



www.csiro.au

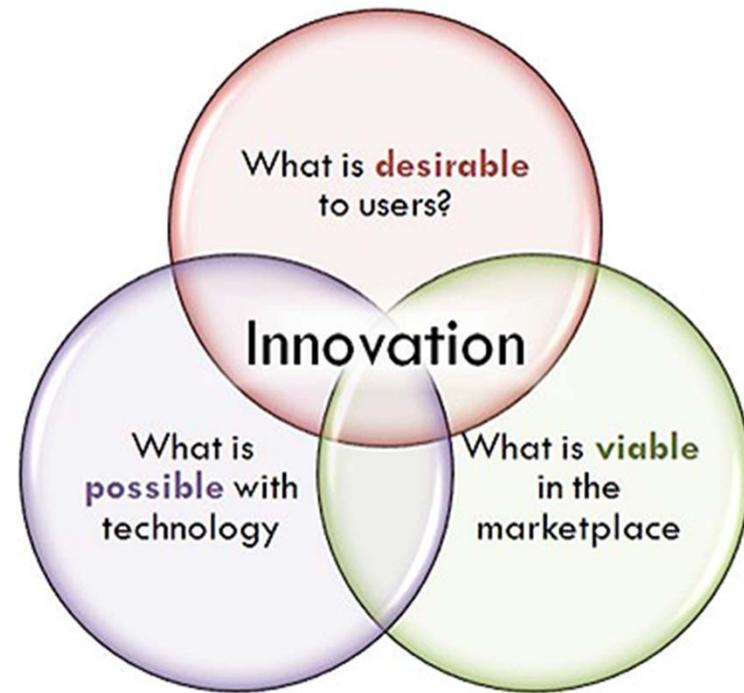
# Lessons Learnt in Transferring Technologies to Industry

Dr Alex Zelinsky  
Group Executive, Information Sciences  
30 September 2011



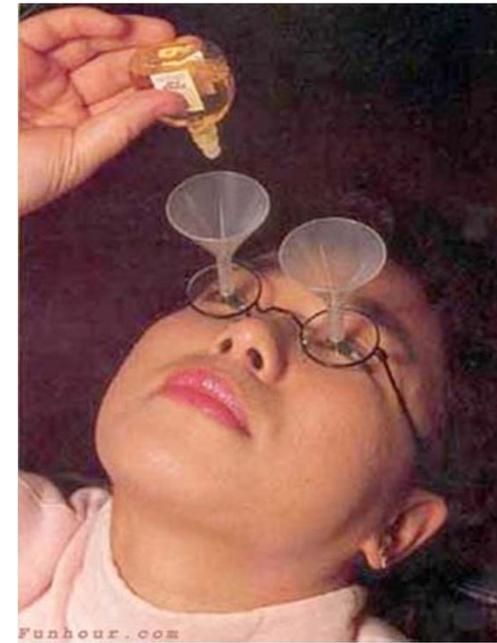
# Making Innovation Happen

“Innovation turns ideas into successes”



Ideas - inventions and scientific discoveries  
successes - creating beneficial or commercial value

# Making Innovation Happen



Addressing an unmet need that creates value

# Seeing Machines – a personal perspective

Research started at ANU in 1996.

Project funded by Volvo in 1998.

Commercial spin-off from ANU July 2000

Listed London Stock Exchange December 2005

Outputs:

- Science: 8+ Research Papers
- Demonstrator: Instrumented Vehicle
- Patent for “Facial Image Processing System”
  - Provisional Filed July 2000
  - US Patent 7043056 Granted May 2006



Outcomes

- Technology Adoption:
  - Spin-off company with market capital value of \$10m
- Impact beyond ANU
  - Company profitable with market capital value of about \$40m
  - Licensing deals to lap top (market size 200 million units pa)
  - New medical glaucoma diagnosis product (market size \$2b pa)
  - 400+ Google citations on original research papers

Innovation Strategy

- No real strategy was envisaged or planned. The dream was spin-off a company



# Learnt @ Seeing Machines

## THE CHALLENGE

- **Create driver fatigue and distraction product**
- **Solution.** After market technology solution focused on high value users.
- **Business Model.** Use off-the shelf technologies integrated into existing driver management systems for high end market segment – mining. Product price \$10k, instead of \$250 for automotive retail markets.

## INNOVATION STRATEGY

- Develop product with minimalist features.
- Sponsored a 3<sup>rd</sup> party study that verified the product worked and reduced accidents.
- Demonstration of product with key stakeholder – in mine Health & Safety Officers.
- Result: Significant orders from leading Mining Companies across the world, including BHP-Billiton, Rio Tinto and Vale. Sales now over 2,000 units.



