

“Reference frames are becoming more accurately defined with each iteration as technology and techniques improve. This is further aided by long-term GNSS and other space observation, for example, satellite laser ranging (SLR), very long baseline interferometry (VLBI) and Doppler Orbitography and Radiopositioning Integrated by Satellite (DORIS) datasets. National reference frames are increasingly becoming more aligned to globally-standardised geodetic reference frameworks – an example being the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF) – as well as GNSS reference frames. This fosters interoperability and unification of geospatial information datasets across the globe and will be of increasing importance in the coming five to ten years.

Indoor positioning is also an emerging frontier, but one that still presents major challenges. Whilst a number of technologies exist that can be used to improve data in this area, including ultra-wideband, accelerometers and radio frequency identification (RFID), no single source is able, as of yet, to provide the widespread coverage that may be expected in years to come. Whilst solutions are likely to be forthcoming in time, it is more likely to be closer to ten years than five years when we will see the greater availability and widespread use of indoor geospatial information. It is expected that some of these new technologies will lead to new industry standards, conformant with current standards development processes.”