**DEFENCE SURVEYORS’ ASSOCIATION (DSA) AIMS AND OBJECTIVES v5**

**The DSA**

The DSA comprises members from the defence, industry, academe and private sectors who have a collective interest in defence surveying, mapping, charting and geospatial intelligence[[1]](#footnote-1).

The common thread is the application of science and art to the use of geospatial intelligence for defence purposes.

**Aims**

The aims of the DSA are to promote the understanding and appreciation of defence surveying, mapping, charting and geospatial intelligence in historical, current and future contexts and to keep past and current members of that community, and others so interested, in touch with one another.

**Objectives**

The objectives of the DSA are to:

* Promote the sharing of knowledge of current and past achievements, future development and potential opportunities in the areas of defence surveying, mapping, charting and geospatial intelligence.
* Recognise and reward excellence and achievement in the DSA’s areas of interest within the armed forces and related institutions by the awarding of prizes.
* Support events to encourage socialising and networking amongst those interested in the geospatial intelligence realm.
* Support activities to document and preserve defence surveying, mapping, charting and geospatial intelligence heritage.

**Membership**

Membership is open to those who are involved in, or have an interest in, defence surveying, mapping, charting and geospatial intelligence.

**Benefits**

Benefits of membership include:

* Information and education on what is happening in the Defence Geospatial Intelligence domain.
* Access to seminars on historical, current and the future topics related to the interests of the DSA.
* Access to the DSA’s publications and other material on defence surveying, mapping, charting and geospatial intelligence.
* Documentation on the heritage of defence surveying, mapping, charting and geospatial intelligence.
* Interaction with members at DSA professional and social events.

Chris Nash and James Prain 11 Mar 15

Mike Nolan and James Prain 11 Nov 17

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION (FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS ONLY)**

**MOD Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) Definition**

The definition below comes from the current MOD policy paper “The Single GEOINT Battlespace (SGB)” issued by the Defence Authority for C4ISR Joint User on 28 Jan 13 having been endorsed by CDI (3\*).

JDP2-00 defines GEOINT as: *Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) is the spatially and temporally referenced intelligence derived from the exploitation and analysis of imagery intelligence and geospatial information to establish patterns or to aggregate and extract additional intelligence*.

In the context of the SGB, GEOINT is an all-encompassing term covering Foundation and Services:

a. Foundation GEOINT. Foundation GEOINT provides imagery [1] and geospatial information [2]

b. Services. Services are delivered through imagery intelligence (IMINT) [3] and geospatial analysis [4]

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[1] Imagery is a raw material derived from sensors whose output is primarily designed to be presented in a visual form. It encompasses hand held, airborne, seaborne and space imaging and covers the entire electro-magnetic spectrum.

[2] Geospatial information covers geographic, hydrographic, oceanographic, aeronautical and meteorological and other disciplines.

[3] IMINT is defined as ‘derived from imagery acquired by sensors that can be ground based, sea borne or carried by air or space platforms’ (JDP2-003rd Edition). The information conveyed by an image or textural report can corroborate intelligence derived from other sources. It may also be used in its own right, for example to support targeting or to map patterns of behaviour. IMINT is an independent intelligence support function in its own right, but is a subset of GEOINT.

[4] Geospatial Analysis is the exploitation of geospatial information and imagery to describe, assess, analyse and visually depict the impact of physical features and other geographically referenced objects on Defence planning, execution and operations. For example, the production of route analysis to support troop movements through hostile environments.

The Specialist GEOINT Centres (SGC) are the Defence Maritime GEOINT Centre (DMGIC) within UKHO, the Defence Section within MetO, the Defence Geographic Centre\* (DGC), the Aeronautical Information and Documents Unit\* (AIDU), elements of the Defence Intelligence Fusion Centre\* (DIFC), Joint Operational Meteorological and Oceanographic Centre (JOMOC) and 42 Engr Regt (Geo)\*.

Unit marked \* are part of the Joint Forces Intelligence Group (JFIG)

**Alternative GEOINT Definition**

*Geospatial Intelligence is actionable knowledge, a process, and a profession. It is the ability to describe, understand, and interpret so as to anticipate the human impact of an event or action within a spatiotemporal environment. It is also the ability to identify, collect, store, and manipulate data to create geospatial knowledge through critical thinking, geospatial reasoning, and analytical techniques. Finally, it is the ability to ethically collect, develop, and present knowledge in a way that is appropriate to the decision-making environment.*

1. The DSA embraces the term Geospatial Intelligence as defined by the MOD [↑](#footnote-ref-1)