



**SKY-WATCH**

## THE WORLD'S LARGEST UAV MAPPING MISSION ACCOMPLISHED IN BELIZE



### How do you go about mapping an area of more than 129 000ha with extreme ground conditions, restricted access to most of the area, bad weather conditions, and challenging landing spots?

This was just some of the challenges that the mapping team of the South African surveying company, Agri-Sense, had to face when taking on the task of conducting a detailed aerial topographical survey to develop a drainage master plan of the Belize sugar belt for SIRD (Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute). The total assignment consisted of four major missions and amounted to 129 000ha divided between three countries and two continents. The largest of the missions were carried out in Belize and amounted to 90 000 ha alone.

**"A project of this size requires multi-disciplined teams, skilled pilots and equipment that guarantee endurance and stability"**

Russel Longhurst, Managing Director

For the Belize mission, the survey team used two autonomous mini drones, Cumulus V1, for the aerial surveying of the area. The team spent 28 days surveying, covering an average of 3900ha a day, gathering no less than 9892 images for the data processing team.

**"The Cumulus V1 flies beautifully - a very stable and quiet machine"**

Russel Longhurst, Managing Director

Despite the many hectare and the complex ground and area conditions the Agri-Sense surveying teams accomplished the Belize mission, known as the world's largest UAV mapping mission, with only two Cumulus V1 drones.

The Cumulus systems performed in 106 flights, carried out from 14 take-offs and landing locations, saving time and manual work thus contributing to an over-all better economy on the project and a better business for everybody involved.

**"With a coverage of 4000ha a day with just one drone system, we have benefitted significantly from the Cumulus V1 solution"**

Russel Longhurst, Managing Director



**Case:** Belize sugar belt  
**Company:** Agri-Sense  
**Customer:** SIRD  
**Area:** Belize mission  
**Aera covered:** 90 000 ha  
**Flights flown:** 106  
**Days of flying:** 28  
**Images captured:** 9892  
**Drone system:** Cumulus V1

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