Spatial Data Infrastructure Asia & the Pacific Newsletter

SDI-AP	March 2009	Vol. 6, No. 3

Spatial Data Infrastructure – Asia and the Pacific (SDI-AP) is a free electronic newsletter from the **Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI)** < http://www.gsdi.org/ >. The newsletter is produced for people interested in Spatial Data Infrastructure, GIS, remote sensing, and geospatial data issues in Asia and the Pacific. It aims to raise awareness and provide useful information to strengthen SDI initiatives and support the synchronisation of activities across the region. Support for the newsletter is also provided by the **Permanent Committee on Geographic Information for Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP)** < http://www.pcgiap.org/ >, a regional forum to enhance cooperation in the development of a regional geographic information infrastructure. The newsletter is currently being produced for GSDI by the **Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration at the University of Melbourne** < http://www.geom.unimelb.edu.au/research/SDI_research/index.html >.

To subscribe to SDI-AP, please go to: < http://www.gsdi.org/newslist/gsdisubscribe.asp >. Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website: < http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters.asp >. You can also sign up for **GSDI News List** < http://www.gsdi.org/newslist/gsdisubscribe.asp > to receive alerts of special news and announcements as well as notification of new issues of the SDI-AP newsletter. To subscribe to, and access archives of, thematic or regional discussion lists please visit < http://www.gsdi.org/discussionlists.asp >.

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Message from the editor

Welcome to the March edition of the newsletter.

This month the SDI spotlight is shone onto this month's missing "Spotlight" feature. The editors regret to inform our subscribers that we have not been able to solicit any contributions for this month's feature. We hope that the editors' increased persuasion for future contributions will be evident in next month's issue. In the meanwhile, those contributors seeking to have their work published in one of the foremost SDI publications should forward their articles to the editors.

If you have news or information related to SDI, GIS, RS or spatial data that you would like to share with the community (e.g. workshop announcements, publications, reports, websites of interest etc.), kindly send us the materials by the **25th of the each month** to < mailto:sdi-ap@gsdi.org >, for your contribution to be included in the next newsletter.

Malcolm Park and Serryn Eagleson (Editors) < mailto:Editor.SDIAP@gmail.com >
Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration, The University of Melbourne
< http://www.geom.unimelb.edu.au/research/SDI_research/index.html >

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Contributions

Thank you to the following people and organisations for their contributions to this issue:
Paul Box, Kate Lance, and Baek Wonkug for news feeds, Jeremy Huang and Jeremy Shen from the Ministry of the Interior, Taiwan for the Chinese translation, and Shivani Lal, *GIS Development* and *Asia Surveying Mapping Magazine* for directly feeding into the newsletter.

SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

New White Paper: HL7 and Spatial Interoperability Standards for Public Health and Health Care Delivery
Hospitals, health systems, providers, and public health agencies increasingly use GIS as a tool for understanding population health and program planning and generating performance measurements for use as key components of management information systems. This paper describes the New HL7 Common Message Element Type (CMET). A spatial coordinate, now available to the health community worldwide, and how the use of this improved geographic standard inside HL7 will help to improve the spatial interoperability of health data across all public health authorities as well as between health care providers such as hospitals, clinics, physicians and emergency responders.
Source: ESRI News Feed < http://www.google.com.au/reader/view/feed/http://www.esri.com/news/rss/rss.xml >
< www.esri.com/library/whitepapers/pdfs/hl7-spatial-interoperability.pdf >

Land Cover Database Planning Workshop, New Zealand 19-26 February, 2009 - Christchurch - Dunedin - Palmerston North – Hamilton
** Although we publish this item too late for readers of the March newsletter to avail themselves of these workshops we intend to bring the results of the workshops in a later issue of the newsletter.**
The LCDB is a nationally significant database which is widely used throughout the country. It is a digital map created by grouping similar types of land cover which can identified from satellite images. There are currently two versions in circulation depicting New Zealand's land cover in 1996-97 and 2001-02. A third version is proposed which will use the mapping output from the Ministry for the Environment's Land Use and Carbon Analysis System (LUCAS) programme as a base. This mapping is based on satellite data over the summer of 2007-08. **PDF Flyer available from** < http://www.geospatial.govt.nz/assets/LCDB3-Workshop-Flyer.pdf >
The NZ Geospatial Offices seeks input to scope the new version of the LCDB and make it relevant for today's needs. The workshop will be of interest to policy makers, land managers, researchers and analysts - anyone with an interest or a stake in land cover information. Contact: Maria Alano at mailto:maria.alano@mfe.govt.nz
Website: < http://www.geospatial.govt.nz/land-cover-database-planning-workshop-2/ >
Source: Kate Lance

China to grant remote sensing satellite to Indonesia
The Chinese government will grant Indonesia a remote sensing satellite to help monitor and provide early detections on events taking place in the sea, an official said.
"China will grant Indonesia a satellite for monitoring happenings and developments in the sea. With the satellite, Indonesia`s sensing capability at sea would be increased," Head of the Indonesian National Sea Security Coordination Agency (Bakormala) Tri Yuswoyo said.
SOURCE: Antara News (Indonesia)
< http://www.antara.co.id/en/arc/2009/1/22/china-to-grant-remote-sensing-satellite-to-indonesia/ >

Afghanistan's geophysical & RS survey completed
Building on the success of Rampant Lion l, scientists from the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) have completed Rampant Lion ll, a geophysical and remote sensing survey of Afghanistan. Rampant Lion ll took place from mid-April to mid-June 2008 with a significantly upgraded sensor suite.
SOURCE: EurekaAlert < http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2009-02/nrl-nrl020309.php > and *GIS Development* < http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_dvcqmosbxi&cat=Business_News&sub&Ezine=feb0909&section=News >

