

Full Waveform Digitizing, Dual Channel  
Airborne LiDAR Scanning System for Ultra Wide Area Mapping

# RIEGL LMS-Q1560

- **high laser pulse repetition rate up to 800 kHz**
- **digitization electronics for full waveform data**
- **innovative forward/backward looking capability**
- **single multifacet polygon mirror for beam deflection**
- **integrated multi-megapixel aerial medium format camera**
- **integrated secondary camera (e.g. IR-camera)**
- **integrated inertial navigation system and GNSS receiver**
- **fiber coupled high speed data interface to single RIEGL Data Recorder**
- **single power supply**
- **various interfaces to external cameras, GNSS etc.**
- **mounting flange for interfacing with typical hatches and stabilized platforms**
- **compact and robust housing**

The new high performance, fully integrated long-range airborne laser scanner system *RIEGL LMS-Q1560* is a cutting-edge tool for a variety of airborne surveying missions. The two channel scanner makes use of powerful laser sources, Multiple-Time-Around (MTA) processing, echo digitization and waveform analysis. That allows operation at varying flight altitudes and is therefore ideally suited for aerial survey of ultra wide areas as well as of complex urban environments.

The *RIEGL LMS-Q1560* can be operated at a maximum pulse repetition rate of 800 kHz providing an effective measurement rate of 532,000 measurements on the ground, and operates at an altitude of up to 15,500 ft. Usually occurring range ambiguities at this measurement rate are automatically resolved by *RIEGL's* multiple time around processing software RiMTA, handling more than 10 pulses in the air simultaneously. This enables much faster and more efficient flight planning and safer flights.

The *RIEGL LMS-Q1560* comes with a unique and innovative forward/backward looking capability. This enables capturing data from multiple angles more effectively and more accurately at high point density. With its large field of view of 58 degrees and its widely variable scan parameters the system accounts for highest efficiency of scan data acquisition in its class.

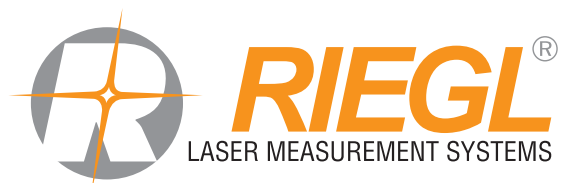
The system is equipped with a seamlessly integrated IMU/GNSS system. Optionally, an already available IMU sensor may be easily integrated; making the *RIEGL LMS-Q1560* a cost-effective solution for system upgrades. An 80 megapixel RGB camera and the capability to integrate a secondary IR camera complete the system. With all individual components integrated into one single instrument of compact design, suited for gyro-stabilized leveling mounts, the system installation is outstandingly easy and straight-forward.

#### Applications:

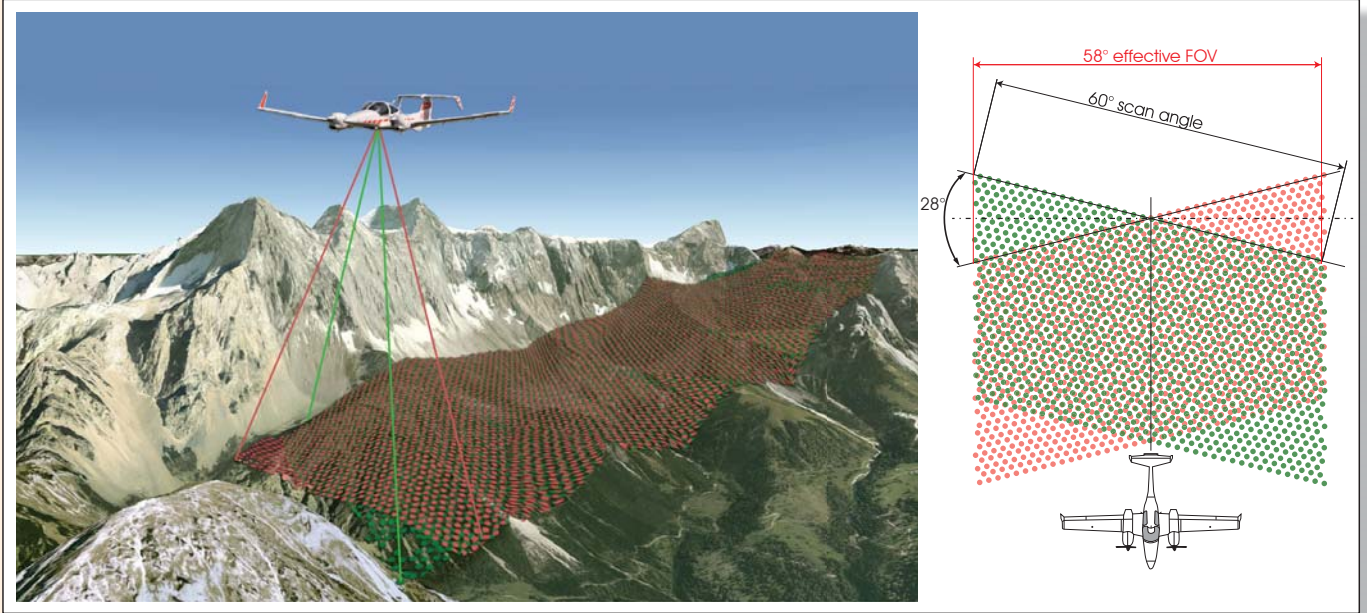
- *Ultra Wide Area / High Altitude Mapping*
- *Mapping of Complex Urban Environments*
- *Glacier & Snowfield Mapping*
- *City Modeling*
- *Mapping of Lakesides & River Banks*
- *Agriculture & Forestry*
- *Corridor Mapping*



visit our website  
[www.riegl.com](http://www.riegl.com)