# Driver Safety System



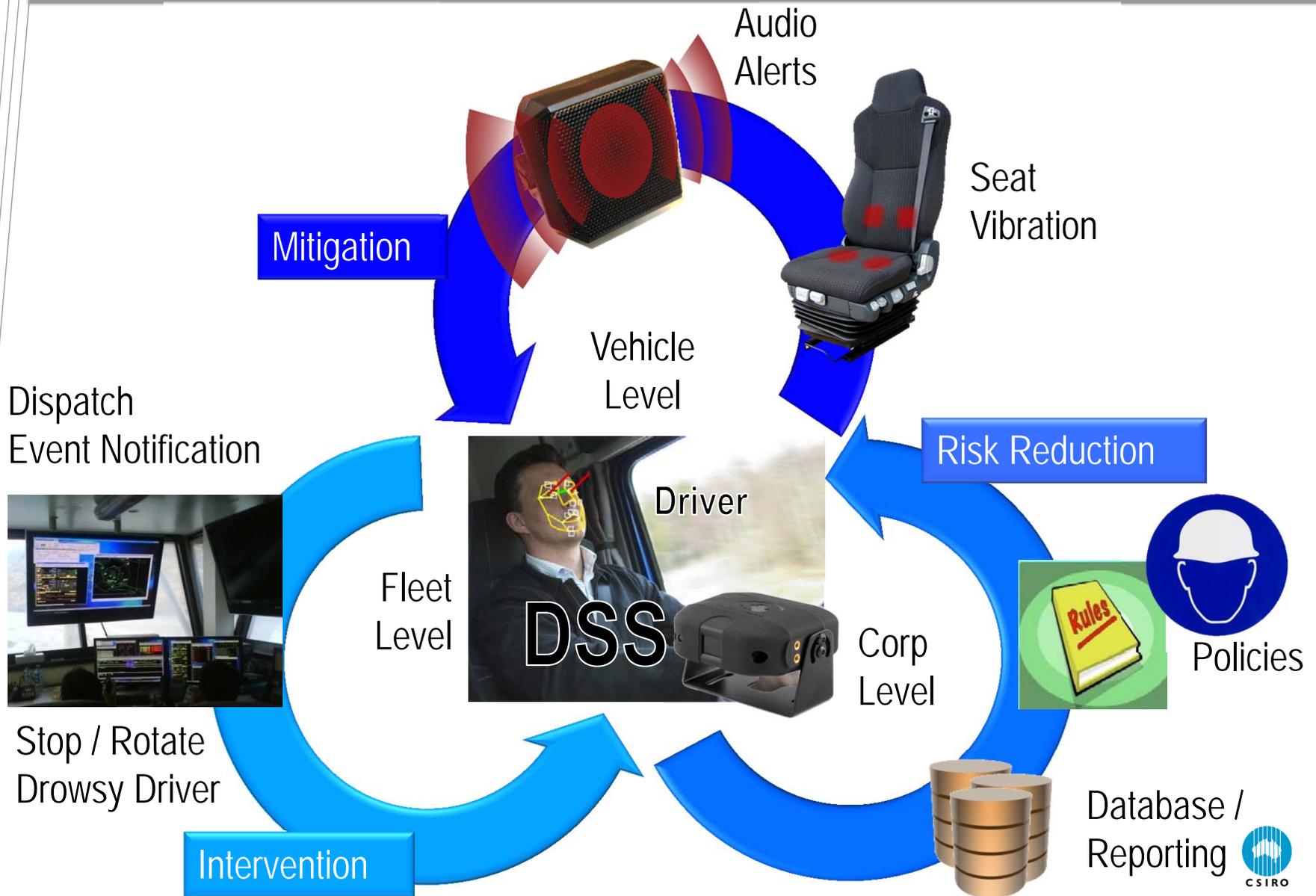
## Technology

- Camera based, non-contact, non-intrusive sensor observing the driver
- Audio & tactile feedback, GPS and back to base communications

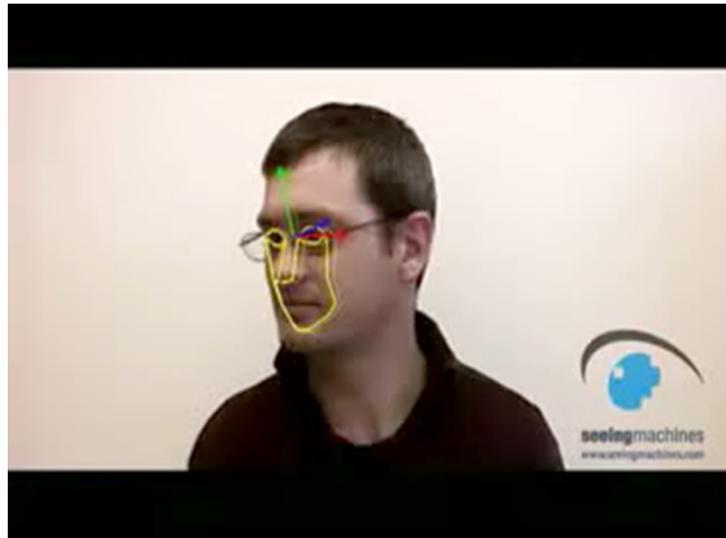
## Operation

- Fully automatic, no driver setup required
- No sensors to be attached, no interaction required
- Warnings issued to driver and fleet management system

# Integration Modes



# faceAPI – Facial Tracking Plug-in



# faceAPI – consumer products pathway

## Technology

- faceAPI ported PC laptops, ipads
- Using GPU, ARM processors

## Applications

- 3D gaming
- 3D visualisation
- Teleconferencing
- Natural Human Machine Interfaces

## Products

- August 2011, Toshiba released world's first glasses free 3D laptop. Market size +10-20m
- Plans for 3D glasses free televisions

## Technology Transfer

- faceAPI developers licence
- Non-exclusive volume based licensing



View Dependent Rendering  
from a Webcam



# faceAPI – consumer products pathway

## Technology

- faceAPI ported PC laptops, ipads
- Using GPU, ARM processors

## Applications

- 3D gaming
- 3D visualisation
- Teleconferencing
- Natural Human Machine Interfaces

## Products

- August 2011, Toshiba released world's first glasses free 3D laptop. Market size +10-20m
- Plans for 3D glasses free televisions

## Technology Transfer

- faceAPI developers licence
- Non-exclusive volume based licensing



# CSIRO and Wireless LAN

Research started at CSIRO in 1990 received targeted priority funding in 1991.

Spin-off from Macquarie University and CSIRO in Feb 1998

Radiata acquired by CISCO for \$297m 2001

CSIRO enforces IP in US courts for \$265m+ in 2009



## Outputs:

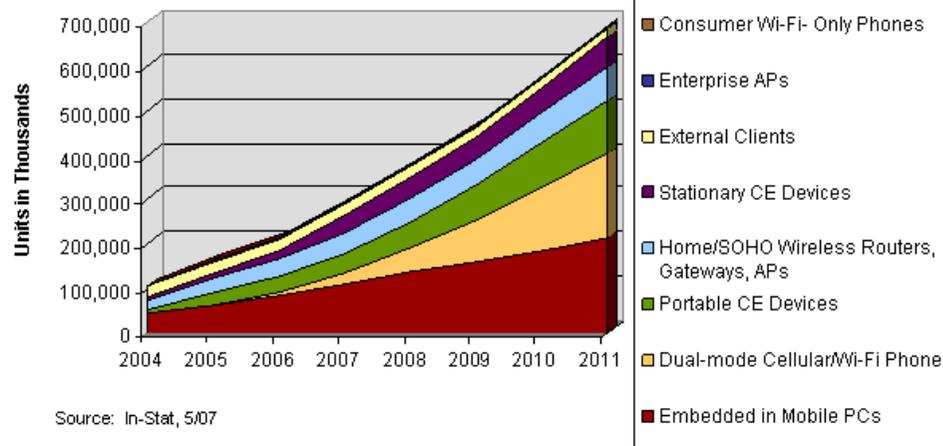
- Science: 6-10 Research Papers
- Demonstrator: Built 1996
- Patent for "Wireless LAN"
  - Provisional Filed November 1992
  - US patent 5,487,069, granted 1996

## Outcomes

- Technology Adoption:
  - Non-exclusive license to Radiata
- Impact beyond CSIRO
  - Widespread adoption of WiFi over 1B devices shipped
  - 50+ Google citations on original research papers

## Innovation Strategy

- Worked with IBM on a feasibility study on WLAN using OFDM
- IEEE 802.11a standard 1997-1999
- Tight control of IP and non-exclusive licensing model
- Working with earlier adopter - Radiata - 1st IEEE802.11a chipset
- Business strategy to legally enforce IP ownership that was resourcing for success.