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Submission preparation session: continental shelf delineation for southwest Pacific Island States
< http://www.continentalshelf.org/events/1231.aspx >
** **Although we publish this item too late for readers of the March newsletter to avail themselves of these workshops we intend to bring the results of the workshops in a later issue of the newsletter**
The UNEP Shelf Programme, in conjunction with partners in the Pacific, Geosciences Australia and Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), will hold a work session at the University of Sydney from 9-20 February 2009.
Technical teams from the nine developing states in the Pacific planning to lodge submissions for extended continental shelf, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Tonga, Fiji, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Vanuatu and Palau will attend the session, which is the fifth in a series of training workshops and work sessions dedicated to the completion of the work related to the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf.
The session will focus on the drafting of final documents containing the legal and technical case to support the proposed outer limits of the continental shelf that have been determined at previous workshops. The goal of the workshop is for each of the states to complete a draft Executive Summary and draft Main Body document. The workshop is funded by a grant from AusAID.
Source: Kate Lance

The Singapore Land Authority < http://www.sla.gov.sg/htm/hom/index.htm > Chief Executive, Mr Lam Joon Khoi's **keynote speech at the ESRI User Conference 2009** (20-20 January, 2009) is available from < http://www.sla.gov.sg/htm/new/new2009/new1002b.htm >. Subject of the keynote: Singapore's NSDI initiative, the Singapore Geospatial Collaborative Environment (SG-SPACE). The accompanying Press Release summarizing the keynote is available from: < http://www.sla.gov.sg/htm/new/new2009/new1002.htm >

Local government (New Zealand) sees value of geospatial information
The importance of geospatial information to local councils' planning and services infrastructure was a focus of a day of presentations organised in Wellington in June by the New Zealand Geospatial Office. A range of speakers presented on topics related to Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) and elevation data. Available for download are pdf versions of the Powerpoint presentations that were given.
< http://www.geospatial.govt.nz/local-government-sees-value-of-gi/ >
Source: Kate Lance

Government of Mongolia adopts the Universal Address System
Mongolia: Government of Mongolia has passed a resolution to adopt the revolutionary technology of NAC Geographic Products Inc. - the Universal Address System for all location related services and products in Mongolia on February 16.
Universal Addresses not only possess all the functionalities of traditional addresses, but more importantly are unified representations of all locations and areas in the world that can be used conveniently by both consumers and professionals.
A Universal Address is an eight or ten character Natural Area Code (NAC) which can represent both areas and locations anywhere in the world. A two character NAC can specify any area about 1000 km in length and width like a province, a four character NAC represents a 30 km long and wide area (like a city) approximately, a six character NAC is roughly equivalent to any square kilometer area on the earth, an eight character NAC can uniquely identify a 30 meter long and wide area (size of a house or building) in the world, and a ten character NAC can pinpoint any location in the world to the resolution of one meter. Therefore, Universal Addresses are compact and human-friendly codes that can be used as addresses, postcodes, geographic coordinates, area codes, property identifiers, etc
Source: < http://pr-canada.net >
< http://pr-canada.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=78095&Itemid=34 >

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The ICA Working Group on Open Source Geospatial Technologies website is now active at
< http://ica-opensource.scg.ulaval.ca/ >
To subscribe to the discussion list for ICA Working Group on Open Source Geospatial Technologies visit
< http://lists.nottingham.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/ica-opensource >
●●●●●●●●
The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) is co-sponsor of the **First Open Source GIS UK Conference**
< http://www.opensourcegis.org.uk >
Professor William Cartwright (President of the International Cartographic Association) will deliver the inaugural

presentation on behalf of the ICA for the conference. The deadline for abstract submissions for the conference is 15 March 2009 and I look forward to receiving your abstracts.
Dr Suchith Anand < mailto:Suchith.Anand@nottingham.ac.uk >
URL: < http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/cgs/cgs_suchith_anand.html >
Centre for Geospatial Science, Sir Clive Granger Building, University of Nottingham, Tel: (0)115 846 8408

The following items are from the World Map Forum in Hyderabad:

Machine Guidance is the Key
The role of geospatial technology in the world's construction, agriculture and mining industries is critical to the pursuit of greater efficiency and lower costs, according to speakers at Map World Forum in Hyderabad.
Source: *Asian Surveying & Mapping* < http://www.asmmag.com/news/machine-guidance-is-the-key >

Using the users themselves
The only way user demand for data currency and accuracy can possibly be met is by using the users themselves to update their own maps.
Source: *Asian Surveying & Mapping* < http://www.asmmag.com/news/using-users >

India's Changing Map Policy
The global financial crisis has been a disaster for many sectors of the economy, but it will have little effect on the spatial industry, the Indian minister of science and technology has told a conference in Hyderabad. This is because the spatial industry in India is too important to infrastructure, national security and disaster management.
Source: *Asian Surveying & Mapping* < http://www.asmmag.com/news/India-s-Changing-Map-Policy >

New NZ Land Database
Sharon Cottrell, the general manager of customer services at Land Information New Zealand, confirmed that data from a new database of topographic information will be available to third parties for the cost of dissemination, that is, essentially for free.
Source: *Asian Surveying & Mapping* < http://www.asmmag.com/news/new-NZ-land-database >

A View from Over There - India and NSDI
The Editor-in-Chief and Vice Publisher, *Directions Magazine* comments on the World Map Forum
< http://www.directionsmag.com/article.php?article_id=3042 >

