVAILABLE - Brenham, Texas

Lampe Surveying, Inc, headquartered in Brenham for 40 years is seeking motivated professionals for the following positions:

Texas RPLS, SITs and Survey and Field Technicians. Must be proficient in AutoCAD. Knowledge of office and field procedures, GPS/Trimble, computer operations and applications required. Oil and Gas experience a plus.

Excellent opportunity for the right candidate(s).

Competitive pay, health insurance, paid vacation/holidays.

Inquiries kept confidential. Texas Licensed Surveying Firm No. 10040700
Submit resumes to: lampesurveying@sbcglobal.net

SURVEY PARTY CHIEF

West Texas firm looking for:

Survey Party Chief

Duties include ability to manage and perform field construction surveys with assistance or independently as needed.

Candidates must have a proficient knowledge of survey methodologies, total stations and GPS equipment, valid driver’s license and clear driver’s abstract.

Please direct all inquires to phaworth@ctsinspection.com

SENIOR PARTY CHIEF - INSTRUMENT PERSON - CAD TECHNICIAN

Town and Country Surveyors located in the Woodlands TX, is accepting applications for the following positions:

Experienced Senior Party Chief

Instrument Person

CAD Technician (Must have experience in Civil 3C)

Town and Country Surveyors does all types of surveying work, mostly in the Harris (Houston) and Montgomery areas. Out of town work may be required.

Contact:
David Strauss
david@tcsurveying.com
281-465-8730

(See CLASSIFIED ADS, page 31)
LAND SURVEYING PARTY CHIEF - Austin and Houston

We are currently seeking a Land Surveying Party Chief. Minimum qualifications for this position include HS Diploma or GED equivalent, valid driver’s license; a minimum of 3 years’ experience in a similar role; proficient with TDS data collection software, Leica Robotic Total station and Leica RTK GPS.

Interested candidates who would like to be considered for this position must submit their resume online at http://www.pape-dawson.com/careers/careers.php. Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc. is an AA/EEO Employer.

LAND SURVEY TECHNICIAN - Austin

We are seeking a Land Survey Technician with a minimum of 4 years’ experience in a similar role. Responsibilities include researching records, preparing working sketches using Civil 3D, processing field data using TDS software and Leica Office as well as the ability to prepare metes and bounds descriptions and Civil Engineering support surveys.

Interested candidates who would like to be considered for this position must submit their resume online at http://www.pape-dawson.com/careers/careers.php. Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc. is an AA/EEO Employer.

TEXAS RPLS - San Antonio

We are currently seeking a Texas Registered Professional Land Surveyor with a minimum of 3 years’ experience in a similar role. Responsibilities include supervising, coordinating and reviewing the activities of field and office staff; supervising the preparation and completion of survey deliverables; and working closely with engineering staff and clients. Qualifications for this position include strong project management skills; team player; strong research, analytical, problem-solving skills; writing and communication skills; and experience with ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys, TSPS Category 1A Land Title Surveys, topographic surveys for design and construction staking. TxDOT experience as well as experience using AutoCAD and Leica Geo Office is preferred, Microstation experience a plus.

Interested candidates who would like to be considered for this position must submit their resume online at http://www.pape-dawson.com/careers/careers.php. Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc. is an AA/EEO Employer.

PIPELINE SURVEY DATA TECHNICIAN WANTED

Pipeline Survey Data Technician Wanted: Duties include preparing detailed drawings and exhibits from sketches, point data, specifications and written and verbal instructions using AutoCAD. Require 3 years AutoCAD experience, one year of experience working with natural gas or liquid pipeline data, and proficiency in Excel. Position is based in our Beaumont, Texas site office.

Apply online at: https://www11.ultirecruit.com/SHA1007/jobboard/NewCandidateExt.aspx?__JobID=183

Shafer, Kline & Warren, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

Party Chief Wanted

Party Chief Wanted: Requirements – Minimum 3 years Party Chief experience. Trimble or Leica GPS and Robotic Instrument experience. Must have right-of-way, pipeline, construction, topo and boundary experience. Applicant must be able to pass drug test and background screening. Send resumes and references to: ccelary@paynelandsurveying.com. Pay based on experience.