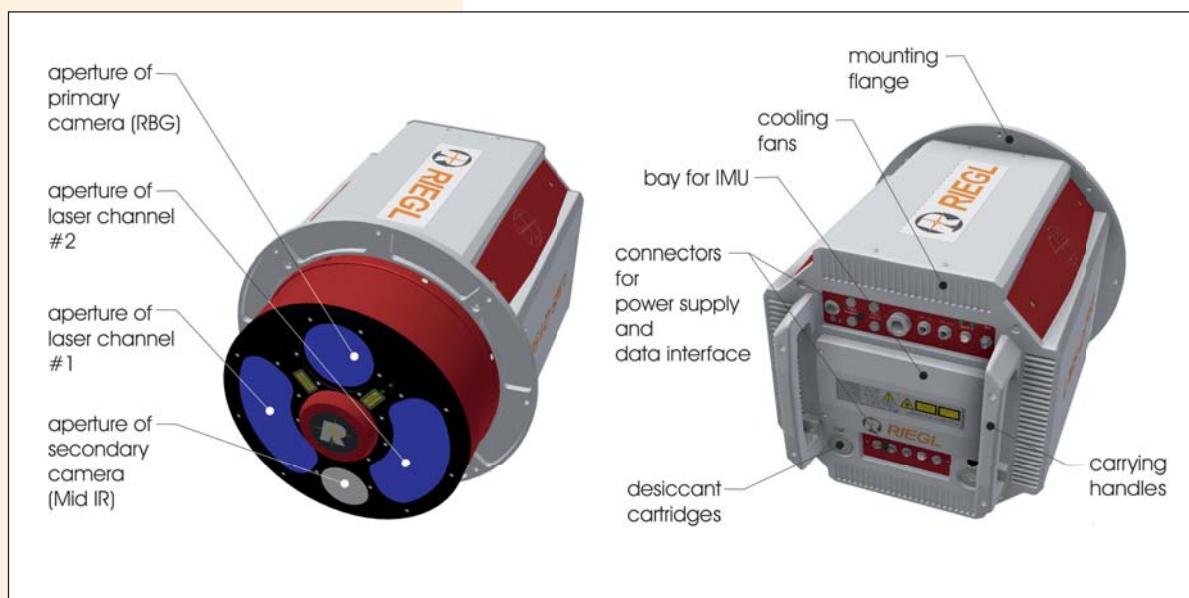
## RIEGL LMS-Q1560 Scan Pattern



Each channel delivers straight parallel scan lines. The scan lines of the two channels are tilted against each other by 28 degrees providing an optimum distribution of the measurements on the ground invariant to changes in terrain height.

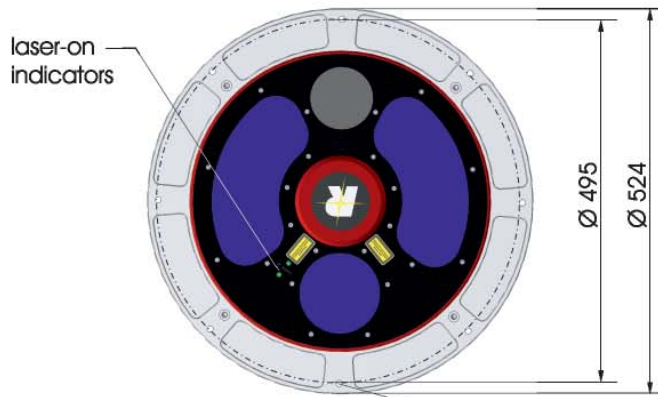
Tilt Angle of Scan Lines **+/- 14°**  
 Forward/Backward Look in Non-Nadir Direction **+/- 8° at the edges**