Points for the address of Shri. Kapil Sibal, Honourable Minister for S&T and ES at the Map World Forum 2009 on February 10, 2009 < http://mapworldforum.org/2009/kapilsibal_speech.htm >

Singapore Opens Earth Observatory
The Earth Observatory of Singapore (EOS) which aspires to be a leading world institution for understanding and addressing several of civilisation's most serious environmental threats – including earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions and climate change – aims to provide invaluable research and data, with a focus on Southeast Asia, that could potentially save hundreds of thousands of lives.
Source: V1 Media Magazine < http://www.vector1media.com/top-stories/corporate-news/singapore-opens-earth-observatory/ >

First satellite map for China's wetlands
Scientists from Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) said they had made the first satellite map of China's wetland areas, in order to better monitor and manage the areas. The map, which took scientists two years to complete, comprises 600 scenes of satellite images with each scene covering an area of 34,225 square kilometers, said Gong Peng, chief scientist of the project, who is also a researcher of CAS's Institute of Remote Sensing Applications.

According to statistics from the institute, China has a natural wetland area of 308,000 square kilometers as of 2000, including natural lakes, marsh, shallow water along the coast, and inter-tidal shoals.
Source : People's Daily On-line < http://english.people.com.cn > and *GIS News*
< http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_utmdgljxfq&Ezine=feb2309&section=News >

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SDI Spotlight

The editors are actively soliciting contributions to the monthly "SDI Spotlight" feature for future issues.
This month the SDI spotlight is shone onto this month's missing "Spotlight" feature. The editors regret to inform our subscribers that we have not been able to solicit any contributions for this month's feature. We hope that the editors' increased persuasion for future contributions will be evident in next month's issue. In the meanwhile, those contributors seeking to have their work published in the foremost SDI publication should forward their articles to the editors.

GIS Tools, Software, Data

Indian Electricity utility to detect power failures with GIS
Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) has started work on implementing GIS that will detect power failure quickly. More than 100 sq km in the city will be covered and the work is expected to be completed in two years. Once the system is in place, TNEB staff will not only be able to tell customers why there has been an outage but also pinpoint the faulty junction box. This is part of the computer-aided utility mapping project carried out by the planning commission. Maps developed for Chennai using GIS applications will be on a 1:1000 scale and would pinpoint the location of utility lines or structures.
Source : *Times of India*
< http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Chennai/TNEB_to_pinpoint_power_failures_with_GIS/articleshow/4083868.cms > and *GIS Development*
< http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_qafcvglruj&Ezine=feb0909&section=News >

Google, Yahoo United in Map Sevices
Google Korea < www.google.co.kr > and Yahoo! Korea < www.yahoo.co.kr > have announced plans to merge their key Web services over the platforms of their digital maps and other location-based services, hoping that the enriched applications would drive up traffic on both sites.
Under the agreement, Google sprinkles video clips from YouTube (kr.youtube.com) on Yahoo's map (map.yahoo.co.kr), while Yahoo interconnects its local search service, Gugi (kr.gugi.yahoo.com), with Google's map < www.maps.google.co.kr >.
The changes will be made this month and the content sharing will be extended to the international version of Yahoo's Gugi services (global.gugi.yahoo.co.kr), the companies said.
Korea has been one of the few rare markets where Google and Yahoo have struggled to stay relevant, with Naver controlling around 75 percent of the search market and Daum gobbling up the biggest of table scraps.
The two global giants have been stressing the need for creating an ``open environment'' in Web services, obviously to compete with Naver's massive walled garden, and Google Korea managing director Lee Won-jin said his company's partnership with Yahoo is an extension of those movements.
Source : < http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2009/02/133_38906.html >

India Biodiversity Portal < http://indiabiodiversity.org/index.php >
Launched December 15, 2008, the India Biodiversity Portal is a map-based wiki focused on gathering, aggregating and serving biodiversity information on the Indian subcontinent.
Source: Kate Lance

Socio-economic atlas of the LAO PDR
An analysis based on the 2005 population and housing census.
- * Introduction, Table of Contents
- * Section A: Geographical overview
- * Section B: General demographic characteristics
- * Section C: Migration
- * Section D: Literacy and education
- * Section E: Health & disabilities
- * Section F: Ethnicity and religion
- * Section G: Economic activities
- * Section H: Living conditions
- * Section I: Poverty and inequality
Also, at the same link, < http://www.laoatlas.net/ > **Geography of Poverty and Inequality in the Lao PDR**

PolicyMap launches affordable e-resource for students

RF's PolicyMap.com announced that it is opening up its online market and demographic data to university students at a discounted rate. Students now have easy, affordable access to the same professional-grade data utilized by thousands of policymakers and professionals across the nation. The electronic resource is intended to aid scholarly research and support class discussions through the application of credible data that was previously scattered across the web or unavailable for students.
Source : < http://www.policymap.com >

ARSights: An Augmented Reality Visualization Tool for Google Earth

The Development Lab of Inglobe Technologies launched today a new Web-Based Tool that will allow users to visualize Google Earth 3D models using Augmented Reality.
Source: ARSights Press Release < www.arsights.comemployes >

Article "Digital Pen and Paper Accelerate GIS Projects" by Ken Scheider

Field data collection is vital to the work of the engineering and construction industries, driving significant decisions that ultimately affect the bottom line. Many of the current methods and technologies are inconvenient, error-prone and time-consuming. For example, in many situations field staff collect data on paper forms or maps and those data are re-keyed in, adding not only more time and cost, but the possibility of errors. Thiess Construction has begun using digital pen and paper technology to speed up GIS-based work plans.
Directions Magazine, February 16 < http://www.directionsmag.com/article.php?article_id=3035&trv=1 >

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News from abroad

"This section has been included to highlight some of the developments happening outside the region which demonstrate SDI in action.