SIT or Individual Going for Their SIT Wanted

SIT or Individual going for their SIT wanted: Requirements – Party Chief Experience, CAD proficient, plat preparation, metes and bounds preparation experience. This position will have both field and office aspects and provide project management opportunities. Pay based on experience. Send resumes and references to: ccelary@paynelandsurveying.com.

SURVEY MANAGER - Tulsa, OK

Our client is a leading global Pipeline Design Engineering firm. Due to their rapid growth we are seeking an experienced Survey Manager for their Tulsa, OK office. The Survey Manager will support project design efforts for pipelines and pipeline facilities. This key individual will manage the Department including, the Survey teams, Mappers, GIS and will provide sales team support for client development. Contact: Roger Malatesta PRC 302-479-9550 roger@prstaffing.com.

RPLS – Corpus Christi, Texas

Well-established surveying company, located in Corpus Christi, is seeking a Registered Professional Land Surveyor (RPLS). Position is ready to be filled immediately. For additional information and to schedule an interview, please contact our office manager, Carolyn Ferren, at 361-993-0808.

Any offer of employment will be contingent upon the employee passing a drug screen test as well as a background check on driving license.

SURVEY PARTY CHIEF

TNP has an immediate opening in our Fort Worth office for an experienced Survey Party Chief to become a part of an established and growing survey group. The position provides an excellent opportunity to perform topographic surveys, boundary surveys and construction layout/staking on a variety of public & private sector projects using the latest robotic and/or GPS equipment.

For a complete job description, requirements, compensation, and benefits, please go to our website www.tnpinc.com/careers. Please e-mail resume to humanresources@tnpinc.com or fax to (817) 336-2813, Attention: Human Resources. TNP is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

JR. SURVEY PARTY CHIEF

TNP has an immediate opening in our Fort Worth office for a Jr. Survey Party Chief to become a part of an established and growing survey group. The position provides an excellent opportunity to perform topographic surveys, boundary surveys and construction layout/staking on a variety of public & private sector projects using the latest robotic and/or GPS equipment.
CLASSIFIED ADS

For a complete job description, requirements, compensation and benefits, please go to our website at www.tnpinc.com/careers. Please e-mail resume to human-resources@tnpinc.com or fax to (817) 336-2813, Attention: Human Resources. TNP is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

SR. SURVEY TECHNICIAN

TNP has an immediate opening in our Fort Worth office for an experienced Survey Technician to become a part of an established and growing survey group responsible for survey data reduction and base mapping for design surveys, as well as the preparation of boundary surveys, plats and right-of-way documents/exhibits on a variety of private and public sector projects. This position provides an excellent opportunity to gain valuable experience on a variety of projects and to work under the supervision of a RPLS.

For a complete job description, requirements, compensation and benefits, please go to our website at www.tnpinc.com/careers. Please e-mail resume to human-resources@tnpinc.com or fax to (817) 336-2813, Attention: Human Resources. TNP is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

SURVEY TECHNICIAN

TNP has an immediate opening for an experienced Survey Technician to become a part of an established and growing survey group responsible for survey data reduction and base mapping for design surveys, as well as the preparation of boundary surveys, plats and right-of-way documents/exhibits on a variety of private and public sector projects. This position provides an excellent opportunity to gain valuable experience on a variety of projects and to work under the supervision of SITs and RPLSs.

For a complete job description, requirements, compensation and benefits, please go to our website at www.tnpinc.com/careers. Please e-mail resume to human-resources@tnpinc.com or fax to (817) 336-2813, Attention: Human Resources. TNP is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

SURVEY FIELD CREW MEMBER

TNP has an immediate opening in our Fort Worth office for a Survey Field Crew Member to become a part of an established and growing survey group. The position requires performing a variety of field surveys using robotic and/or GPS equipment as a member of a two or three person field crew.

