

ROAD MEASUREMENT DATA ACQUISITION SYSTEM

ROMDAS

Volume 3 No. 1

April 2001

WELCOME

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2001. The last year has been a time of exceptional growth and there are now over 120 ROMDAS systems in over 40 developed and developing countries.

ROMDAS has become widely accepted as the most cost effective way of collecting data for road management, priced significantly lower than its competitors: a complete system for roughness, video, rating and rut depth is approximately \$USD 30,000. The complete ROMDAS system is shown to the right.

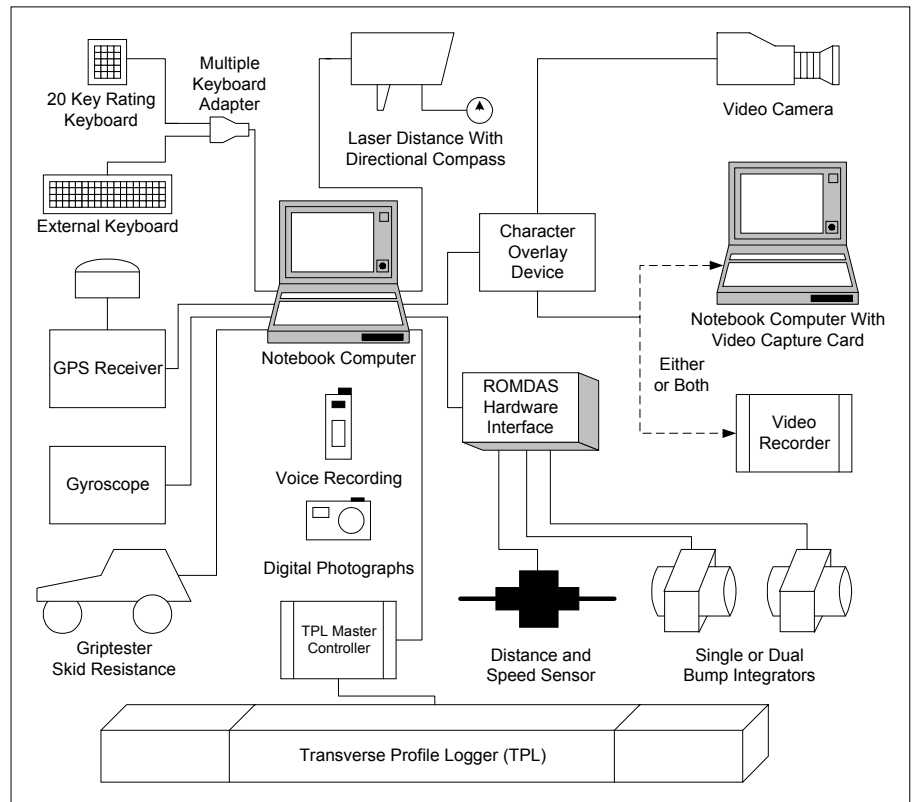
The latest information on ROMDAS and a price list are available from our web site at:

www.ROMDAS.com

NEW NAME, NEW PEOPLE



From 2 April 2001 ROMDAS is being sold by **Data Collection Ltd.** (DCL). This company has been formed in NZ with the specific objective of focusing on manufacturing road data collection equipment, providing support for this equipment and helping our clients with data



collection issues. This change has come about through the merger of HTC Infrastructure Management Ltd. (HTC) with Montgomery Watson (NZ) Ltd.

HTC was the primary vehicle for ROMDAS support and sales and now with the merger this service will be provided through DCL.

There have been several staffing changes accompanying the merger:

- **Doug Brown** is the new manager of DCL. He will look after all ROMDAS enquiries. Formerly of Opus Central Laboratories, Doug has many years of experience in instrumentation, road related

research, and road condition measurement. He has worked with ROMDAS in several countries and so brings a great deal of practical experience to the company.

- **Chris Bennett**, developer of ROMDAS, is still involved as the owner of DCL.

- **Howard Porter** is now building the hardware.

Paul Hunter, who wrote the existing ROMDAS Data Collection software, and **Zuwei Deng**, who developed the ROMDAS Road Management System, have stayed with HTC but will continue to be involved with

research and development as well as software support.

