NEW PRODUCTION PROCESS TO DELIVER TWO NEW MAP SERIES IN BELGIUM

A new production process set up by the Belgian National Geographic Institute (NGI) is to generate two new series of topographic maps by 2021.

Within the next six years, NGI will deliver a fourth edition of the 1:50 000 scale map for civilian and military users. It is also producing a new 1:25 000 scale map which will now be the largest in its product range, although 1:10 000 remains the conceptual scale of the reference vector database.

Both new series are being produced through generalisation. Themes can be updated in various ways: In 3D through photogrammetric plotting (road networks and buildings); in 2D based on orthophotos (vegetation, water bodies, specific areas); or by integrating data coming direct from authentic sources, for example railway networks.

Symbolisation for the new 1:25 000 maps, the first of which was published in 2015, has been adapted from the existing 1:20 000 series (produced from 1990 to 2010). This has ensured coherence between the various scales produced by NGI and follows a positive reaction from users to a similar symbolisation.

NGI has also implemented a six-year update cycle for its toponymic database which allows it to almost fully automate the location of names in these new map series.

Extract from the first map at scale 1:25k S3/7-8 Dinant