

Denmark

Denmark from above – launch of first national database of oblique aerial photos

In 2018 a nationwide database of oblique aerial photos covering Denmark was released, enabling the public and professionals to study the ground surface and building facades from all over the country from oblique angles.

The oblique dataset provides national coverage for the first time and contains a total of 1.3 million high-resolution photos available as free and open data.

The launch clearly showed that there is an interest and demand for oblique photos.

On the first day of the announcement in September 2018, the dataset received 40 million requests. By the end of the year, 166 million requests had been made. The dataset is accessed via www.skraafoto.kortforsyningen.dk

The dataset is initially aimed at supporting the property taxation system with visual information on the condition of buildings for the purpose of taxation – but the expected applications are much broader. As well as supporting many other branches of public administration, the private sector will also profit from the new and homogeneous dataset.

Potential public applications include local planning, building permits, and new solutions for visualisations and 3D urban models. Within the private sector architects, real estate agencies and insurance companies can benefit from the dataset. To support wide use, the oblique photos are available as free data that can be freely downloaded and used without restrictions by companies and citizens.

It is expected that the oblique photos will deliver efficiency gains in several industries. The oblique photo solution can replace or supplement physical inspections across Denmark. Providing the users with a tool for studying buildings and structures from above, as well as from four angles, makes it possible to make detailed assessments and inspections without the need for on-site visits.

The oblique photo solution contributes to the Agency for Data Supply and Efficiency's (SDFE) strategic goal of supplying a digital data foundation for growth in society. As they are free, public and private companies get a unique starting point for using oblique photos to develop new solutions or services. SDFE's strategic goal of creating added value in governmental management processes and freeing up time and money in public administrative processes, is also achieved by replacing time-consuming physical inspections with easy digital access to photos.