Google Maps unveils Latitude

USA: Google Maps has added to itself a new feature called Latitude. Google Maps Latitude is an opt-in service which will allow users to find out the approximate location of their friends or family members, provided that they have opted to share their location with the user.
SOURCE: *GIS News* < http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_zdqmokbaxu > and *Search Engine Jn*l < http://www.searchenginejournal.com/google-maps-now-has-a-location-aware-feature-called-latitude/8434/ >

ALSO: **Google unveils Google Ocean** and **Google Mars 3D** (Source: GIS Development)
Google Ocean aims to turn everyone into Jacques Cousteau. The new feature has combined satellite imagery, underwater photographs, video and scientific data to allow users to see 3-D images of the ocean floor, along with key features such as the location of ship wrecks and coral reefs. **(Part of Google Earth version 5.0)**
http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_gwubszktpo%26Ezine=feb0909%26section=News
see also http://maps.google.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&ll=51.890054,-26.542969&spn=35.807862,79.101563t=h&z=4
AND Mars mode in Google Earth brings to everyone's desktop a high-resolution, three-dimensional view of the Red Planet. Besides providing a rich, immersive 3D view of Mars. The mode enables users to fly virtually through enormous canyons and scale huge mountains on Mars that are much larger than any found on Earth...
http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_mbhepaxkdq%26Ezine=feb0909%26section=News

Green Belt Movement granted Geospatial Excellence Award at Map World Forum

< http://greenbeltmovement.org/n.php?id=156 >
The Geospatial Excellence Award is granted to meritorious projects which have made significant and measurable contributions towards the development of new geospatial applications or innovative modification of existing geospatial technology practices to substantially reduce project costs.
One of the categories of the award is for the usage of Geospatial Technology for Environment Management. Green Belt Movement is using Geospatial Technology for change detection which is critical for understanding what is happening with Kenya's forests and forests across Africa. Green Belt Movement has extensively used Geospatial technology to monitor the growth of the trees and the change in forest cover over time after plantation. GPS units have been used to find out the right locations during replanting projects.
< http://www.mapworldforum.org/2009/conference/award.htm >
Source: Kate Lance

GIS Development **"image of the week"** < http://gisdevelopment.net/ezine/weekly/imgoftheweekfeb0909.htm >

Article "GIS train has left geography station" by Prof. Arup Dasgupta available at
< http://gisdevelopment.net/magazine/global/2009/january/18.htm >

Article "Integrating the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with latest tech" by Muhamad N. Alrajhi available at
< http://gisdevelopment.net/magazine/global/2009/january/54.htm >

Farallon Geographics's new MarineMap
Farallon Geographics < http://www.fargeo.com >, working with the Marine Science Institute at UC Santa Barbara, The Nature Conservancy, and Ecotrust, has developed "MarineMap", a Web 2.0 mapping and decision support system to identify marine protected areas.
Source : *GIS Development* < http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_udikzntqjh > and
< http://www.fargeo.com/press/releases/gis-based-web-mapping-to-identify-marine-protected-areas/ >

Canadian Farmers training on precision agriculture
Canada: Federal and provincial funds will allow Manitoba's agriculture department to organise a series of precision agriculture workshops for farmers over the next two months. "Learning to use these systems can provide educational and economic benefits for future decisions on the farm," provincial Agriculture Minister Rosann Wowchuk said, announcing the workshops in Winnipeg during the annual meeting of Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP), the province's general farm organisation.
The Manitoba Zero Tillage Research Association, Assiniboine Community College and the provincial agriculture department in June 2008 picked up funding from the federal/provincial Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative (ARDI) to develop the training.
The workshops, scheduled in four locations during February and March, are expected to deliver a curriculum to train farmers in "collection, processing and application of information available from precision farming equipment and software" using GPS and GIS.
Source :< http://www.manitobacooperator.ca/issues/ISArticle.asp?id=95337&PC=FBC&issue=01292009 >
and *GIS Development*
< http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_kajydwbsui&Ezine=feb0909&section=News >

Scotland to map wave and tidal power potential
The Scotland government has launched a project to map the wind and tidal energy potential of the Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters north of the country. They are calling the project the Marine Spatial Plan because it will not only gauge the tides and waves, but analyse the seabed, water depth and distance to shore of each area. The government expects to develop a preliminary map over the next year.
Renewable energy mapping has become an important part of green tech. Areas are mapped according to their wind, solar or geothermal potential and companies use that information to plan their energy projects. Mapping is crucial to understanding where and how the world can convert to renewable energy, but so far wind and tidal energy haven't been mapped.
Source: < http://www.ecogeek.org/content/view/2529/84/ > and *GIS Development*
< http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_ioxbuyqjpt&Ezine=feb0909&section=News >

Welcome to AfricaMap < http://cga-3.hmdc.harvard.edu/africamap/ >
AfricaMap is based on the Harvard University Geospatial Infrastructure (HUG) platform, and was developed by the Center for Geographic Analysis to make spatial data on Africa easier for researchers to discover and explore.
Source: Kathleen Weessies < mailto: weessie2@mail.lib.msu.edu >

Johannesburg uses AfriGIS for address verification
South Africa: The City of Johannesburg (COJ) has partnered with location-based services company, AfriGIS, in a street address verification project to ensure reliable property information as a prerequisite for a billing process and service delivery to people living within the metropol.
Source : < http://mybroadband.co.za/news/Telecoms/6832.html > and *GIS Development*
< http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_ycixadlnof&Ezine=feb0909&section=News >

