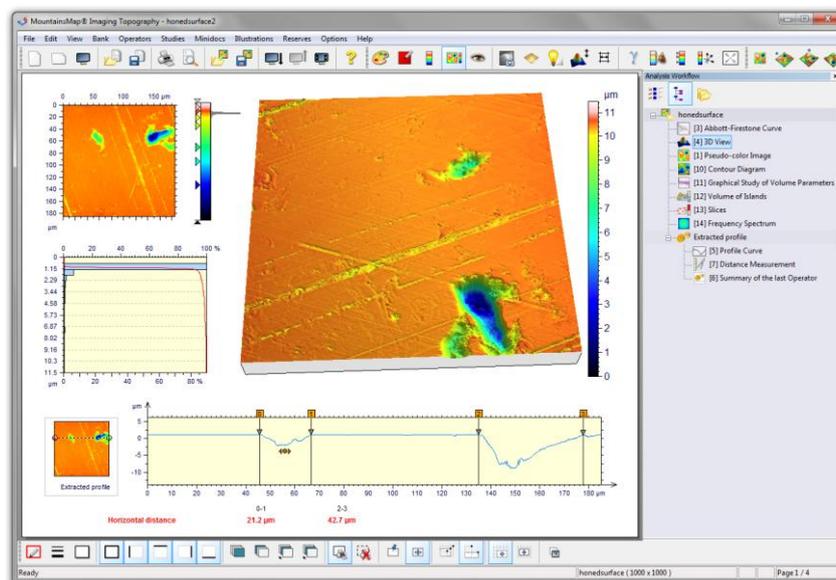




GBS smartWLI white light interferometers integrate MountainsMap® software for surface analysis and visual metrology reports

Ilmenau, Germany and Besançon, France 30 August 2012. GBS and Digital Surf announced the signature of an agreement whereby MountainsMap® Imaging Topography software, based on Digital Surf's Mountains Technology®, has been integrated into GBS's smartWLI white light interferometer product family. Laboratories, research institutes and industrial facilities measuring surface topography with smartWLI interferometers can use MountainsMap® to visualize surfaces, analyze surface geometry and texture, and generate detailed visual surface metrology reports.



MountainsMap® Imaging Topography software visualizes 3D surface topography, measures surface geometry and analyzes areal surface texture in accordance with the latest ISO and national standards. It generates detailed surface metrology reports on surfaces measured by the smartWLI product family.

The smartWLI product family uses white light interferometry to record 3D surface topography with depth resolution in the lower nanometer range. Because the measurement points are acquired and processed in parallel, height information can be gathered over a large area in a very short time. Typical applications in research and quality management include the characterization of surfaces with different roughness values (wafer structures, mirrors, glass, metals), the determination of step heights, and the precise measurement of curved surfaces (for example microlenses).

The four instruments in the versatile and economical smartWLI product family are designed to meet a wide range of requirements. The compact and robust smartWLI-portable is placed directly on a surface and can measure large work pieces: it is used in quality management and process control as well as in research applications. The smartWLI-microscope is part of a retrofit kit for classical optical microscopes: it turns optical microscopes into 3D surface measuring devices. The smartWLI family is completed by two highly accurate and fast benchtop instruments: the compact smartWLI-basic and the smartWLI-extended (the extended model includes an electrical XY stage).

/continued

Since January 2012, smart**WLI** products have been distributed in Europe by the Schaefer Group:
<http://www.schaefer-tec.com>

3D topography data measured by smart**WLI** interferometers is seamlessly exported to the MountainsMap® Imaging Topography surface analysis software. Using MountainsMap® it is possible to visualize 3D (x,y,z) surface topography at any angle or zoom level in real time. There is a full set of tools for analyzing micro and nano surface geometry. Powerful pre-processing filters maximize image quality and advanced ISO 16610 metrological filters separate surface roughness and surface waviness. Roughness and other 3D areal surface texture parameters are calculated in accordance with the latest ISO 25178 standard. 2D profiles can be extracted from surfaces and a comprehensive set of 2D parameters can be calculated.

MountainsMap® logs the whole analysis process in a hierarchical workflow that provides full metrological traceability. Series of measurements are processed automatically and all numerical results can be exported in Excel-compatible text files. For advanced and specialized applications, MountainsMap® Imaging Topography can be expanded by adding optional modules.

"MountainsMap® is industry-standard software with an extensive set of features that match smart**WLI** applications," stated Torsten Machleidt CEO of GBS. "Thanks to the agreement with Digital Surf, users of smart**WLI** interferometers will benefit from MountainsMap®'s power, ease of use and integration of the latest standards and methods."

"The agreement with GBS underlines the pertinence of our solutions for the analysis of 3D surface topography," stated François Blateyron, Chief Operating Officer of Digital Surf.

* * * * *

GBS, founded in 1997, develops, manufactures and commercializes 3D surface metrology solutions that are used in research, quality management and process control environments. The company's highly accurate, fast and economical smart**WLI** product family, based on proven white light interferometry techniques, includes portable instruments and benchtop instruments together retrofits that turn classical optical microscopes into 3D surface measuring devices. GBS mbh is a subsidiary of ZBS e.v. and the ZBS/GBS partnership has successfully completed over 150 research and industrial projects, underlining GBS's extensive experience in 3D surface metrology.

<http://www.gbs-ilmenau.de>

Digital Surf, founded in 1989, specializes in providing surface analysis software for all types of surface metrology instrument including 2D and 3D profilometers, optical interferometric and confocal microscopes, and scanning probe microscopes. Imaging and analysis software based on Digital Surf's Mountains Technology® is integrated by leading instrument manufacturers and is used in thousands of laboratories and industrial facilities working in numerous sectors including aerospace, automotive, cosmetics, energy, MEMS, materials research, medical, metallurgy, nanostructures, optics, paper, PCB, plastics, polymers, printing, semiconductor, etc.

www.digitalsurf.com

* * * * *

Media contacts

Gesellschaft für Bild- und Signalverarbeitung (GBS) mbH
Werner-von-Siemens-Straße 10
98693 Ilmenau
Germany
Tel: +49 3677-6897683
Contact: Torsten Machleidt
Email: info@gbs-ilmenau.de

Digital Surf SARL
16, rue Lavoisier
25000 Besançon
France
Tel: +33 3 81 50 48 00
Contact: Antony Caulcutt
Email: acaulcutt@digitalsurf.fr