For a complete job description, requirements, compensation and benefits, please go to our website at www.tnpinc.com/careers. Please e-mail resume to human-resources@tnpinc.com or fax to (817) 336-2813, Attention: Human Resources. TNP is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE - Houston, Texas

MERIDIAN SURVEYING & MAPPING - HOUSTON: is a multi-disciplined firm providing surveying, mapping, and GPS services on a wide variety of commercial, industrial, residential, municipal, and telecommunication projects. We are conducting a search for qualified professionals to fill multiple positions including: Party Chiefs, I-Men, Survey Techs and Draftsmen. We offer a strong benefits package which includes Medical, Dental, LT Disability, Life Insurance, Vision, 401k with matching, Tuition Reimbursement, Job Training and opportunities for advancement. If you are interested in a confidential interview please fax you resume to (512) 326-2770 or email to robbie.willis@windrosecaus.com.

SURVEY MANAGER - Houston, Texas

Our client is a leading global Pipeline Design Engineering firm. Due to their rapid growth we are seeking an experienced Survey Manager for their Houston, TX office. The Survey Manager will support project design efforts for pipelines and pipeline facilities. This key individual will manage the Department including, the Survey teams, Mappers, GIS and will provide sales team support for client development. Contact: Roger Malatesta PRC 302-479-9550 roger@prestaffing.com.

MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Frontier Surveying Company is actively searching for highly qualified career minded candidates for positions in Corpus Christi, Fort Worth, and Midland:

- RPLS / Senior Project Manager – Midland
- RPLS / Project Manager – Fort Worth and Corpus Christi
- Surveyor In Training (SIT)
- Survey CAD Tech with surveying experience. Pipeline, and ROW experience a plus
- Party Chief, Pipeline experience a plus
- Instrument Man

Requires travel throughout Texas at times. Go to www.frontiersurveying.com to apply.

FIELD SURVEY SUPERVISOR (Party Chief) - Schertz, TX

Position Summary

Firmatek 3D Mapping, is seeking a Field Survey Supervisor responsible for both performing and overseeing the daily work activities of multiple field survey technicians and ensuring the successful completion of a variety of 3D mapping, data gathering and processing projects primarily in the mining and solid waste industries. Ability to travel extensively during busy seasons is a must.

Experience and Education

- Four or more years working in a supervisory role, directing the work of a group of field survey technicians.
- An in-depth knowledge of surveying references such as coordinates systems, projections, datums, geoids and state plane zones.
- At least a two year degree in surveying, GIS, geomatics or related field of study.
- Experience in 3D CAD deliverables and 3D feature extraction from point clouds, surface models and digital terrain models.

Send resumes to admin@firmatek3d.com or fax to 210.651.4331.

FIELD SURVEY TECHNICIAN - Schertz, Texas

Firmatek 3D Mapping, is seeking a Field Survey Technician, responsible for the completion of daily work activities of a variety of 3D mapping, data gathering and processing projects primarily in the mining and solid waste industries. Ability to travel extensively during busy seasons is a must.

(See CLASSIFIED ADS, page 33)
Experience and Education

- A basic knowledge of surveying references such as coordinates, systems, projections, datums, geoids and state plane zones.
- At least a two year degree in surveying, GIS, geomatics or related field of study.

Send resumes to admin@firmatek.com or fax to 210.651.4331.

SURVEY CREW CHIEF

Required Qualifications
- HS Diploma or GED Equivalent
- Valid Driver’s License
- Clean Driving Record
- Subject to Random Drug Testing

Desired Qualifications
- Surveyor-in-training certification preferred but not required.
- Highly skilled field surveyor (minimum two years crew leader experience)
- Proficient in the use of Total Station and TDS data collection software
- Proficient in the use of Trimble RTK Global Positioning systems

Responsibilities
- Under the direct supervision of a RPLS, a crew leader must be able to accomplish all field procedures of any survey project including boundary surveys, improvement surveys, ALTA surveys, topographic surveys, well location plats, and right of way surveys. Duties may include but are not limited to:
  - Perform all field work necessary to collect on the ground evidence
  - Perform Boundary analysis
  - Supervision of Instrument Man and Rod Man

Please forward all resumes to kmitchell@urbansurveying.com
This is not a per diem job listing, pay is competitive and benefits are offered.