## RIEGL LMS-Q1560 Housing

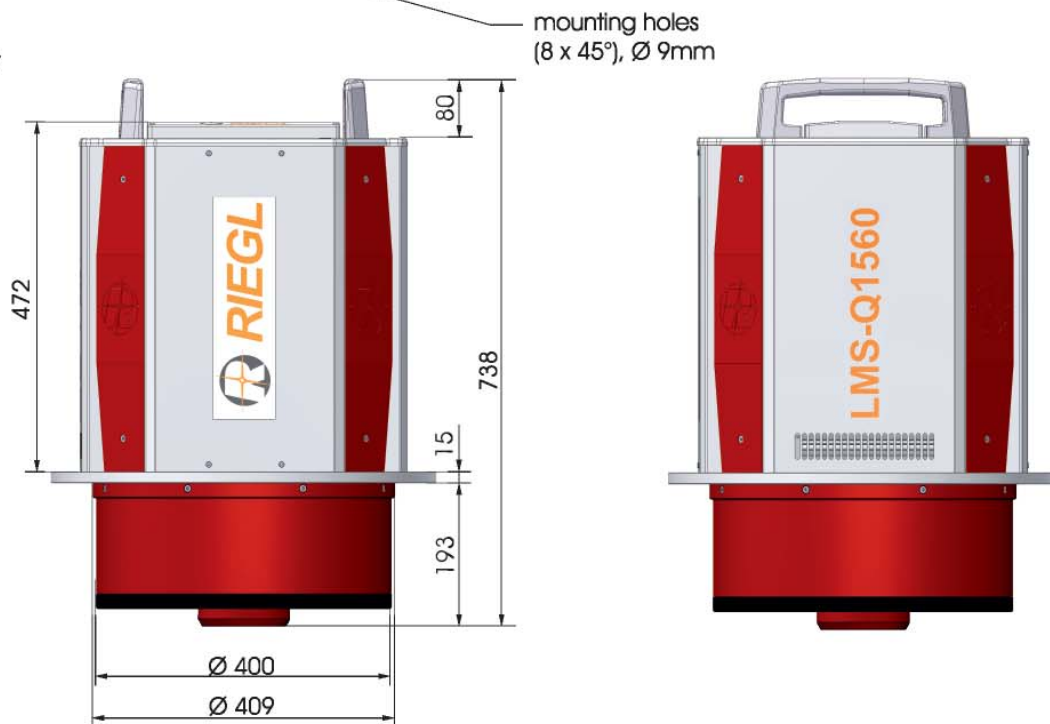




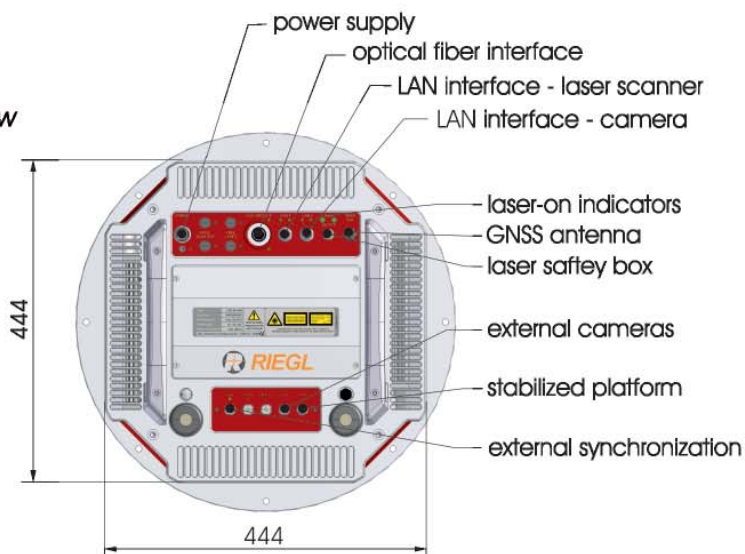
bottom view



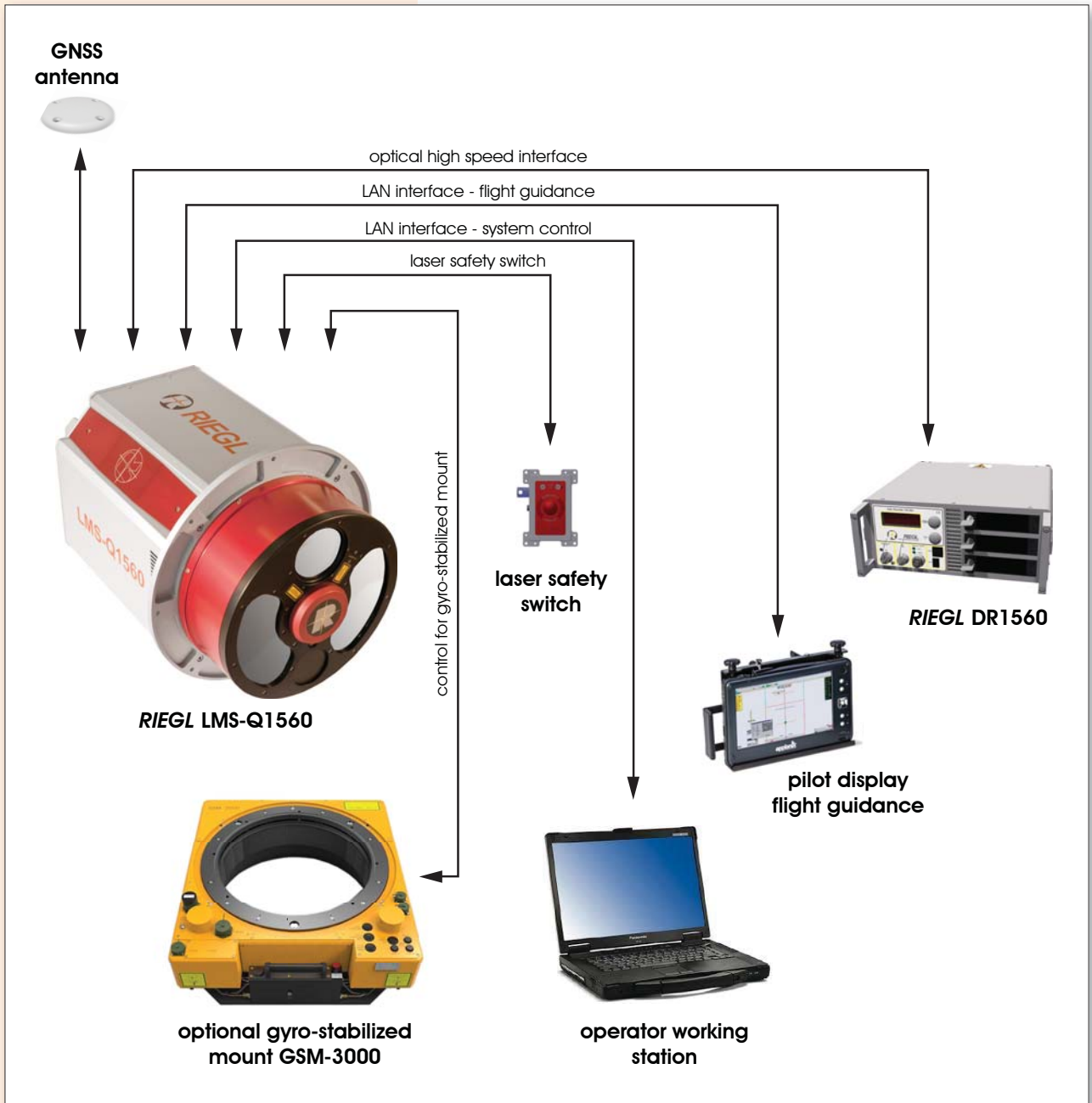
side view



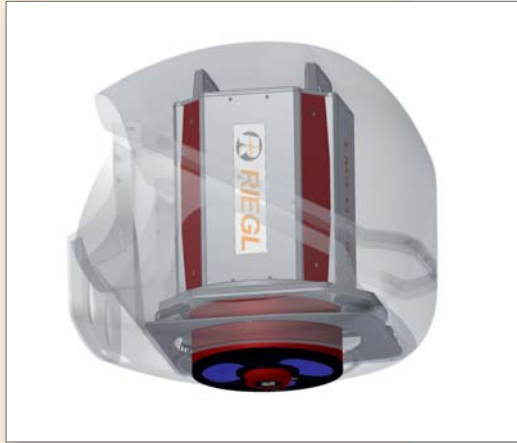
top view



all dimensions in mm



A minimum number of system components and external cabling is required for easy and quick installation in aircrafts.



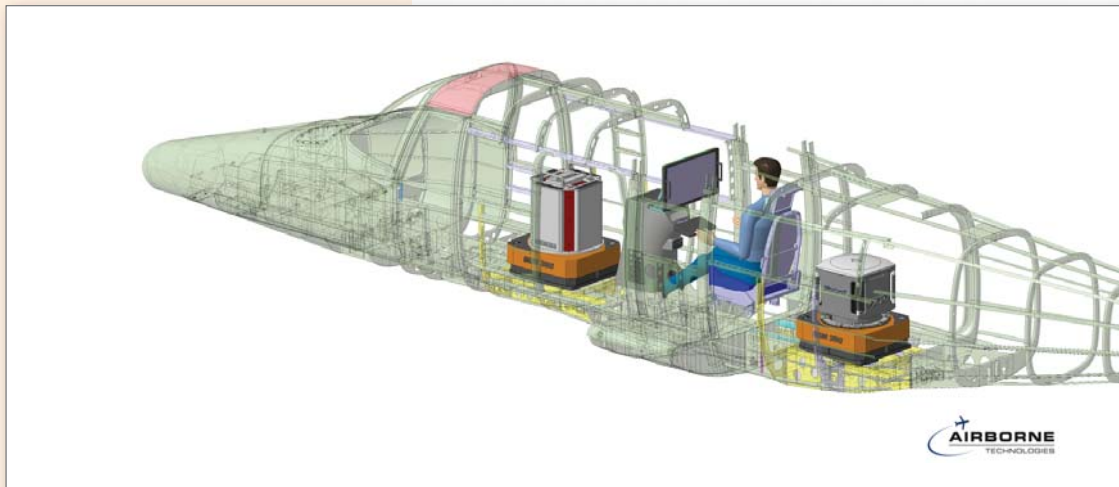
RIEGL LMS-Q1560 installed in the nose pod of fixed-wing aircraft **DA42 MPP**