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Mood Mapping ? Geographic Mapping of the effects of the Credit Crunch and Job Security confidence
< http://digitalurban.blogspot.com/2009/01/mapping-credit-crunch-maptube-on-bbc.html >
< http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/ipm/2009/01/credit_crunch_the_return_of_th.shtml >
< http://www.bbc.co.uk/lookeast/content/articles/2009/01/06/job_confidence_map_feature.shtml >
An up and coming feature of MapTube is the ability to carry out near real-time geographic surveys, the latest of which is the new Credit Crunch Survey by the BBC Radio. Respondents to the online survey enter their Post Code and their own self-assessment to the effect on them of the "Credit Crunch" or their job security.
SOURCE: *GIS Development* (2 February, 2008) < http://www.gisdevelopment.net/ezine/weekly/feb0209.htm >

Map- by the people, for the people...

The Birmingham city and its metropolitain area were completely mapped by its citizens by Christmas 2008 making it the first completly mapped city in the UK through the croud sourcing technique used by OpenStreetMap project. It is second in updation and accurate only to the OS map.The data being used by OSM has been obtained from 100 volunteers who collected GPS data while cycling, walking, riding busses and trains and one volunteer even used a canal boat. They have mapped some 15,000 residential roads, 6,000 footpaths and 9,000 other roads in Birmingham (and over 700 bus stops, 300 pubs, 200 traffic lights and 300 postboxes).
Source: Wikipedia and *GIS Development* < http://gisdevelopment.net/ezine/weekly/imgoftheweekfeb1609.htm >
See also **Birmingham digital remapping complete** , Source: Heise On-line < http://tinyurl.com/d4wrv9 >

Massive diamond find perplexes Jwaneng planners (Botswana)

This a classic case of what happens when spatial data in a country is not shared, but is instead kept under lock and key in different government offices, private organisations. Millions have been wasted on servicing land for residential development (for roads, storm water drainage, water pipes and electricity connections), only to find that there are diamonds beneath. As the Mmegi newspaper reports, the new diamond discovery issue is now pitting the Ministries of Local Government, Lands and Housing, and Minerals, Energy and Water Resources against one another, accusing each other of poor consultation.
The Jwaneng town mayor, Christopher Ramolemane, said, "We don't know what is happening at all. This is an issue of three ministries - local government, minerals, and lands - maybe they can better explain to you what is going on," said the visibly frustrated mayor in an interview at his house in Jwaneng. The mayor says he fails to understand how the Jwaneng Town Council were allocated funds to service the unit when authorities knew that they had awarded the same land to a company to explore for diamonds.
< http://www.mmegi.bw/index.php?sid=1&aid=1&dir=2009/February/Monday9 >
[Source: HOORC blog] – Thanks to Kate Lance for providing this instructive example of information "silos"

Geographers Suggest Bin Laden's Probable Location

The research by Thomas Gillespie and John Agnew of the University of California-Los Angeles is reported in the *MIT Internation Review*. In short the pair and other team members used a variety of information inputs, including night imagery, electricity use and other data, along with some profiling principles, to suggest three different compounds in Parachinar, a town 12 miles from the Pakistan border, where Bin Laden may be hiding.
Comment: Well-known geographic-profiling expert Kim Rossmo of Texas State University in San Marcos, suggests the researchers are on to something but may be a bit overconfident: "It's important to think outside the box, and this is an innovative idea worth more pursuit. However, the authors are much too certain of their conclusions."
Source: *Directions Magazine*
< http://apb.directionsmag.com/archives/5414-Geographers-Suggest-Bin-Ladens-Probable-Location.html >

Topeka, Kansas, Uses GIS Tools to Catch Illegal Sewer Hookups

Local governments seeking a way to collect extra revenue without raising taxes might want to follow the lead of Topeka, Kansa. In 2005, the city deployed a GIS tool < http://www.govtech.com/articles/579310 > to help deduce homeowners that have access to the municipal sewer system without paying.
Source: *Government Technology* < http://www.govtech.com/gt/articles/620167 >

Location Tech Tops Librarians List

Location technology was among the trends cited at the Library and Information Technology Association Top Tech Trends panel at the American Libraries Association Midwinter Meeting.
Source: *Library Journal* < http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6632352.html >

NASA-Funded Carbon Dioxide Map of US Released on Google Earth
Interactive maps that detail carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel combustion are now available on the popular Google Earth platform. The maps, funded by NASA and the U.S. Department of Energy through the joint North American Carbon Program, can display fossil fuel emissions by the hour, geographic region, and fuel type.
Source: *V1 Media Magazine* < http://www.vector1media.com/top-stories/environment/nasa%11funded-carbon-dioxide-map-of-us-released-on-google-earth/ >
and *GIS NEWS* < http://www.gisdevelopment.net/news/viewn.asp?id=GIS:N_eiratlonjc >
See Also: NASA Satellite (to track CO$_2$ emissions) Fails to Reach Orbit (Source: *NY Times*)
< http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/25/science/space/25satellite.html?_r=1 >

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Books and Journals

Open Geospatial Consortium News
To subscribe send < mailto:newsletter-request@lists.opengeospatial.org > with "subscribe" (no quotes) in the subject.

GIS is a Green technology
The stories in this e-book detail GIS based applications for innovative, sustainable solutions to many of today's common environmental problems. For example
Addressing Ambinet Air Pollution in Jakarta, Indonesia;
Carbon dioxide Sequestration Communications Supported by GIS;
GIS for the Sustainable Management of Fish Stocks
This free book can be downloaded from: < http://www.esri.com/library/bestpractices/gis-is-green.pdf >

Map Use: Reading and Analysis, Sixth Edition
To unlock the wealth of information in a map, a person must know how to read one. That's why **Map Use: Reading and Analysis, Sixth Edition**, will be a valuable book for people who work with, study, and appreciate maps and want to improve their map reading and analysis skills.

