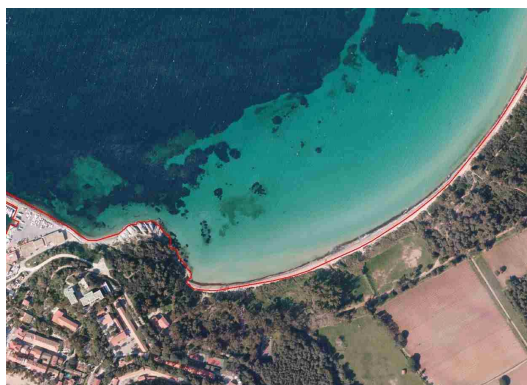


The Litto3D project update

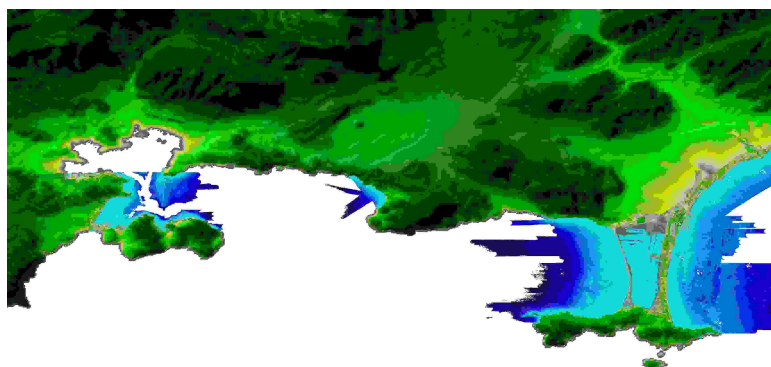
This project, which has already been presented to the 27th NSHC meeting, aims at creating a reference national database covering the entire French and French Overseas coastal regions by merging SHOM hydrographic soundings, IGN land heights and predicted water levels generated by highly precise tidal models.

Since 2006, the most tangible deliverables of this project have been the gradual release on the national Geoportal¹ of the official coastline (2007) and historical seamless database (2008). Since February, the Geoportal users have also the possibility to fly-through a 3D land-sea terrain model covering the *golfe du Morbihan*.



The Geoportal “Histolitt” coastline

Historical data will be gradually improved by new, more accurate surveys, as the project unfolds over the next 10 years. In this respect, a hydrographic lidar survey was performed between Toulon and Giens in September/October 2007, which confirmed the validity of the concept in the Mediterranean waters where depths of 37 metres have been reached.



Hydrographic lidar survey of the Mediterranean coast between Toulon and Giens

Starting in 2008, the terrestrial survey of continental France will be achieved by IGN, using its own aircraft and recently acquired lidar equipment.

A hydrographic lidar survey of the island of Mayotte, in the South Indian Ocean, is also being prepared, possibly in 2008. This should be preceded by a survey of Basse-Normandie.

In the NSHC area, a small shallow water area has been surveyed in the vicinity of Calais to serve as a reference to calibrate further lidar surveys of the Southern North Sea and the English Channel/La Manche.

The possibility of acquiring a hydrographic lidar equipment is currently being assessed as an alternative to the current contracting policy.

¹ www.geoportail.fr