RIEGL LMS-1560 installed on GSM-3000 gyro-stabilized platform to be used in a helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft



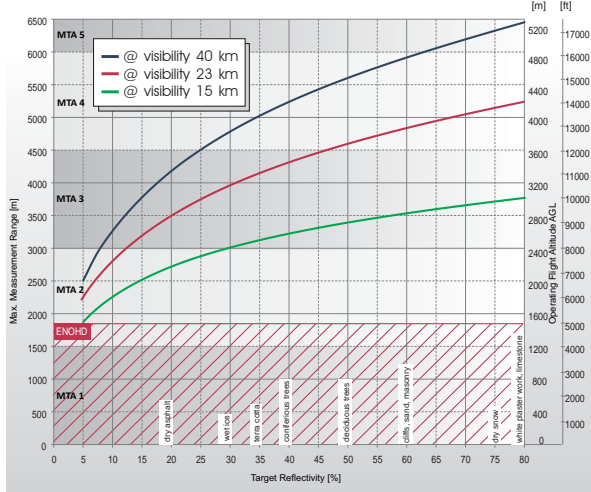
RIEGL LMS-Q1560 installed on GSM-3000 stabilized platform in the fixed-wing aircraft **TECNAM MMA**



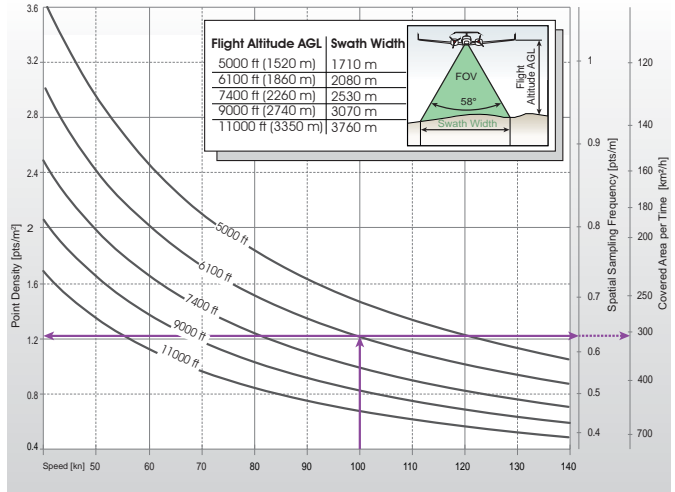
RIEGL LMS-Q1560 installed on GSM-3000 stabilized platform in the fixed-wing aircraft **A-VIATOR AP68PT-600**

# Measurement Range & Point Density RIEGL LMS-Q1560

PRR = 200 kHz, laser power level 100%

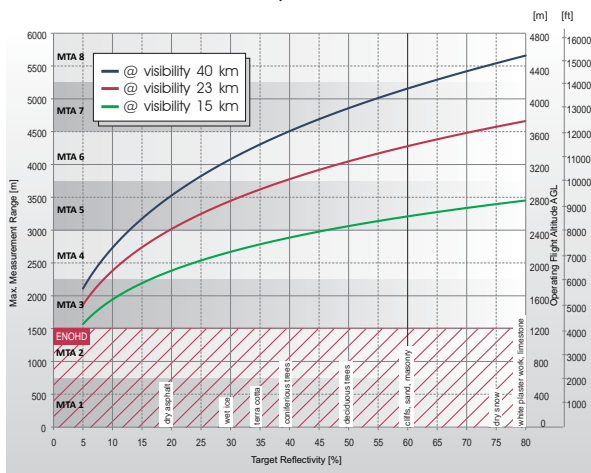


Example: LMS-Q1560 at 200,000 pulses/sec, laser power level 100%  
Altitude = 6100ft AGL, Speed = 100 kn

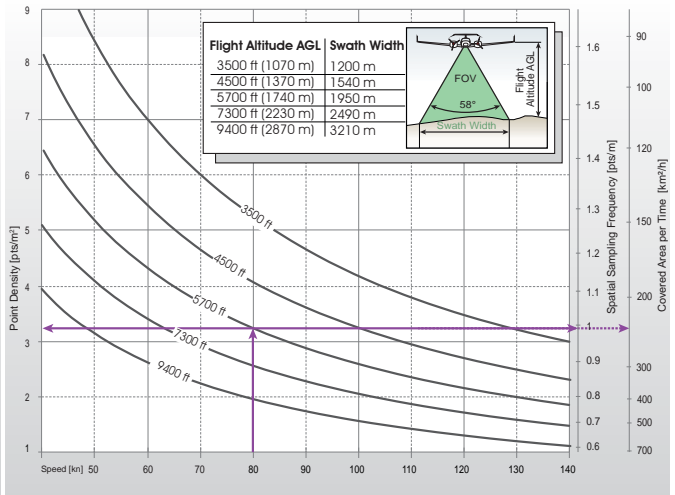


Results: Point Density ~ 1.2 pts/m<sup>2</sup>  
Spatial Sampling Frequency ~ 0.62 pts/m  
Covered Area per Time ~ 310 km<sup>2</sup>/h

PRR = 400 kHz, laser power level 100%

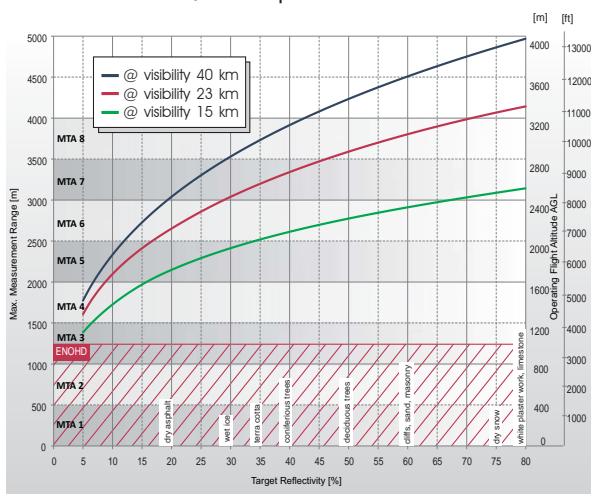


Example: LMS-Q1560 at 400,000 pulses/sec, laser power level 100%  
Altitude = 5700ft AGL, Speed = 80 kn