> Replete with nearly 500 maps, photographs, tables, and charts to illustrate the text, this informative volume from ESRI Press teaches the basic concepts of geography and the skills of map reading and analysis. The book includes an overview of different types of maps, map scale and projections, grid coordinate systems, relief portrayal, qualitative and quantitative thematic maps, area and volume measures, GPS and maps, and spatial pattern analysis.

ESRI Press acquired the rights for this latest book from longtime *Map Use* publisher JP Publications, owned by Phillip C. Muehrcke, professor emeritus of geography at the University of Wisconsin, and Juliana O. Muehrcke, the founding editor of Nonprofit World. The Muehrckes wrote the first edition of *Map Use, Reading, Analysis, and Interpretation* in 1978, which was followed up with four subsequent editions, the last two co-authored with Kimerling. Aileen R. Buckley, a cartographic researcher at ESRI, joined the three other authors on this new project.

> *Map Use: Reading and Analysis*, Sixth Edition (ISBN: 9781589481909, 528 pages, $99.95)
> visit < http://www.esri.com/library/esripress/orderoptions.html > for complete ordering options.

Designing Geodatabases for Transportation Transportation networks are highly spatial in nature and dependent upon a high level of planning in their design, operation and maintenance. Accordingly, they are well suited to geographical information systems (GIS) tools. While we tend to think of transport networks in a continuous fashion, primarily to get us from Point A to Point B, these networks are, in practice, made up of smaller segments, many of which are managed independently or in integrated fashion. J. Allison Butler provides readers with in depth knowledge about these networks and how they can be designed, planned and operated through the use of GIS tools
< http://www.vector1media.com/article/review/book-review%3a-designing-geodatabases-for-transportation/ >

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Spatial Data Infrastructure
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Book Review: GIS for A-level Geography

Students and teachers are constantly searching for new and useful geographical information system (GIS) educational materials. While many GIS concepts are universal and apply around the world, instructional material that contains localised content is in greater demand - people learn more quickly and identify with educational material they are familiar with. GIS for A-level Geography is written to not only provide basic GIS concepts, but it also includes a series of applications built around data originating from the British Isles.

< http://www.vector1media.com/article/review/book-review%3a-gis-for-a%11level-geography/ >
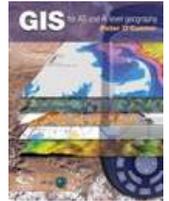
Where Things Are, From Near To Far

< http://newsletter.directionsmag.com/link.php?M=145624&N=1344&L=24245 >

A children's book! While playing in the city park, little Hugo wonders, Who put these buildings here? Hugo's mother leads him on a whirlwind trip through the city, the country, and everything in-between to explain the answer. This engaging book is an easy introduction to the world of urban planning, and illustrates that every building has its place. The book is based on the urban-to-rural transect, which divides cities into six different zones ranging from rural countryside to dense skyscrapers. The transect is a great way to look at the building blocks of a city, and to start thinking about how all the pieces of a city get planned in relation to one another. From Planetizen Press, 2009.

The Natures of Maps: Cartographic Constructions of the Natural World

Cartographers have known for decades that maps are far from objective representations of the world; rather, every map reflects the agendas and intentions of its creators. Yet that understanding has had almost no effect on the way maps are viewed and used by the general public. In *The Natures of Maps*, cartographers Denis Wood and John Fels present a compelling exploration of a wide range of maps to answer the question of, as they put it, why maps have "gotten away with it." From the University Of Chicago Press, 2009.

< http://newsletter.directionsmag.com/link.php?M=145624&N=1279&L=23823 >

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Just for Fun !

Heart Shaped Island

Just in time for Valentine's day, the heart-shaped island. Galesnjak, off the Croatian coast, came to prominence after people noticed its shape on Google Earth. Now couples are lining up to stay on the uninhabited island, as reported in the Telegraph.
Source: Directions Magazine and
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/howaboutthat/4588838/Heart-shaped-island-highlighted-by-Google-Earth-becomes-hit-with-lovers.html


Court Throws out Pittsburgh Couple's StreetView Lawsuit

The Western District Court of Pennsylvania's Judge Amy Reynolds Hay dismissed the entire lawsuit (from April of last year). The court could find no evidence the photos were offensive or damaging. Further, the couple's decision not to use existing tools to request the images be removed didn't help support the argument the images were causing pain.
Source: *Directions Magazine*

< http://apb.directionsmag.com/archives/5429-Court-Throws-out-Pittsburgh-Couples-StreetView-Lawsuit.html >
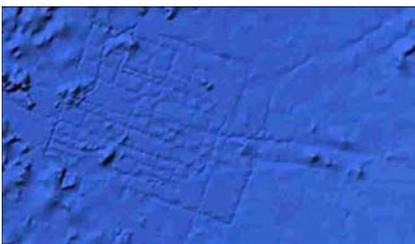
Is This Atlantis?