# 15 years in Mining Robotics / Automation

Dragline Swing Automation



Shovel Automation



Traffic Management



LHD Automation (CAT MineGem)



Explosive Loading (ORICA)

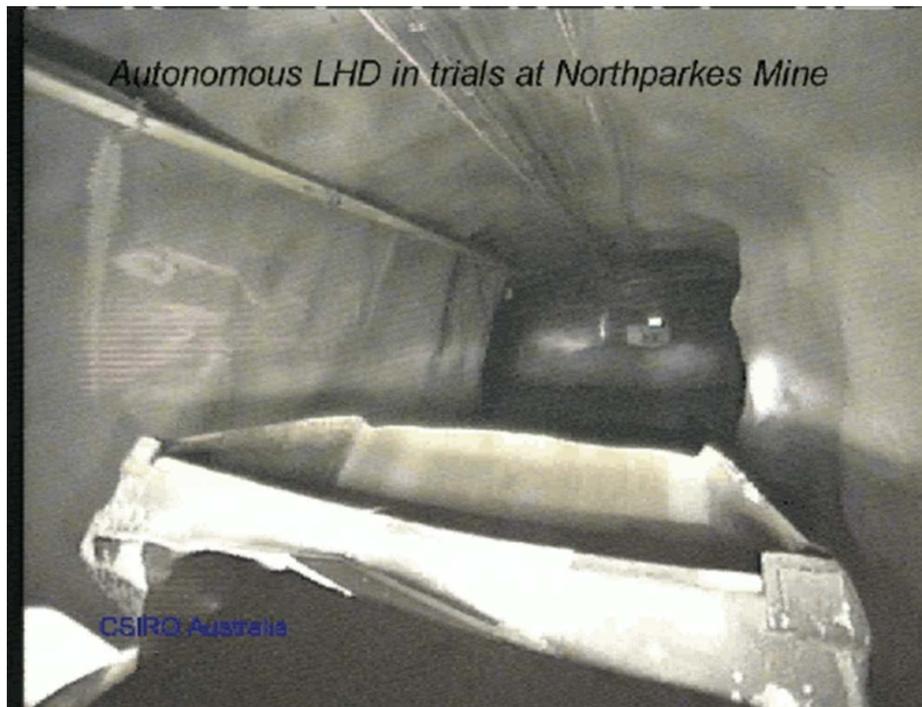


Longwall Automation



# Mining Robotics – Start with Easier tasks

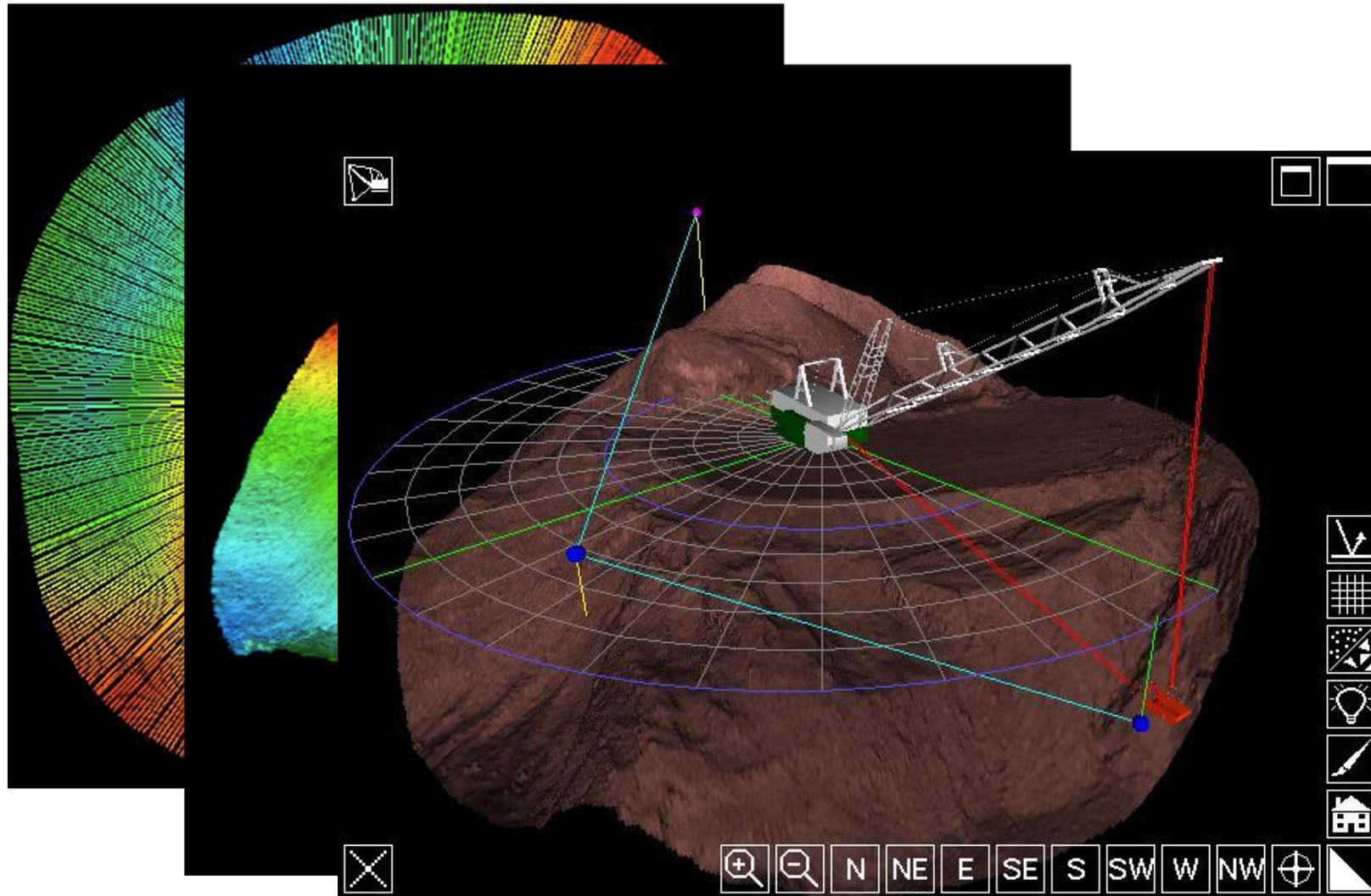
- A automated Load Haul Dump (LHD) vehicle was developed in 1999-2001 for the underground metaliferous mining industry - CSIRO and Caterpillar
- Commercial reality through exclusive licensing



