Olex is a chart plotter that combines ENC navigation and fisheries plotting, with realtime seabed mapping and 2D/3D visualization. The system was created in 1997. It is used by more than 7000 professional fishing vessels worldwide. 500 users are added every year.

Olex exists because fishermen need more knowledge about the seabed than ENCs can provide. With Olex, they create their own detailed maps.

Different levels of sensors...

Low cost
- Simple fishfinder
- Ordinary GPS

Mid range
- Advanced fishfinder
- Geodetic GPS
- Simple attitude

High end
- Multibeam echosounder
- Geodetic GPS
- Advanced attitude
- Sound velocity

Olex contains all the software needed for complete mapping and cleaning. It automatically generates bathymetry as the vessel moves around. A wide range of sensors can be used, from the simplest fishfinder to high end multibeam echosounders.

There is a clear reward for sharing data. While an Olex user may map the whole world himself, he can choose to participate in a sharing programme. Bathymetry is sent to Olex headquarters, cleaned and adjusted for draft and sound velocity, and added to the worldwide Olex dataset. This dataset can be downloaded and installed by any Olex user free of charge.

The Olex dataset currently contains some 6.5 billion soundings from 3200 contributions. New releases are made every 4 month.

Olex bathymetry is referenced in 124 scientific papers and ~1700 citations. The quality of the Olex dataset is ensured by massive oversampling and statistical cleaning. Densely mapped areas approach the quality of hydrographic multibeam surveys, even though the data is collected by simple fishing vessels.

www.oxel.no