

China's Geoinformation Industry 2015

East View Special Intelligence Reports

China's geoinformation industry—surveying, mapping, and associated geospatial data and technologies—has grown explosively in the past decade, perhaps more so than that of any other country in the world. Yet outside of China, it remains little known. China's civilian, military and even commercial geospatial players have long operated in a state of secrecy and restriction.

This 21-article volume, the inaugural issue of the new series East View Special Intelligence Reports, examines the past, current, and future of the geoinformation industry in China. Originally released in Chinese in January 2015 by Social Sciences Academic Press in Beijing, this comprehensive analysis offers timely insider perspectives from individuals and organizations leading change in the public and private sectors. Article authors include officials from national and regional mapping agencies, as well as company executives in China's geoinformation industry. Now a vibrant billion-dollar activity, China's geoinformation industry requires continuous updates and transformation to grow dramatically. Several authors recommend policy reforms that would allow market forces to drive the industry and foster demand for geospatial services. Ambitions to expand the Chinese geoinformation industry are integral to the continued development of China's economy and security, including in information technology, mining, transportation, and China's first-ever National Geographic Census. Authors view China's own global navigation satellite system (GNSS) BeiDou and the mobile internet as key catalysts in transforming the geoinformation industry.

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