PARTY CHIEF – SNYDER, TEXAS

Baker-Aicklen & Associates, Inc. is a premier Surveying, Civil Engineering, GIS, Landscape Architecture, and Construction Management firm with over 30 years of experience in the Central Texas area. We are looking for a Party Chief with experience in topographic, boundary and pipeline surveys.

Send resumes to ltanner@baker-aicklen.com or fax to 512.244.9623

Excellent benefits and competitive salary. EOE

PARTY CHIEF - INSTRUMENT MAN

Crossway Surveying, Inc. is a surveying business based in Fort Worth, Texas that performs oil and gas, topographic, and boundary surveying and mapping.

We are currently hiring the following personnel:

Party Chief
- Qualified candidate will have a minimum of one years’ experience in pipeline surveying. The candidate must be proficient with Trimble GPS and data collectors, conventional total stations, and magnetic pipeline location equipment, as well as safe work procedures. Travel is required.

Instrument Man
- Qualified candidate will have a minimum of 1 year experience using GPS and be proficient using conventional total stations and data collectors. Oil and gas experience and travel are required. There will be an opportunity to work into a party chief position.

Crossway offers competitive pay, benefits, and bonuses.

Inquiries will be kept confidential. We appreciate all submittals; however, only those chosen for an interview will be contacted. Please email your resume and references to careers@crossway-si.com.

TEXAS RPLS and SURVEY CREW CHIEF

Farnsworth Group, Inc. is seeking a Texas RPLS and a Survey Crew Chief to join our team in Dallas, TX. Qualified RPLS candidates will serve as a project surveyor combining office and field work. Qualified Crew Chief candidates will perform such tasks as boundary, topographic, and pipeline surveys as well as construction layouts; 80% travel required.

Farnsworth Group offers a competitive compensation and benefits package. If interested in learning more please visit our company website, www.f-w.com and click on the career link!

Farnsworth Group, Inc. is proud to be an EEO/AA Employer M/F/D/V.

SURVEY TECHNICIAN / SIT – Houston, Texas

Tri-Tech Surveying Company’s affiliate company, Global Surveyors, Inc. has an immediate opening for an experienced Survey Technician or SIT in our Houston office.

Position requirements:
- Surveyor-In-Training certification preferred
- Strong working understanding of construction calculations and boundary analysis
- Familiar with ALTA/ACSM Land Title Surveys and Category 1A Surveys
- Must be proficient in AutoCad
- Experience in Land Desktop a plus

Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Pre-employment requirements include negative drug screening and a successful motor vehicle record.

Excellent benefits package.

Qualified candidates email resume to hrmanager@tritechtx.com or apply online www.surveyingcompany.com. EOE.

SURVEY PARTY CHIEF

CUNNINGHAM-ALLEN, INC., Austin, is currently seeking to hire a Survey Party Chief. Prefer applicants with a minimum of 2 years experience as a Party Chief and a minimum of 5 years experience in the field participating in Topo/Tree, ALTA’s, Boundary, Construction Staking, and surveys for engineering design. Trimble equipment experience is a plus.

To apply, visit our website www.cunningham-allen.com/careers, indicate which position you are applying for, and follow the instructions on the Careers page for submitting your resume and a cover letter describing your availability, interest, and qualifications for the position. CA offers competitive compensation and a complete benefits package.

(See CLASSIFIED ADS, page 34)
LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR / PROJECT SURVEYOR

Join the 2013 Texas Builder of the Year!

ESE Consultants, a Toll Brothers, Inc. company, is seeking a Licensed Land Surveyor / Project Surveyor to be part of our team in Austin, Texas.

The Land Surveyor will direct all field and office activities, including scheduling, plan preparation, construction stakeout, support of conveyance and legal departments including property descriptions, as-built surveys, topographical surveys, and field surveying.

The ideal candidate will be a surveyor licensed in the state of Texas, with a successful history of managing survey parties, experience working as a one-person crew, knowledge of AutoCAD Land Desktop, Leica instruments and software, Carlson civil software, Microsoft Windows and Office software, and other related surveying software.

This is an exceptional opportunity to join one of the nation’s most respected companies!