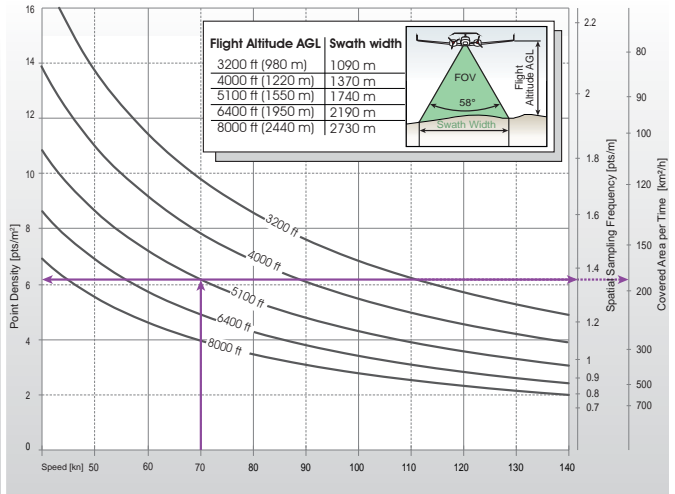


Results: Point Density ~ 3.2 pts/m<sup>2</sup>  
Spatial Sampling Frequency ~ 1 pts/m  
Covered Area per Time ~ 250 km<sup>2</sup>/h

PRR = 600 kHz, laser power level 100%



Example: LMS-Q1560 at 600,000 pulses/sec, laser power level 100%  
Altitude = 5100ft AGL, Speed = 70 kn



Results: Point Density ~ 6.2 pts/m<sup>2</sup>  
Spatial Sampling Frequency ~ 1.38 pts/m  
Covered Area per Time ~ 180 km<sup>2</sup>/h

**The following conditions are assumed for the Operating Flight Altitude AGL**

- ambiguity resolved by multiple-time-around (MTA) processing & flight planning
- target size ≥ laser footprint
- scan angle 60°
- average ambient brightness
- roll angle ±5°

**Definition of the Spatial Sampling Frequency**

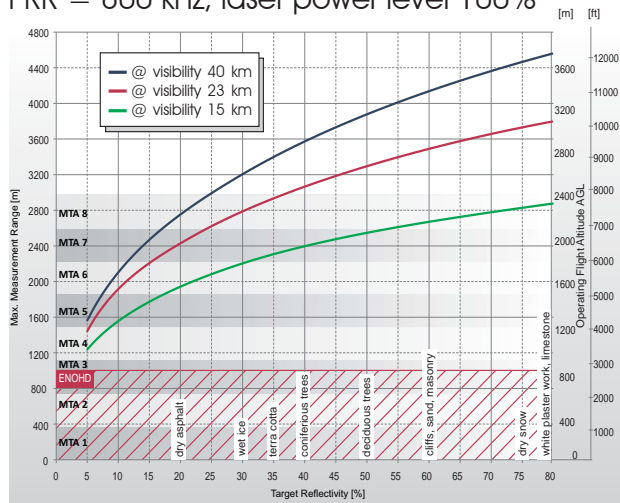
- The Spatial Sampling Frequency is the reciprocal of the 95th percentile of the distribution function of the maximum distances between neighboring scan points. When considering any individual scan point, the probability to find its most distant neighbor within the reciprocal of the Spatial Sampling Frequency is 95%.

**Assumptions for calculation of the Covered Area per Time**

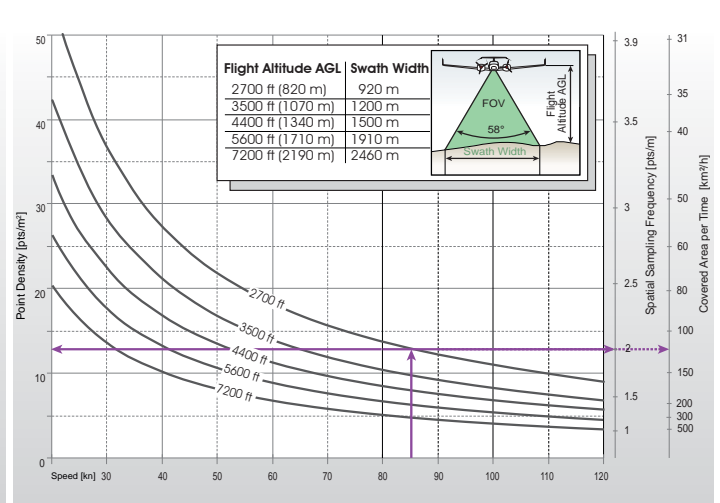
- 20% overlap of neighboring flight strips. This overlap covers a roll angle of ±5° or a reduction of flight altitude AGL of 20%.

# Measurement Range & Point Density RIEGL LMS-Q1560

PRR = 800 kHz, laser power level 100%

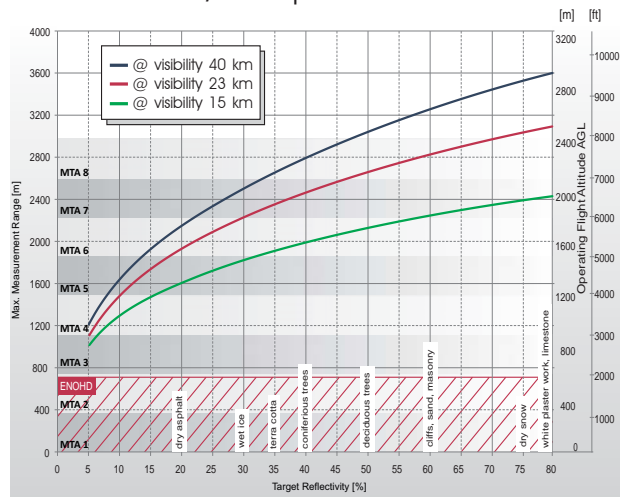


Example: LMS-Q1560 at 800,000 pulses/sec, laser power level 100%  
Altitude = 2700ft AGL, Speed = 85 kn