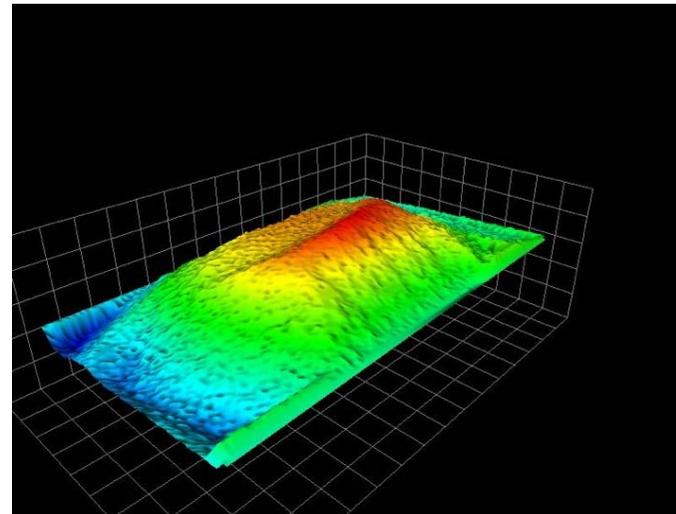
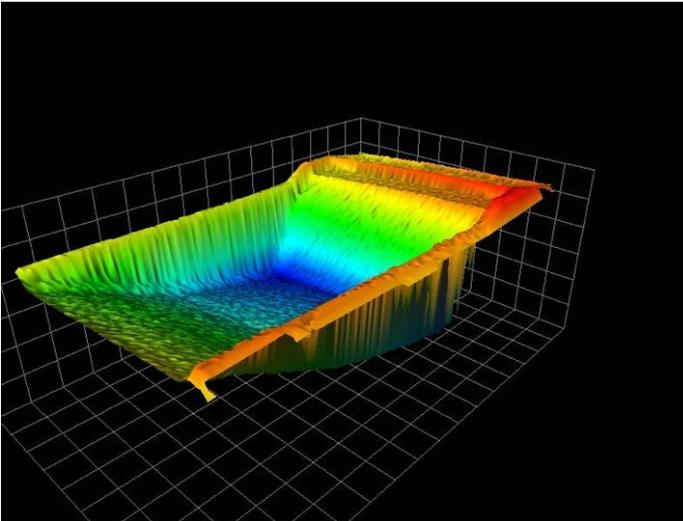
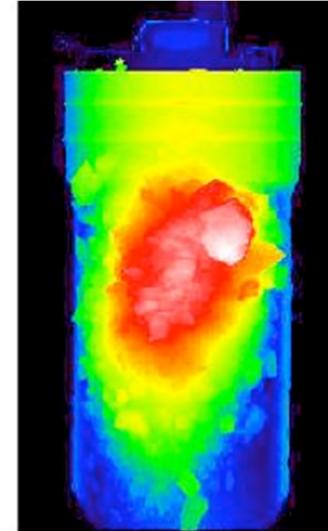
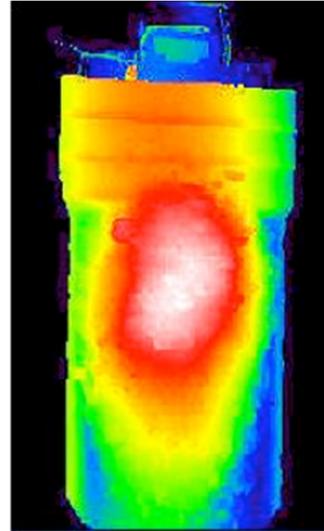
**CAT**® Underground Mining

Work by Graeme Winstanley, Ellitot Duff, Jonathan Roberts, Peter Corke and Jock Cunningham

# Digital Terrain Mapping



# Trayscan



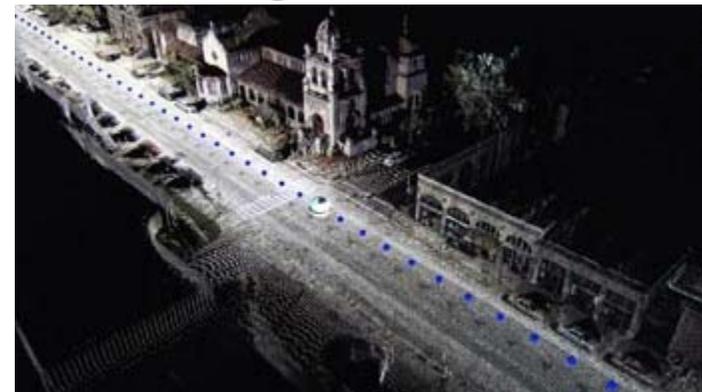
# Mobile Mapping Solutions: What's available now?

- Currently a large commercial market
- Rooftop-mounted sensors
  - 2D LIDAR with high-end GPS/INS
  - Location of LIDAR returns straightforward if accurate position is known at all times
- High quality maps
- Limitations
  - Cost: \$200k-\$300k
  - Reliance on GPS
    - Issues: urban canyons, underground, near large infrastructure, forests, planetary