This is the amazing image which could show the fabled sunken city of Atlantis. It shows a perfect rectangle the size of Wales lying on the bed of the Atlantic Ocean nearly 3½ miles down. A host of criss-crossing lines, looking like a map of a vast metropolis, are enclosed by the boundary.
Source: THE SUN
< http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/article2255989.ece >
< http://www.vector1media.com/headlines/headlines/is-this-atlantis?/ >

BUT from the *London Times*: **OPTICAL ILLUSIONS Why the subsea 'city' is not what it seemed**

Alas, Google swiftly poured icy water on hopes that Atlantis had been found. The shapes in the image, it said, were "an artefact of the data collection process . . . from boats using sonar to take measurements of the seafloor. The lines show the path of the boat as it gathers the data". It seems that the image was an illusion similar to the "face" seen on Mars. In 1976 NASA released photographs from the Viking 1 space probe that appeared to show a giant human head on the planet's surface, left. The "face on Mars" quickly become a cultural icon, spurring theories about life on the red planet. However, images from later expeditions led most people to conclude that the face was, in fact, just a funny-shaped rock.
< http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/science/article5780315.ece >
See also Digital Urban blog < http://digitalurban.blogspot.com/2009/02/atlantis-found-in-google-earth.html >

Location Sharing from Google: Now in GMail
The Gmail Labs project was announced in Tuesday in a Google Blog
< http://gmailblog.blogspot.com/2009/02/new-in-labs-add-your-location-to-your.html >. It's what you'd expect: if you turn it on it does its best to add your location to any e-mail you send. It uses IP by default, so it many not be accurate. A Google engineer suggests installing and using the location tools in Gears (Wi-Fi) which should yield a more accurate location. *Steven Musil uses the term "placedropping" for those who like others to know from what "cool location" they are writing*.
< http://apb.directionsmag.com/archives/5390-Location-Sharing-from-Google-Now-in-GMail.html >

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Training Opportunities

National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) (Department of Space, Government of India) offers training course to resource scientists and technologists in various disciplines of application.
-- Introduction to GIS and its Applications (4 week course), March 2-27, 2009
NRSC recently was formed as a new agency, using people and assets from the old National Remote Sensing Agency run by the Department of Space. The move was announced on 1 September 2008. The NRSC will be one of the centres of the Indian Space Research Organisation.
Further information is available from: < http://www.nrsa.gov.in/training/trainingnrsa.html >

Pre-Conference WORKSHOPS at the 2nd International Conference on Earth Observation for Global Changes (EOGC2009) 25-29 May 2009, Chengdu, China < http://www.eogc2009.com.cn/ >
Pre-Conference workshops include:
W1: Satellite Observation of Biomass Burning
W2: Remote Sensing of the Coastal Ecosystems
W3: Land-cover Classification using High-resolution Satellite Images

Fourth International Workshop on "Geographical Analysis, Urban Modeling, Spatial Statistics" (GEOG-AN-MOD 09) < http://www.lisut.org/workshop/GEOG-AN-MOD09/ >
in conjunction with
The 2009 International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications (ICCSA 2009)
"NEW" June 29th to July 2nd, 2009   < http://www.iccsa.org/ >
Kyung Hee University-Global Campus, Yongin (Korea)
Important dates
24 March 2009:   Notification of acceptance
12 April 2009:   Deadline for Camera Ready Papers
June 29 - July 2, 2009: ICCSA 2009 Conference.

Association of American Geographers offers membership at reduced rate for eligible professionals
Source: < http://www.aag.org/developing/index.htm >
Geographers and others whose work involves Spatial Data Infrastructure, GIS, remote sensing, and geospatial data issues in Asia and the Pacific may be eligible to join the Association of American Geographers (AAG) for $20 per year. This new reduced dues rate is open to professionals who earn less than US$25,000 per year and are both citizens of and residents in certain countries throughout Asia and the Pacific. A full list of these countries is available at < http://www.aag.org/developing/eligibility.htm >.
The AAG developing regions membership category offers all regular AAG member benefits, with the exception that publications are provided only in digital format.

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For more information on this membership program, please visit: < http://www.aag.org/developing/index.htm > or contact Matthew Hamilton at < mailto:mhamilton@aag.org. >
For more information on the Association of American Geographers, please visit: < www.aag.org >

Advanced Training in Remote Sensing & GIS < http://www.isnet.org.pk/course02-09.htm >
Inter-Islamic Networks on Space Sciences and Technology (ISNET) is an inter-state, non political and non profit making agency. It is an independent, autonomous and self governing institution under the umbrella of the OIC (Organisation of Islamic Conference) Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH). SUPARCO is the host organisation of ISNET.
Institute: National Center for Remote Sensing and Geo-Informatics (NCRG), Karachi, Pakistan
Application deadline & Form: 1 June 2009 < http://www.isnet.org.pk/Downloadables/form-courses-08.doc >
Starting Date: 13 July 2009 (2 weeks)
The course aims at providing knowledge and skills in state-of-the-art remote sensing technologies and their applications. It will also focus on concepts of digital image processing techniques, development of image processing algorithms to achieve various image processing tasks. It will also attempt to explore functionalities of various off-the-shelf commercial systems and their comparison. Hands-on training will be imparted to develop practical skills in image processing. The course will touch upon latest developments in remote sensing both in space and ground segments.
ISNET will sponsor participants on the basis of evaluation of the course organising committee and also consider the criteria of first come first served basis. Usually only 4-5 participants can be accommodated in each Course. Sponsorship for workshop will depend on the availability of sponsorship funds for that particular workshop.
Thanks to Kate Lance for bringing this to our attention.