Qualifications:
We currently have 60 Land Surveyors in 11 offices from North Carolina to Massachusetts, and as far west as Chicago, Illinois. We are looking to start a new office in Austin, Texas. We will need someone who can wear several hats:

• A field surveyor capable of working efficiently to complete the aforementioned field tasks
• An accomplished CAD drafter/civil designer who can create and publish all types of survey maps, including creating individual plot/permit plans
• A professional capable of representing ESE Consultants and Toll Brothers

We offer an excellent compensation and benefits package, including comprehensive medical/dental, 401(k) with a company match, discounted stock purchase, discounts on mortgages, homes, appliances, and much more!

Come see why ESE Consultants has been attracting and retaining some of the best professionals in the industry!

Please e-mail your resume to Jobs@TollCareerCenter.com today!

TEXAS RPLS – Houston, Midland and Richardson, TX

Texas RPLS – Houston, Midland and Richardson, TX

Halff Associates has an immediate opening for several Texas Registered Professional Land Surveyors.

Requirements:

• Bachelor degree
• RPLS registered in Texas
• Applicants should have 2+ years’ experience as an RPLS on boundary, improvement, TxDOT, survey for design, platting, and/or oil & gas projects
• Must have excellent research, analytical, problem-solving, writing, and communication skills
• Experience with Microstation, Geopak, Trimble Business Center, and Leica Geo Office is preferred

About Halff:
Halff Associates fosters a work environment that allows for professional and personal growth. We offer excellent benefits including medical, dental, prescription, life, long-term disability insurance, as well as a 401k and ESOP plans, 529 College Savings Plan, Flexible Spending, and Employee Assistance Plans. Competitive salary commensurate with experience. Halff Associates is an Equal Opportunity employer.

Our survey teams are growing. Visit our website to view all open positions and to apply at www.halff.com.

MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Frank Surveying Co., Inc. with offices in Columbus and Fort Worth, Tx is actively seeking qualified personnel for projects throughout Texas including:

Field Staff
Party Chief
Instrument Person
Rodman

Office Staff
RPLS/SIT
Project Managers
CAD Technicians
Pipeline Technicians (Blue Sky/Skyline Experience preferred)

OUR PEOPLE work on some of the most high profile and challenging projects around Texas. Working at FSCI provides you the opportunity to team together with a diverse workforce of professionals, many of whom are at the top of their fields. The employees at FSCI truly exemplify how an organization is as great as the people they hire.

Our success depends on attracting the best talent and continuously striving to improve what we do and how we do it. We are dedicated to providing our people with the support they need to do outstanding work. We have a competitive benefits programs and job training programs.

Send resumes to hr@franksurveying.com or fax (979) 732-5271
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More for your money. A LOT more.


Our Leica Geosystems GS14 GNSS receiver is a perfect example of our commitment to product innovation and advancement. The new GS14 harnesses the power of the most advanced modem/radio technologies and provide even more functionality. Best of all? While the new GS14 is better than ever, it’s still available at the same great price.

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Local presence ■ National reach ■ Global resources
**Nikon Nivo C Series**

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- High-quality Nikon optics
- Intuitive, powerful software
- Fast accurate EDM
- Prism and reflectorless measurements
- Cable-free Bluetooth®
- Easy-to-use keypad
- Hot swappable batteries
- Compact, rugged, and lightweight

**Nikon Nivo M Series**

**FEATURES**
- 1", 2", 3" and 5" angle accuracy
- High-quality Nikon optics
- Intuitive, powerful software
- Fast accurate EDM
- Prism and reflectorless measurements
- Cable-free Bluetooth®
- Easy-to-use keypad
- Hot swappable batteries
- Compact, rugged, and lightweight

**Nikon NPL/DTM Series**

**Nikon DTM 322**

**FEATURES**
- 3" (dual display) or 5" (single display) accuracies available
- Convenient long-life rechargeable "AA" batteries
- Rugged and lightweight
- Nikon legendary optics

**Nikon NPL-322**

**FEATURES**
- 2" (dual display) or 5" (single display) accuracies available
- 650 ft reflectorless range
- Rechargeable, removeable Li-Ion battery
- 11 hours continuous operating time
- Laser Pointer

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