Standard IP-S2 Configuration

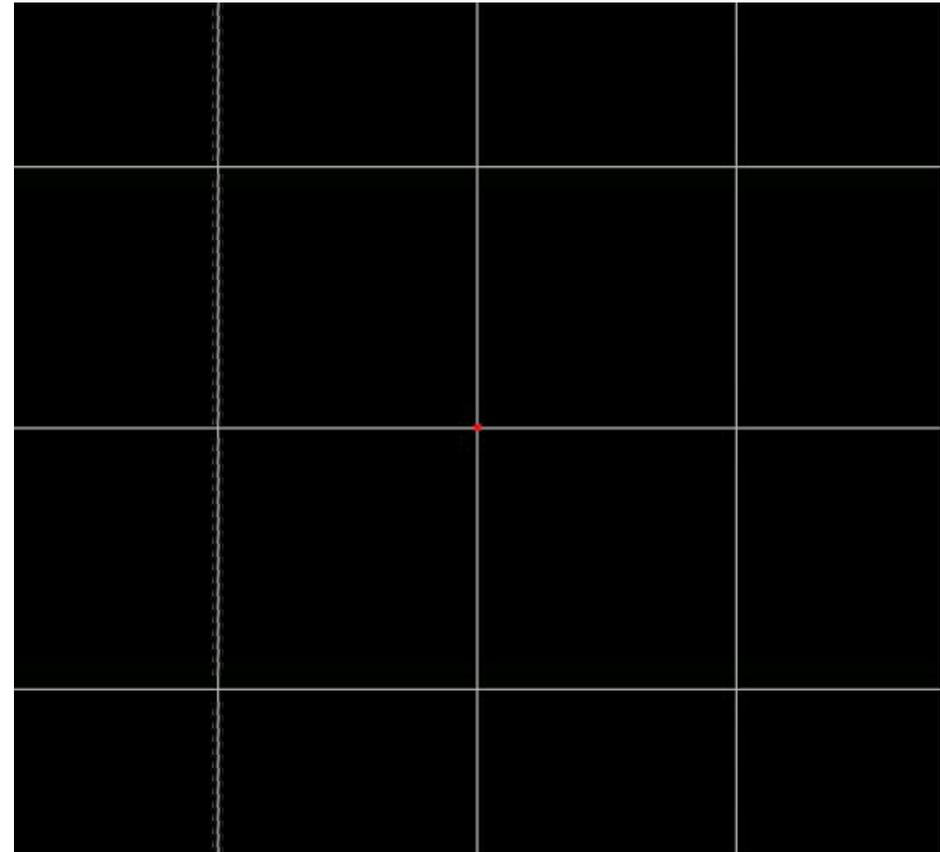
Custom IP-S2 Configuration



# 2D Street Localisation and Mapping



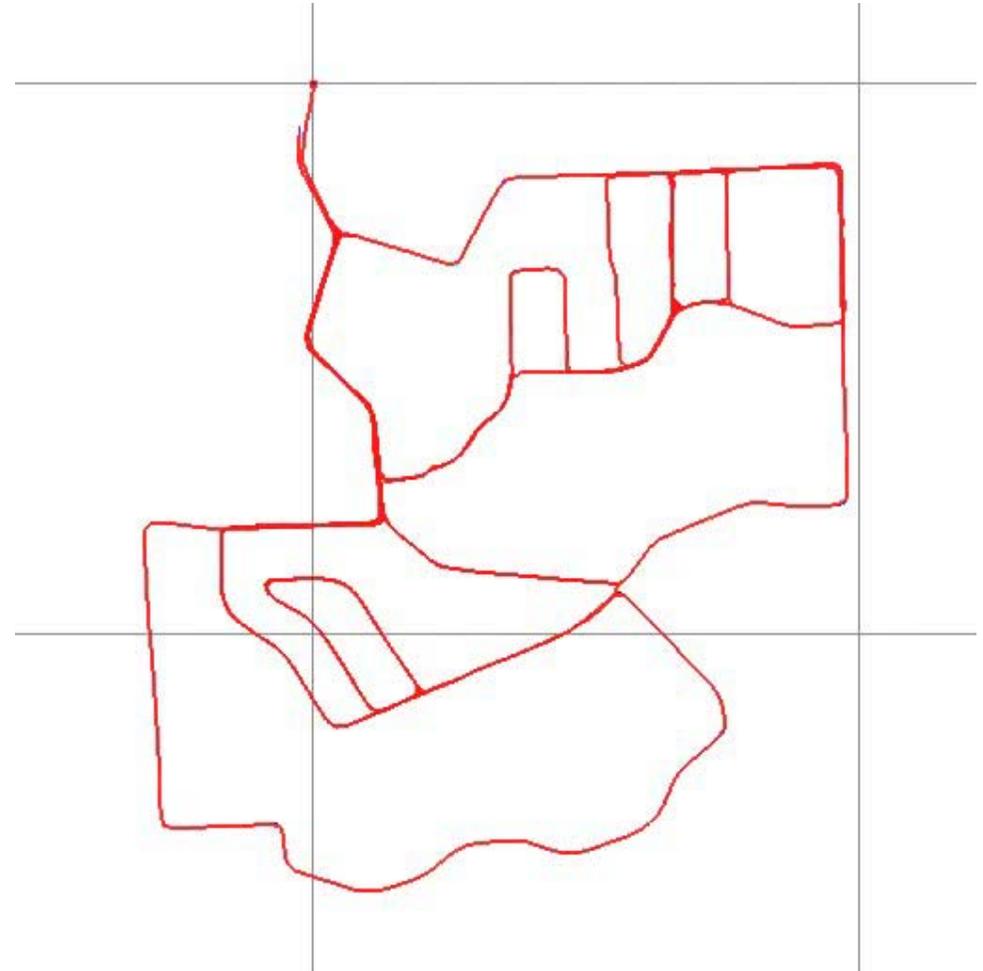
Work of Mike Bosse and Rob Zlot



