SpaceNet, Topcoder Crowdsourcing and Development Platform Partnership Delivers Advanced Geospacial Data Science and Machine Learning Applications

BOSTON | McLean VA – Sept. 26, 2019: Topcoder, the world's largest technology talent network and digital crowdsourcing platform, will join as a 2019 – 2020 partner with SpaceNet®, a nonprofit dedicated to accelerating open source, artificial intelligence (AI) applied research for geospatial applications. This partnership will accelerate SpaceNet's ability to leverage the global 1.5M member Topcoder Community for increased accuracy and speed in advanced data science and machine learning application development.

Topcoder has hosted data science and AI development challenges for SpaceNet since 2016 that have produced highly sophisticated algorithmic solutions to consumer, business and environmental issues on an international scale. Topcoder joins others in the SpaceNet Partner Program, including: In-Q-Tel's (IQT) CosmiQ Works, Maxar Technologies, Intel AI, Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Capella Space.

"The application of computer vision techniques to automatically extract information from satellite imagery at scale will change the way mapping is done in the future," said Ryan S. Lewis, General Manager of SpaceNet. "With the addition of Topcoder as a partner, SpaceNet will be able to expand collaborations with experts across the Topcoder Community through both our official challenges, as well as other related projects. This is type of outreach is central to SpaceNet's mission of increasing visibility of geospatial analytic challenges."

Companies turn to SpaceNet for answers: Topcoder provides the data science expertise and development platform on which those answers are found.

Commercialization of the geospatial industry has led to an explosive amount of data being collected to characterize our changing planet. Determining optimal routing paths from satellite and aerial imagery in near real-time is at the heart of humanitarian, civil, military and commercial challenges.

"SpaceNet understands how crowdsourcing data science and AI development through the gig economy unleashes the power and promise of innovative computer vision algorithms," said Michael P. Morris, CEO of Topcoder. "The Topcoder and SpaceNet partnership extends ideation and solution production capabilities that give businesses, governments and people in every region of the world better access to, and use of, geospatial data."

For more on Topcoder and SpaceNet, visit: https://www.topcoder.com/spacenet.

About SpaceNet

SpaceNet is a nonprofit organization dedicated to accelerating applied research in geospatial machine learning by developing and providing publicly available commercial satellite imagery and labeled training data, as well as open sourcing computer vision algorithms and tools. Designed to lower the barrier to entry for developers, researchers and startups to access high-quality geospatial data, SpaceNet focuses on four key open source pillars: data, tools, challenge, and algorithms. SpaceNet is a collaborative initiative between CosmiQ Works, Maxar, Intel AI, Amazon Web Services, and Capella Space. Learn more at spacenet.ai.

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