ROMDAS ROAD MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The ROMDAS Road Management System (RMS) has continued to be refined since its first release. An example of the display from the RMS is given at the right.

The RMS is now the standard system offered by DCL for all post-processing of ROMDAS data. Previously, we included these functions in the ROMDAS data collection software (DCS) but with the impending movement of the DCS to Windows it has been decided to use the RMS for these functions.

Among the recent additions to the RMS are automatic and semi-automatic video calibration which relates the frame numbers to the chainages on the road, and the ability to generate MapInfo data from the GPS data.

The RMS has also been enhanced to include displays of static digital photographs and to play voice recordings that have been digitised.

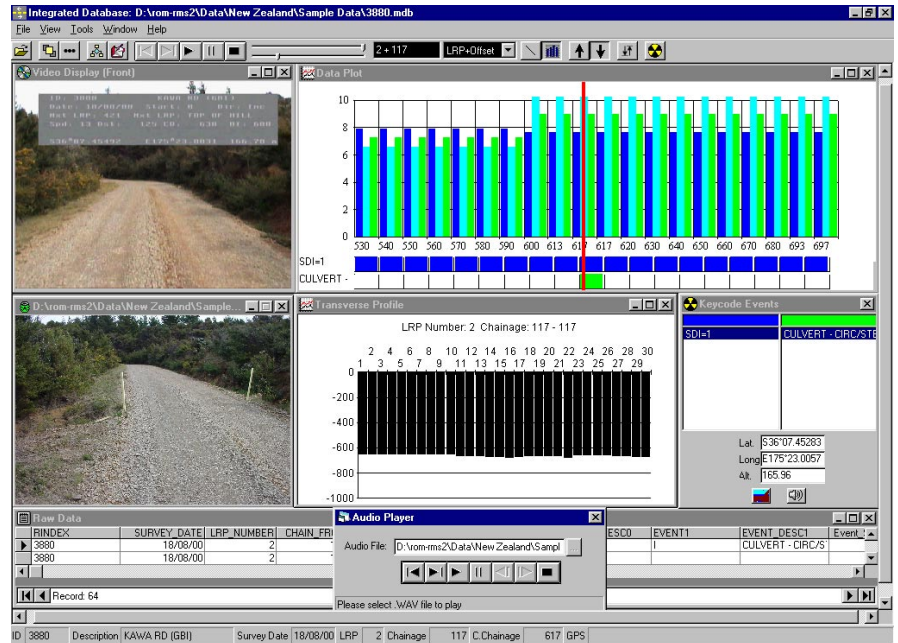
A fully operational demonstration version of the RMS can be downloaded from the web at: www.ROMDAS.com or you can request a copy on CD.

RECENT SYSTEMS

A number of different surveys have recently been undertaken using ROMDAS. We have implemented several new instrument options to support our users. The following describes some of the current projects.

LAO PDR

Montgomery Watson Ltd. of NZ is currently conducting a major roughness, GPS and location referencing survey of the Lao PDR using ROMDAS.



Four teams are surveying over 14,000 of roads, collecting roughness, visual condition rating and GPS co-ordinates. This project will provide the foundational data for establishing a computerised road management system.

SAMOA

Opus International Consultants Ltd. are undertaking a major institutional strengthening project for the Samoa Public Works Department. As part of this project, HTC is developing an integrated asset management system for the PWD.

Surveys are being done by HTC and DCL of all the PWD's roads. ROMDAS is being used to collect the GPS Centreline, Video logging with direct digitising, roughness data and visual condition.

The photo below shows the PWD workshop staff (and friends) who installed the equipment.



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

DCL have received a grant from the NZ Foundation for Research in Science and Technology to develop a low-cost, portable laser profilometer. We will be doing this work in conjunction with the rewriting of the ROMDAS software for Windows. The profilometer will also collect the texture depth (MPTD) and the prototype should be available by the 4th quarter of 2001.

We are also continuing our development work into a low-cost reference profiler such as the Dipstick.

FURTHER INFORMATION

A free comprehensive CD is available with software, manuals, working papers, etc. To receive a copy please contact us at:

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The following are the e-mail contacts of our main technical staff:

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