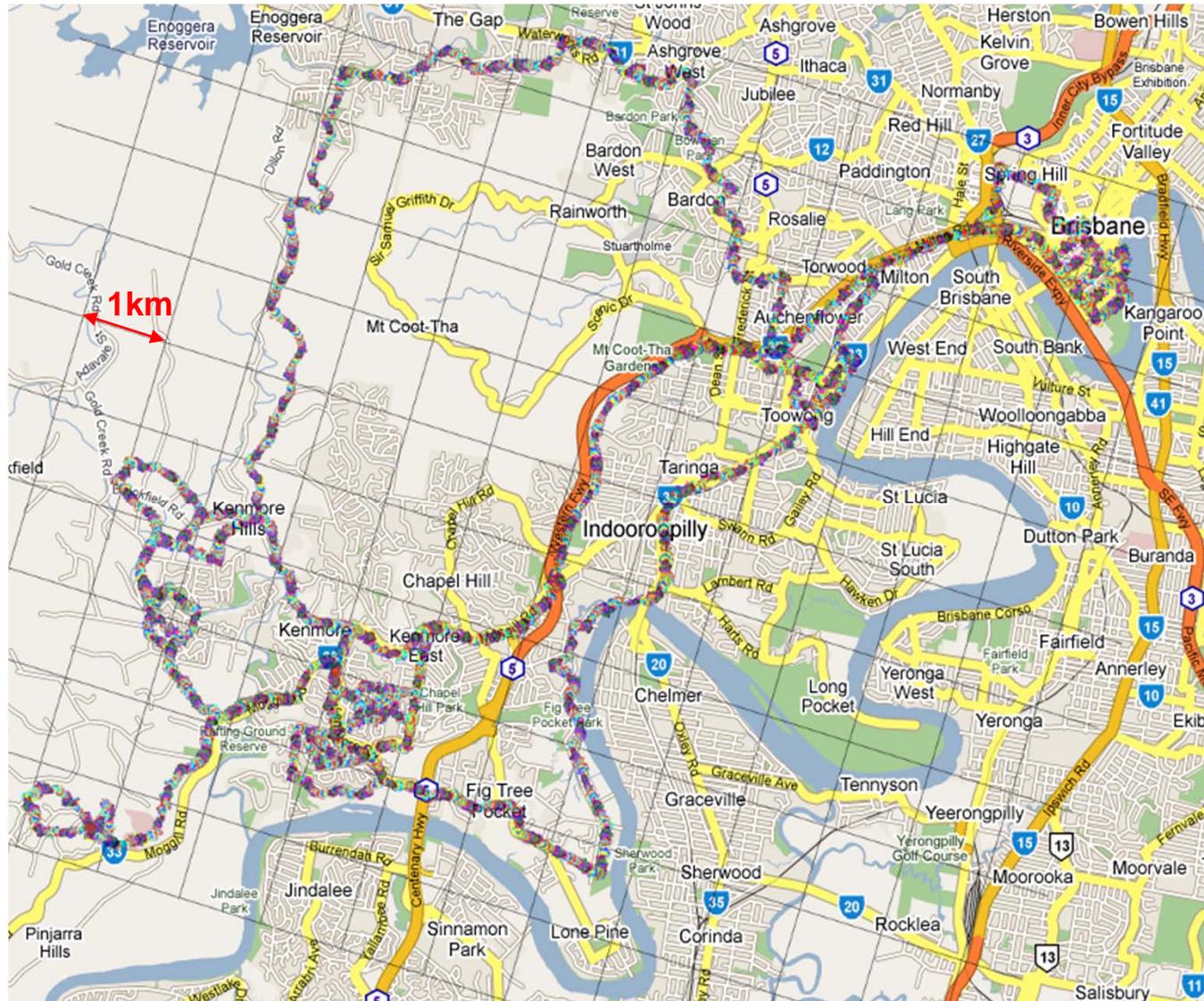
# 2D Street Localisation and Mapping



Work of Mike Bosse and Rob Zlot



# Brisbane Map



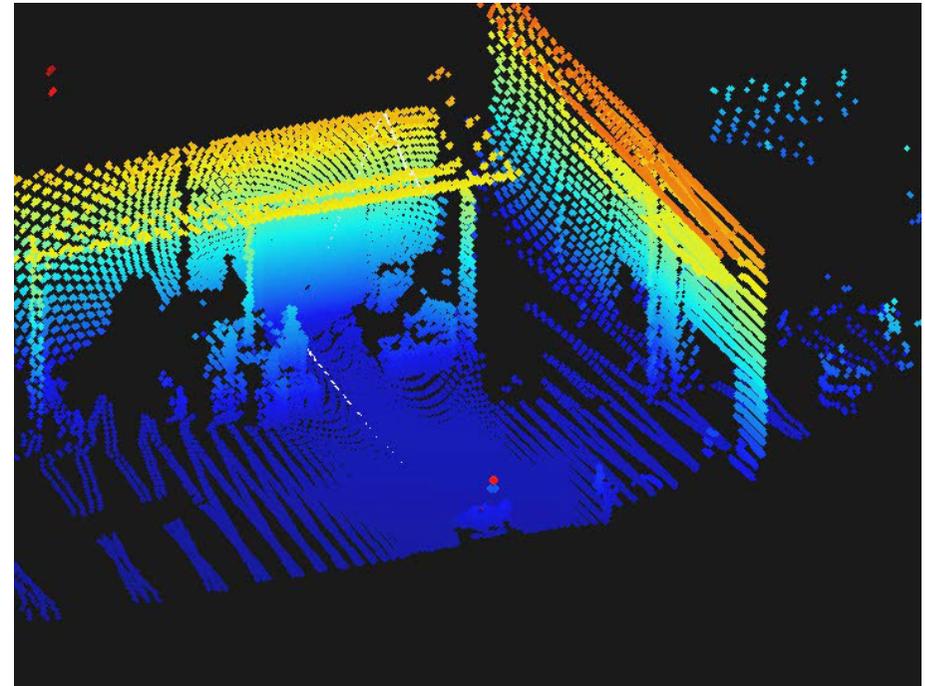
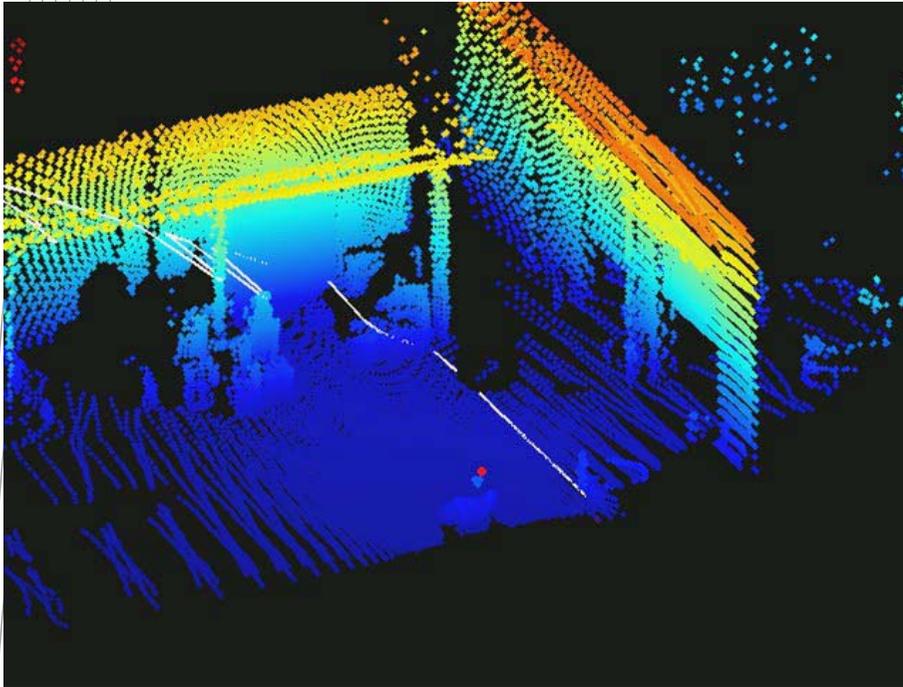
# Spinning Laser – creates 3D Mapping