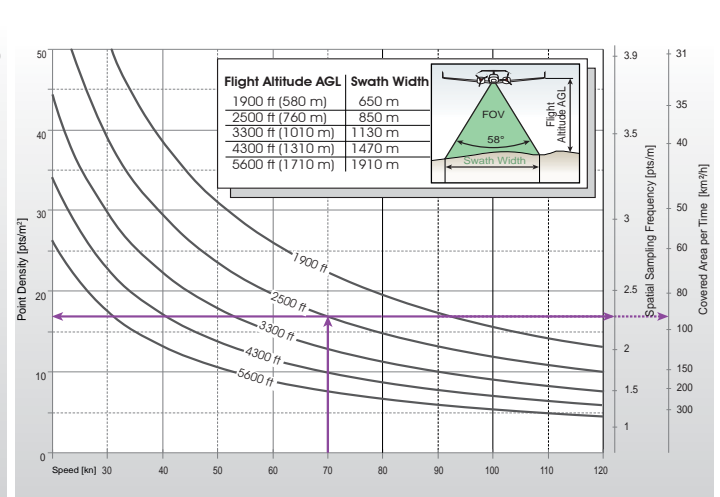


Results: Point Density ~ 12.8 pts/m<sup>2</sup>  
Spatial Sampling Frequency ~ 2 pts/m  
Covered Area per Time ~ 120 km<sup>2</sup>/h

PRR = 800 kHz, laser power level 50%

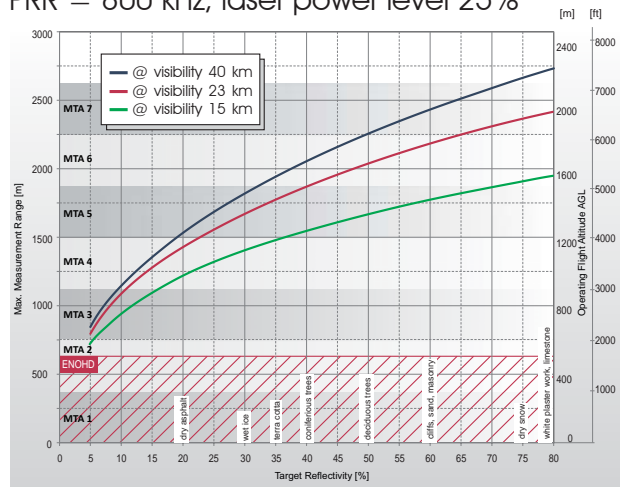


Example: LMS-Q1560 at 800,000 pulses/sec, laser power level 50%  
Altitude = 2500ft AGL, Speed = 70 kn

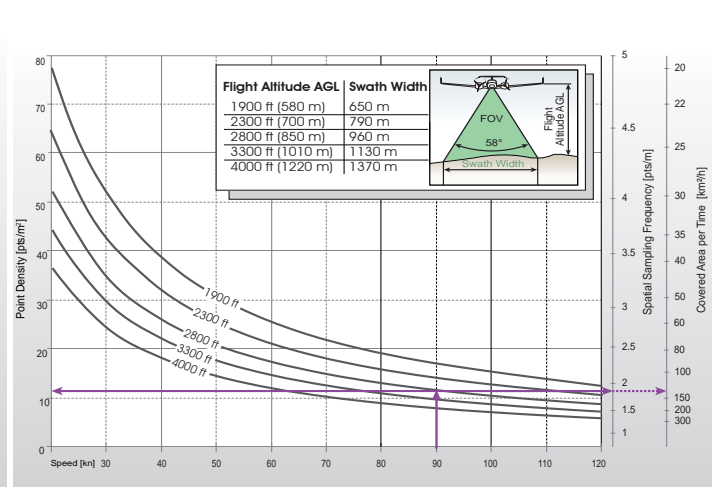


Results: Point Density ~ 16.8 pts/m<sup>2</sup>  
Spatial Sampling Frequency ~ 2.2 pts/m  
Covered Area per Time ~ 95 km<sup>2</sup>/h

PRR = 800 kHz, laser power level 25%



Example: LMS-Q1560 at 800,000 pulses/sec, laser power level 25%  
Altitude = 2800ft AGL, Speed = 90 kn



Results: Point Density ~ 11.6 pts/m<sup>2</sup>  
Spatial Sampling Frequency ~ 1.8 pts/m  
Covered Area per Time ~ 140 km<sup>2</sup>/h

**The following conditions are assumed for the Operating Flight Altitude AGL**

- ambiguity resolved by multiple-time-around (MTA) processing & flight planning
- target size ≥ laser footprint
- scan angle 60°
- average ambient brightness
- roll angle ±5°

**Definition of the Spatial Sampling Frequency**

- The Spatial Sampling Frequency is the reciprocal of the 95th percentile of the distribution function of the maximum distances between neighboring scan points.
- When considering any individual scan point, the probability to find its most distant neighbor within the reciprocal of the Spatial Sampling Frequency is 95%.

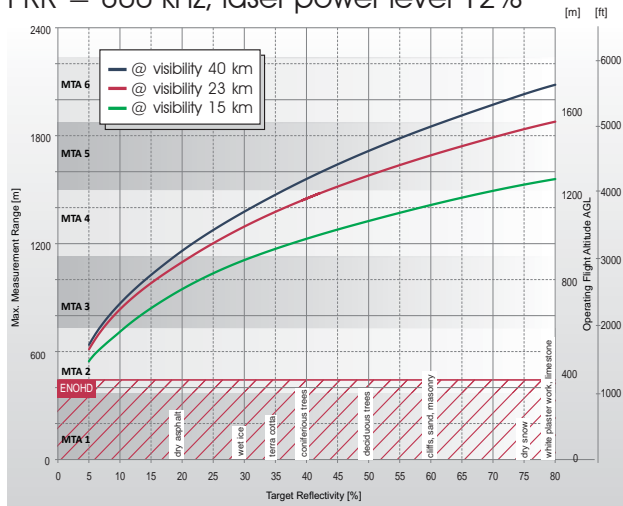
**Assumptions for calculation of the Covered Area per Time**

- 20% overlap of neighboring flight strips. This overlap covers a roll angle of ±5° or a reduction of flight altitude AGL of 20%.

