

Fugro and Forsite develop an exclusive partnership agreement for new vegetation analysis solution for North American power utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fugro has launched an advanced vegetation analysis solution for the North American power utility market to help clients better mitigate tree-related hazards. The Geo-data solution is powered by Tree Species Identifier (TSI), a specialised software made available to Fugro under an exclusive partnership agreement with integrated forest management company Forsite Consultants Ltd.

TSI leverages Fugro's remote sensing data with machine learning technology to rapidly and accurately catalogue the vegetation assets surrounding key infrastructure. From this inventory, individual tree metrics can be provided to help clients understand not only the geolocation and composition of mapped assets, but also information about their health. The latter is critically important for utility clients given a steady uptick in tree disease and mortality due to an increased prevalence of severe storms, sustained droughts and high temperatures resulting from climate change.

"Forsite bridges the worlds of traditional forestry and innovative data driven forest inventories. We're forest management specialists and bring our deep understanding of operational and strategic vegetation management to the vegetation management process. Leveraging LiDAR, satellite data, and our proprietary machine learning technology, Forsite is uniquely positioned to help partners and clients use individual tree metrics to understand the composition, health, and geolocation of their vegetation asset base.

Forsite and Fugro have partnered on vegetation management projects for the past four years, creating and cataloging green assets based on each tree's risk & hazard profile. These analyses provide the foundation for comprehensive risk assessment as well as projecting growth by species into the future; highlighting "fast-growers" that will become issues in subsequent maintenance cycles and allowing clients to proactively plan mitigation efforts. I look forward to working even more closely with the Fugro North America team to maximize this value for our customers." – Mike Parlow, Team Lead – Remote Sensing Inventories

Blaine Thibodeaux, Fugro's Director of Land Asset Integrity for the Americas region, stated: "It is estimated that up to 60 % of all power outages in the US are caused by trees, so understanding geospatially what areas of vegetation are considered fast growing and what areas are dead or dying is essential information for our clients to have. We are pleased to be partnering with Forsite on our new advanced vegetation analysis solution, and look forward to using it to help our clients ensure safe, reliable and affordable delivery of power to their customers."

ABOUT FUGRO

Fugro is the world's leading Geo-data specialist, collecting and analysing comprehensive information about the Earth and the structures built upon it. Adopting an integrated approach that incorporates acquisition and analysis of Geo-data and related advice, Fugro provides solutions. With expertise in site characterisation and asset integrity, clients are supported in the safe, sustainable and efficient design, construction and operation of their assets throughout the full life cycle.

Employing approximately 9000 talented people in 61 countries, Fugro serves clients around the globe, predominantly in the energy and infrastructure industries, both offshore and onshore. In 2020, revenue amounted to EUR 1.4 billion. Fugro is listed on Euronext Amsterdam.

ABOUT FORSITE CONSULTANTS LTD.

Forsite Consultants Ltd. is an integrated forest management company providing value to our clients through innovative, sustainable, and operationally realistic services. We focus on understanding what matters to our clients and their business and then supporting them in success – from strategic analysis to program implementation to field services. We employ a staff of over 150 employees across all facets of the Forestry Management Sector, maintaining 10 office locations in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Ontario. The Resource Management & Technology (RMT) group within Forsite Consultants focuses on technological innovation and creative solutions to vegetation management requirements across industries.