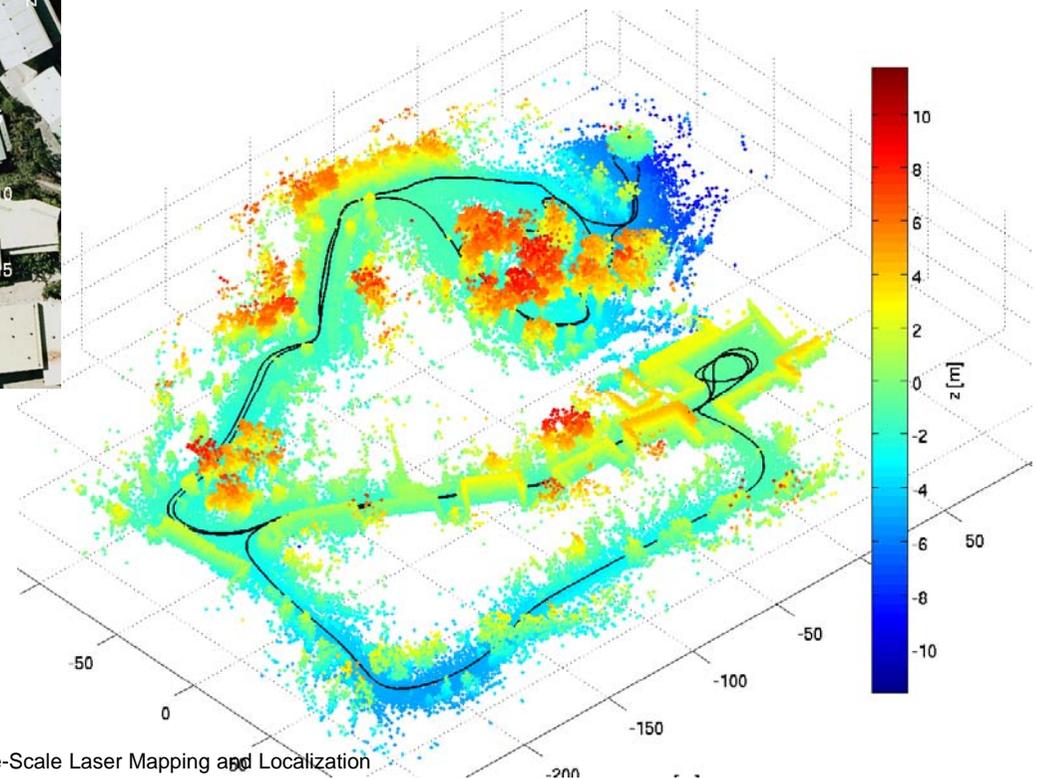
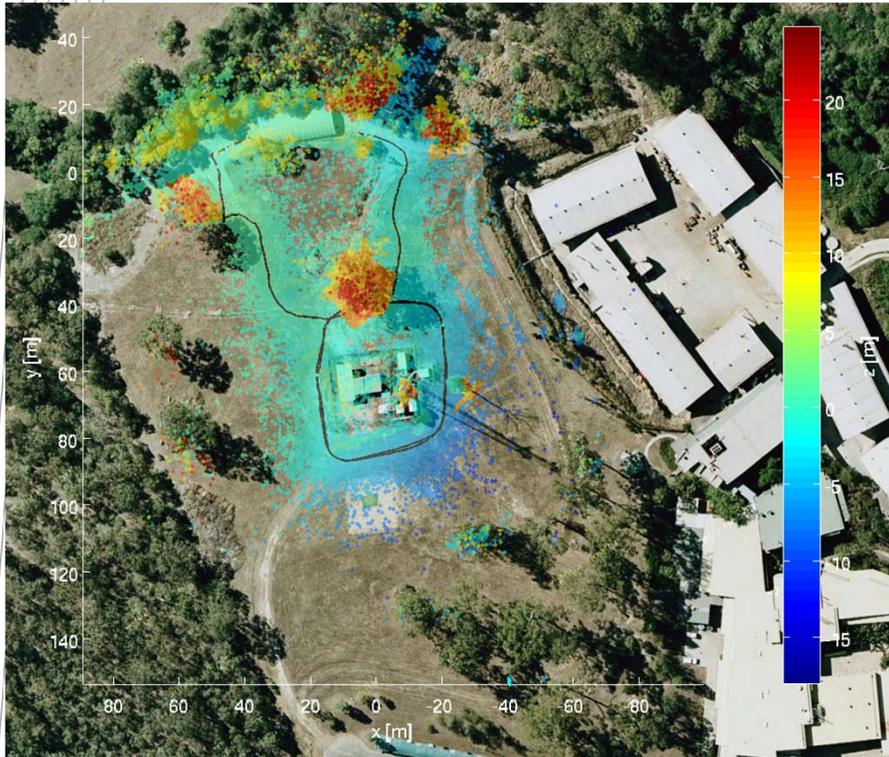
- Rotating platform sweeps the laser outside of the standard 2D scan plane
- Produces 3D hemispherical field of view