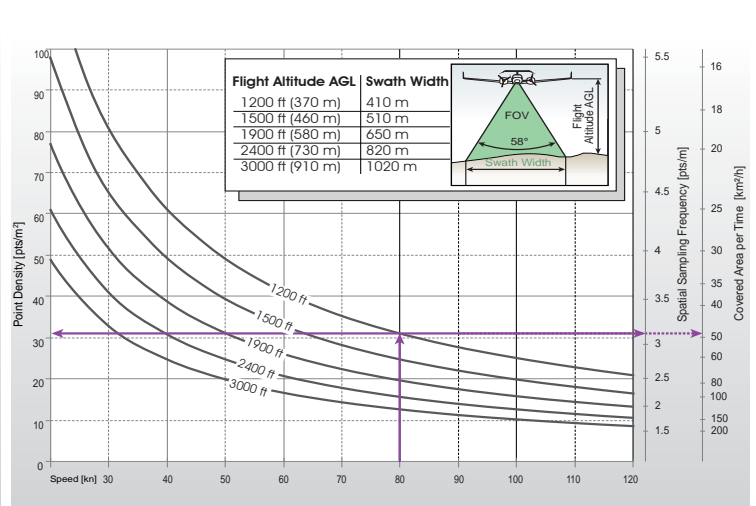


# Measurement Range & Point Density RIEGL LMS-Q1560

PRR = 800 kHz, laser power level 12%

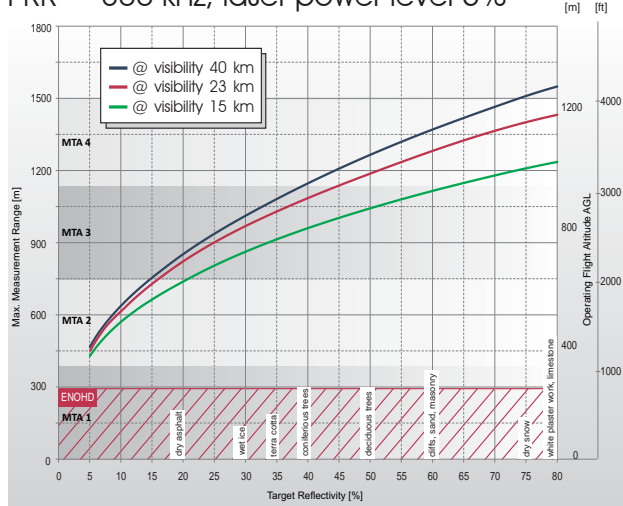


Example: LMS-Q1560 at 800,000 pulses/sec, laser power level 12%  
Altitude = 1200ft AGL, Speed = 80 kn

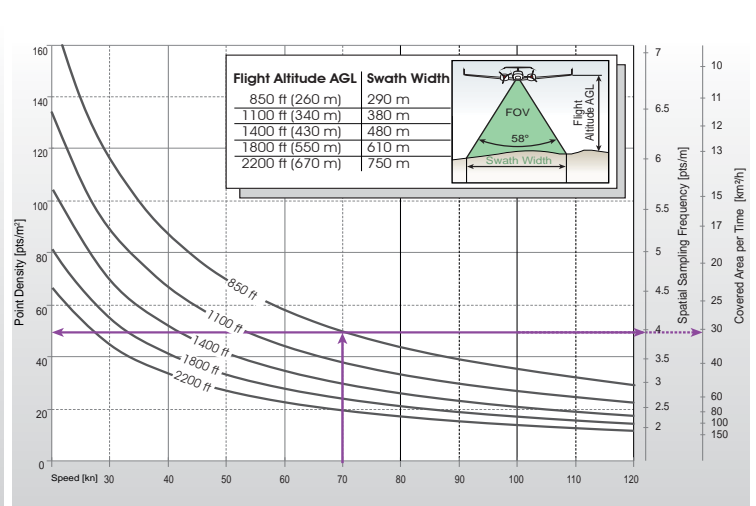


Results: Point Density ~ 31 pts/m<sup>2</sup>  
Spatial Sampling Frequency ~ 3.1 pts/m  
Covered Area per Time ~ 49 km<sup>2</sup>/h

PRR = 800 kHz, laser power level 6%



Example: LMS-Q1560 at 800,000 pulses/sec, laser power level 6%  
Altitude = 850ft AGL, Speed = 70 kn



Results: Point Density ~ 49.4 pts/m<sup>2</sup>  
Spatial Sampling Frequency ~ 4 pts/m  
Covered Area per Time ~ 31 km<sup>2</sup>/h

**The following conditions are assumed for the Operating Flight Altitude AGL**

- ambiguity resolved by multiple-time-around (MTA) processing & flight planning
- target size ≥ laser footprint
- scan angle 60°
- average ambient brightness
- roll angle ±5°

**Assumptions for calculation of the Covered Area per Time**

- 20% overlap of neighboring flight strips. This overlap covers a roll angle of ±5° or a reduction of flight altitude AGL of 20%.

**Definition of the Spatial Sampling Frequency**

- The Spatial Sampling Frequency is the reciprocal of the 95th percentile of the distribution function of the maximum distances between neighboring scan points. When considering any individual scan point, the probability to find its most distant neighbor within the reciprocal of the Spatial Sampling Frequency is 95%.



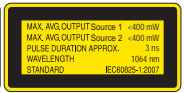
# Technical Data RIEGL LMS-Q1560

## Laser Product Classification

## Class 3B Laser Product according to IEC60825-1:2007

The following clause applies for instruments delivered into the United States: Complies with 21 CFR 1040.10 and 1040.11 except for deviations pursuant to Laser Notice No. 50, dated June 24, 2007.

The instrument must be used only in combination with the appropriate laser safety box.



## Range Measurement Performance

### Full Laser Power

as a function of laser power setting, PRR, and target reflectivity

Laser Power Level	100%			
Laser Pulse Repetition Rate (PRR)	200 kHz	400 kHz	600 kHz	800 kHz
Max. Measuring Range <sup>1) 3)</sup> natural targets $\rho \geq 20\%$ natural targets $\rho \geq 60\%$	4100 m 5800 m	3500 m 5100 m	3000 m 4500 m	2700 m 4100 m
Max. Operating Flight Altitude Above Ground Level (AGL) <sup>2) 3)</sup>	4700 m 15500 ft	4200 m 13700 ft	3700 m 12000 ft	3300 m 11000 ft
NOHD <sup>4)</sup> ENOHD <sup>5)</sup>	260 m 1850 m	210 m 1500 m	170 m 1220 m	145 m 1050 m

1) The following conditions are assumed: • target is larger than the footprint of the laser beam • average ambient brightness • visibility 40 km  
• perpendicular angle of incidence • ambiguity resolved by multiple-time-around processing  
2) Reflectivity  $\rho \geq 60\%$ , max. scan angle  $60^\circ$ , additional roll angle  $\pm 5^\circ$   
3) In bright sunlight the operational range may be considerably shorter and the operational flight altitude may be considerably lower than under an overcast sky.  
4) Nominal Ocular Hazard Distance, based upon MPE according to IEC60825-1:2007, for single pulse condition  
5) Extended Nominal Ocular Hazard Distance, based upon MPE according to IEC60825-1:2007, for single pulse condition

