



Professor GIORGIO MANZONI
***1939 - †2012**

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With big deep sorrow we inform you that in May this year died after some months of a heavy disease our good friend Professor Giorgio Manzoni, a great scientist, specialist, propagator and contributor of the application of satellite navigation systems especially to the road traffic. He was always full of a great, even fanatic enthusiasm and infected all of us by his vitality and ingenuity. Since the first Italy-Poland meeting in Bologna in 1988 he was a great friend and organizer of the next forthcoming geodetic meetings of Poland –Italy and Italy-Poland.

Professor Giorgio Manzoni was born in Trieste, Italy, in 1939 and obtained the Degree in Physics in 1963. First Assistant Professor of Geodesy, Faculty of Sciences, University of Trieste then Associated Professor of Topography, Faculty of Engineering, University of Trieste, Extraordinary Full Professor at Faculty of Engineering, University of Bari and Full Professor of Topography, University of Trieste. He also performed didactic activities in the Faculties of Engineering, Architecture, Education Sciences, University of Trieste and Agriculture, University of Pisa. He was the Coordinator of the PhD in Geomatics and GIS at University of Trieste and the Director of an after degree specialization course in Cartography and GIS. His research activities were related to the field of designing, building and using of terrestrial EDM and GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System) measurements for static and dynamic positioning for the monitoring of land movements, general and technical cartography, and aerial and terrestrial navigation applications.

He cooperated with different organizations and public enterprises for leading-edge GPS, GLONASS and EGNOS satellite positioning and navigation techniques. He was the scientific coordinators of research contracts with ASI (Italian Space Agency), PNRA ENEA Antarctic Project, Friuli Venezia Giulia Region Civil Protection, ISMES, Bergamo, ITALATC Rome, ACEGAS SpA Trieste, TELIT SpA, Trieste and VIASAT SpA. He also cooperated with many Italian and International Universities and Research Centres of Central and Eastern Europe and Middle East and also with the Central Europe Initiative CEI WG “Satellite Navigation Systems”.

He was the scientific responsible of GEOLAB, Laboratory of Geomatics and GIS at University of Trieste, putting together all the cartographic, GIS, archeological, geophysical, geographic and topographic competencies.

By his wide experience he became advisor of Ministry of Infrastructures for the coordination of the cartographic aspects of Road Cadastre. In this framework he fit out, optimized and experimented two Mobile Mapping Systems, MMS, equipped with GPS and high accurate inertial systems. These MMS surveyed 2500 km of roads in Italy and abroad.

Professor Manzoni was the international coordinator of some Projects concluded with success:

- MONITOR Project, funded by EC GJU/GSA in FP6; in this Project he planned and developed a GPS/ICT system for operators monitoring in building sites with the principal aim of improving work safety;
- SISA Project, Adriatic Roads Information System, funded on INTERREG funds; during this Project the entire coast roads of East Adriatic, from Croatia till Albania, including some sites in Serbia and Bosnia were surveyed;
- ARCHEOMEDSAT MIUR FIRB Project for the application of ICT techniques in the social field through the survey and GIS guides in the Mediterranean area – in cooperation with the Italian Universities of Rome, Cagliari, Palermo, Pavia and the Polytechnics of Milan and Turin and with Turkish Organizations.

He organized different national and International Seminars and Workshops and was author of more than 150 scientific papers.

The world geodesy has lost a great scientist with exceptional enthusiasm fascinated completely by satellite geodesy and navigation. We will never forget his kindness, friendliness and warm-heartedness.

Raffaella Cefalo
Janusz Śledziński