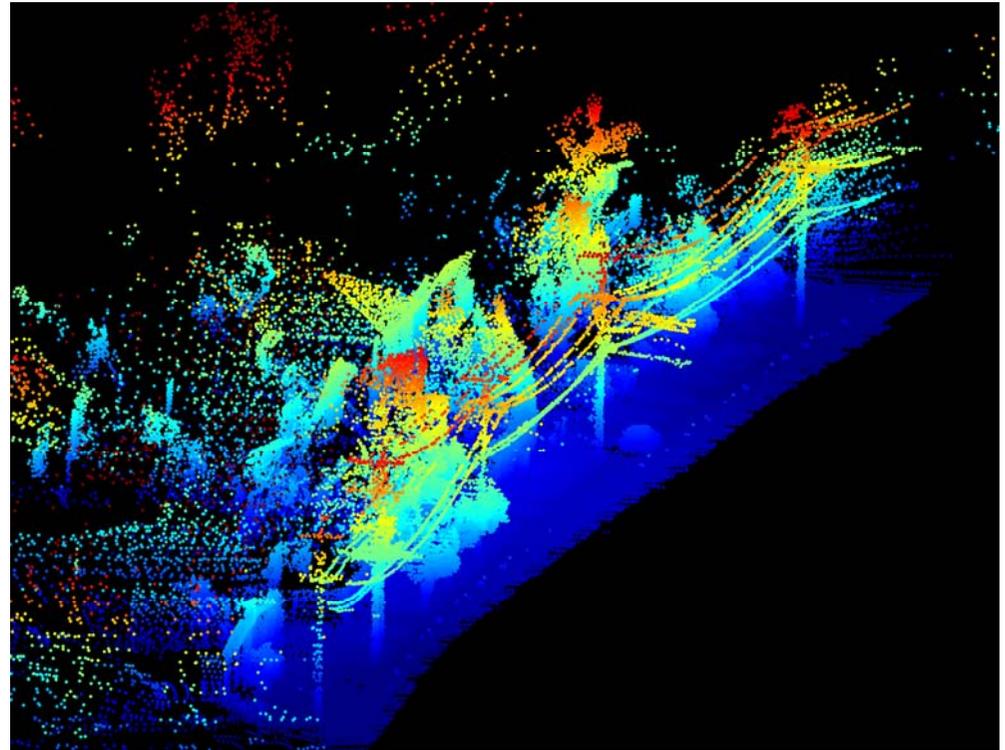
# Continuous 3D Mapping



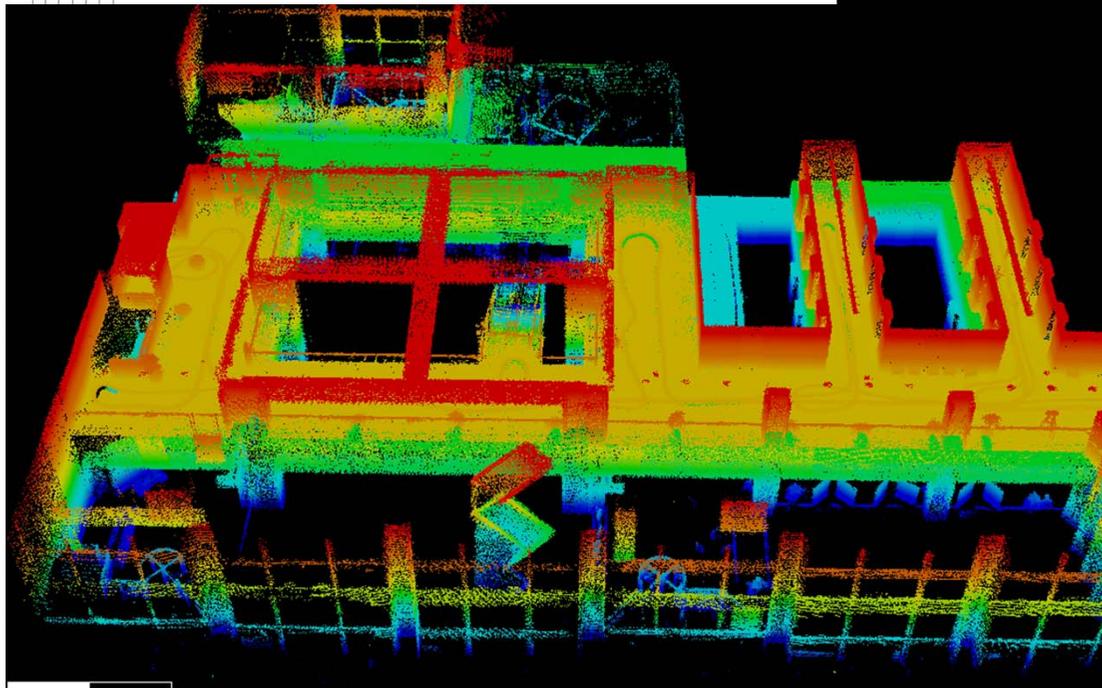
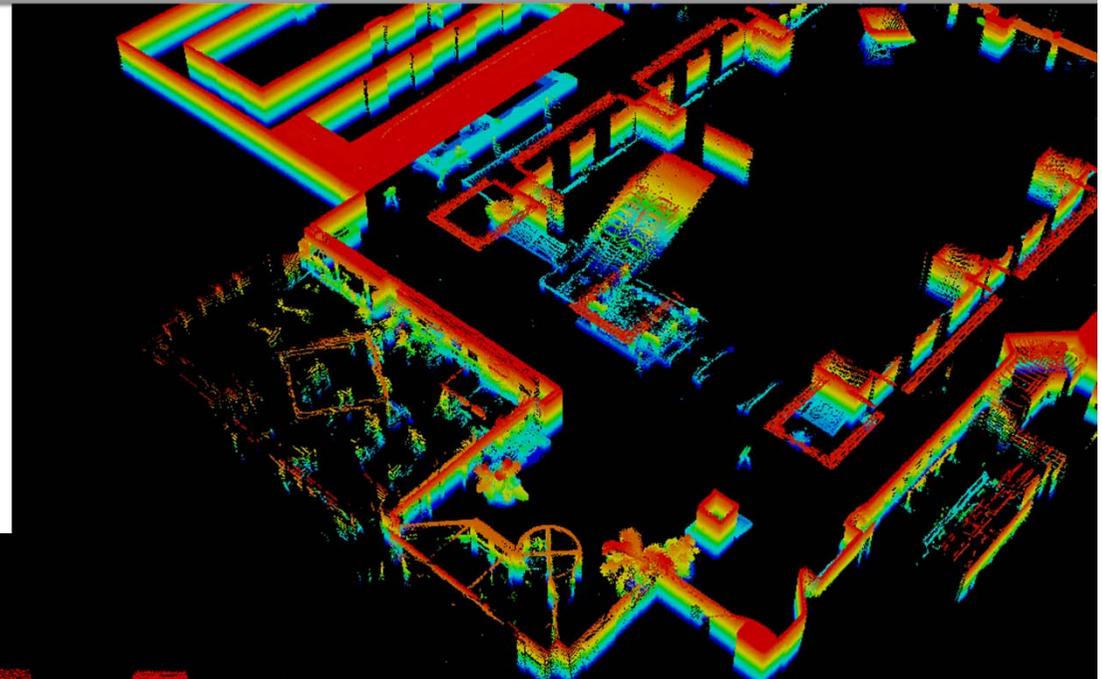
# Offroad with Loop Closure



# 3D Street Mapping



# 3D Indoor Mapping



- Commercialized through Applanix (Trimble)
- Used for offices, hotels, public transport infrastructure, prisons, military facilities, *etc*

# Zebedee



CSIRO

J843 - CSIRO ICT CENTRE  
Zebedee Mobile Mapping Device

Release R1.00 | April 2011

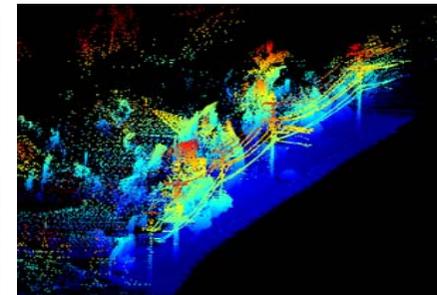
# Zebedee - Summary

- Zebedee design provides a simple, lightweight, inexpensive means to collect 3D data
- Input device for 3D mapping systems
- Patent application
- Non exclusive licensing agreements with mapping companies; Applanix, Mintek, Boeing and others
- Not a spin-off company opportunity



# Technology Transfer Lessons

1. It's all about the people and building the best teams
2. Great outcomes start with excellent focused science and technology
3. Strong unencumbered and sufficiently mature IP builds advantage
4. Working with standards organisations e.g. IEEE and ISO where possible
5. Be resourced for success with smart money and realistic market valuation
6. Orchestrating collaboration with innovation and industry partners
7. Know your global competitive advantage and how to maintain it
8. A living business plan that captures your winning strategy
9. Brilliant execution of great plans is mandatory
10. Embracing risk and not fearing failure with a “whatever it takes” attitude



**Alex Zelinsky**

Group Executive  
Information Sciences

Phone: +61 2 9490 5620

Email: [Alex.Zelinsky@csiro.au](mailto:Alex.Zelinsky@csiro.au)

[www.csiro.au](http://www.csiro.au)

# Thank you and Questions