### Reduced Laser Power

Laser Power Level	50%	25%	12%	6%
Laser Pulse Repetition Rate (PRR)	800 kHz	800 kHz	800 kHz	800 kHz
Max. Measuring Range <sup>6) 8)</sup> natural targets $\rho \geq 20\%$ natural targets $\rho \geq 60\%$	2100 m 3200 m	1500 m 2400 m	1120 m 1800 m	820 m 1350 m
Max. Operating Flight Altitude Above Ground Level (AGL) <sup>7) 8)</sup>	2600 m 8600 ft	1950 m 6400 ft	1450 m 4800 ft	1100 m 3600 ft
NOHD <sup>9)</sup> ENOHD <sup>10)</sup>	100 m 730 m	87 m 640 m	59 m 440 m	38 m 295 m

6) The following conditions are assumed: • target is larger than the footprint of the laser beam • average ambient brightness • visibility 40 km  
• perpendicular angle of incidence • ambiguity resolved by multiple-time-around processing  
7) Reflectivity  $\rho \geq 60\%$ , max. scan angle  $60^\circ$ , additional roll angle  $\pm 5^\circ$   
8) In bright sunlight the operational range may be considerably shorter and the operational flight altitude may be considerably lower than under an overcast sky.  
9) Nominal Ocular Hazard Distance, based upon MPE according to IEC60825-1:2007, viewing a single scan line  
10) Extended Nominal Ocular Hazard Distance, based upon MPE according to IEC60825-1:2007, viewing a single scan line

Minimum Range <sup>11)</sup>

Accuracy <sup>12) 13)</sup>

Precision <sup>12) 14)</sup>

Laser Pulse Repetition Rate

Effective Measurement Rate

Laser Wavelength

Laser Beam Divergence <sup>15)</sup>

Number of Targets per Pulse

50 m

20 mm

20 mm

up to 800 kHz

up to 532 kHz @  $60^\circ$  scan angle

near infrared

$\leq 0.25$  mrad

digitized waveform processing: unlimited <sup>16)</sup>

monitoring data output: first pulse

## Scanner Performance

Scanning Mechanism

Scan Pattern

Tilt Angle of Scan Lines

Forward/ Backward Look in Non-Nadir Direction

Scan Angle Range

Scan Speed

rotating polygon mirror

parallel scan lines per channel, crossed scan lines between channels

$\pm 14^\circ = 28^\circ$

$\pm 8^\circ$  at the edges

$60^\circ$  total per channel, resulting in an effective FOV of  $58^\circ$

28 - 400 lines/sec<sup>17)</sup> @ laser power level  $\geq 50\%$

20 - 400 lines/sec<sup>18)</sup> @ laser power level  $< 50\%$

$\Delta\theta \geq 0.012^\circ$  @ laser power level  $\geq 50\%$

$\Delta\theta \geq 0.006^\circ$  @ laser power level  $< 50\%$

0.001°

Angular Step Width  $\Delta\theta$  <sup>19)</sup>

Angle Measurement Resolution

18) Minimum scan speed increasing linearly to 54 lines/sec @ 800 000 Hz PRR @ laser power  $< 50\%$

19) Angle between consecutive laser shots within a scan line, user adjustable

11) Limitation for range measurement capability, does not consider laser safety!

12) Standard deviation one sigma @ 250 m range under RIEGL test conditions.

13) Accuracy is the degree of conformity of a measured quantity to its actual (true) value.

14) Precision, also called reproducibility or repeatability, is the degree to which further measurements show the same result.

15) Measured at the  $1/e^2$  points. 0.25 mrad correspond to an increase of 25 cm of beam diameter per 1000 m distance.

16) Practically limited only by the maximum data rate allowed for the RIEGL Data Recorder.

17) Minimum scan speed increasing linearly to 106 lines/sec @ 800 000 Hz PRR @ laser power  $\geq 50\%$

Technical Data to be continued at page 10

# Technical Data RIEGL LMS-Q1560 (continued)

## Intensity Measurement

For each echo signal, high-resolution 16-bit intensity information is provided which can be used for target discrimination and/or identification/classification.

## Data Interfaces

Configuration  
Monitoring Data Output  
Digitized Data Output  
Synchronization

TCP/IP Ethernet (10/100 MBit)  
TCP/IP Ethernet (10/100 MBit)  
Dual glass fiber data link to RIEGL Data Recorder DR1560  
Serial RS232 interface, TTL input for 1 pps synchronization pulse, accepts different data formats for GNSS-time information

## General Technical Data

Power Supply / Current Consumption  
Main Dimensions (L x W x H)  
Weight

18 - 32 V DC / approx. 10 A @ 24 VDC  
444 x 444 x 738 mm, mounting flange diameter 524 mm  
approx. 62 kg without optional components  
approx. 69 kg with optional components  
IP54

Protection Class  
Max. Flight Altitude operating / not operating  
Temperature Range

18500 ft (5600 m) above Mean Sea Level MSL / 18500 ft (5600 m) above MSL  
0°C up to +40°C (operation) / -10°C up to +50°C (storage)

## Optional Components LMS-Q1560

**Please note: The INS and the camera configuration of the RIEGL LMS-Q1560 Laser Scanning System can be modified to the customer's requirements.**

## Integrated Digital Cameras

### RGB Camera

Sensor Resolution  
Sensor Dimensions (diagonal)  
Focal Length of Camera Lens  
Field of View (FOV)  
Interface  
Data Storage

80 MPixel  
67.2 mm (medium format)  
55 mm  
approx. 52° x 40°  
USB 3.0  
via GigE to RIEGL Data Recorder DR1560

### Infrared Camera (optional)

Spectral Range  
Sensor Resolution  
Sensor Dimensions (diagonal)  
Focal Length of Camera Lens  
Field of View (FOV)  
Interface  
Data Storage

7.5 - 14  $\mu$ m  
640 x 480 Pixel  
13.6 mm  
13.1 mm  
approx. 45° x 34°  
GigE  
via GigE to RIEGL Data Recorder DR1560

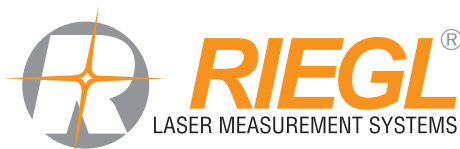
## Integrated IMU/GNSS <sup>1)</sup>

IMU Accuracy <sup>2)</sup>  
Roll, Pitch  
Heading  
IMU Sampling Rate  
Position Accuracy (typ.)

0.005°  
0.008°  
200 Hz  
0.05 m - 0.3 m

<sup>1)</sup> The installed IMU is listed neither in the European Export Control List (i.e. Annex 1 of Council Regulation 428/2009) nor in the Canadian Export Control List. Detailed information on certain cases will be provided on request.

<sup>2)</sup> One sigma values, no GNSS outages, post-processed with base station data



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