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Funding Opportunities, Awards, Grants

The 8th Geospatial Solutions Applications Contest
Enter the Geospatial Solutions Applications Contest for your chance to win GeoExpress Tools software from LizardTech, a GPS Bluelogger with XMap 5.2 Professional software from DeLorme, or an ERDAS TITAN GeoHub!
Plus, top entries will be published on the *Geospatial Solutions* Web site. To enter submit a 500-word (approx) description of your innovative or cost-effective application of geospatial technologies, use the form and instructions available from
< http://www.geospatial-solutions.com/applicationsContest >
(Source: Geospatial Solutions)

China Scholarship at UNSW
The China Scholarship Council will award an unspecified number of post doctoral scholarships at the University of New South Wales. The scholarships are for study under Dr Linlin Ge, a world renowned expert in the use of space-based interferometric synthetic aperture radar
Source: *Asia Survey Magazine* < http://www.asmmag.com/news/Professor%20linlin%20Ge%20schooarship >

ENRICHMENT GRANTS to attend at the 2nd International Conference on Earth Observation for Global Changes (EOGC2009) 25-29 May 2009, Chengdu, China < http://www.eogc2009.com.cn/ >
A limited number of enrichment grants will be available to provide financial support for attendees from developing countries. Applicants for enrichment funds should write a brief mailto:eogc2009@gmail.com no later than 15 March, 2009 indicating his/her needs (such as a rough budget) and should:
- reside in developing (ODA) countries or countries in transition (excluding the host country);
- have no or insufficient funds from other sources to support their participation;
- present a paper at the event; and
- include a letter of acceptance of a full paper from the Scientific Committee.

URISA's 3rd annual student paper competition
The Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) is sponsoring its third annual student paper competition. The objective of the competition is to challenge undergraduate and postgraduate students to demonstrate development and effective use of information systems in both their field of study and the community. The competition is open to all eligible students but particularly those interested in careers using

geographic information systems, information technology, geospatial technology, planning and/or community development. **The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2009.**
Source: < http://www.urisa.org >

Antonio Pizzigati Prize for Software in the Public Interest 2009 competition

The Tides Foundation is accepting nominations for the $10,000 Antonio Pizzigati Prize for Software in the Public Interest. The annual prize, now in its third year, honors a software developer whose work has made an outstanding contribution to the nonprofit sector and to ongoing efforts for positive social change.
Tides welcome applications from — and nominations of — individuals who have developed a software product that is open source (as defined by the Open Source Initiative) and easily and widely available. The software must have already demonstrated its value to at least one nonprofit organization and be of potential value to multiple nonprofit organizations.
Deadline: March 2, 2009. < http://www.pizzigatiprize.org/ >
Thanks to Kate Lance for bringing this to our attention.

ESRI ArcGIS Server Mashup and ArcGIS Mobile Code Challenges

< http://www.esri.com/events/devsummit/challenges/index.html >
ESRI invites developers to share their creativity and expertise with the geographic information system (GIS) developer community by submitting original code samples to the ArcGIS Server Mashup and ArcGIS Mobile Code Challenges. The first-place prize for the ArcGIS Server Mashup Code Challenge is US$7,000, and the second-place prize is US$3,000. The first-place prize for the ArcGIS Mobile Code Challenge is US$4,000, and the second-place prize is US$2,000.
The ESRI developer community will have an opportunity to review and vote for the top two entries in each challenge based on creativity, applicability, and the relevance of each code sample. Each entry must be a mobile GIS application developed using the ArcGIS Mobile Software Development Kit (SDK) or a Web mashup built with ArcGIS Server SDKs.
Code challenge winners will be announced at the 2009 ESRI Developer Summit, an event for developers who use GIS, mapping, and spatial data. The summit will be held March 23–26, 2009, in Palm Springs, CA, USA.
All entries must be submitted by March 6, 2009.
Thanks to Kate Lance for bringing this to our attention.

ESRI Australia 3rd biannual Web GIS Challenge

< http://www.esriaustralia.com.au/esri/NewsEvents/Web_GIS_Challenge_Announcement_PR.pdf >
ESRI Australia is calling for entries in its third biannual Web GIS Challenge in a bid to find the best location intelligence focused Internet site for 2008-2009.
Open to organisations whose websites use ESRI or ESRI Australia Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology and are accessible by the general public, the 2009 Web GIS Challenge aims to showcase a wide range of online location intelligence capabilities from across Australia.
Deadline for entries in the 2009 Web GIS Challenge: 1 March 2009.
Thanks to Kate Lance for bringing this to our attention.

Human Rights Center Mobile Challenge

Recent innovations in science and technology, especially mobile technologies, have provided human rights advocates, journalists, and scientists with new tools to expose war crimes and other serious violations of human rights and disseminate this information in real time throughout the world. Cell phones, combined with GPS, cameras, video, audio, and SMS are transforming the way the world understands and responds to emerging crises. Handheld data collection devices, such as PDAs, provide researchers with new ways of documenting mass violence and attitudes toward peace, justice, and social reconstruction in conflict zones.
The Human Rights Center at the University of California, Berkeley is sponsoring a challenge to encourage innovations for applying mobile technologies for human rights investigations and advocacy. Through a NetSquared Community vote, 10 finalists will be chosen. All 10 finalists will be invited to present their ideas at an international conference, "The Soul of the New Machine: Human Rights, Technology, and New Media," at UC Berkeley, May 4 and 5, 2009. A panel of judges, selected by the Human Rights Center, will choose three winners, to be announced at the conference. Winners will receive cash awards of $15,000 (first place), $10,000 (second place), and $5,000 (third place) to implement their ideas.
Submission period ends March 13, 2009 - 3:00pm PST < http://netsquared.org/hrc-ucb >
Thanks to Kate Lance for bringing this to our attention.

Intergraph Opens Nominations for 2009 Carl Pulfrich Award

Award to Honor Outstanding Achievement in Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Earth Imaging

Intergraph is now accepting nominations for its biennial Carl Pulfrich Award to recognize significant design and manufacturing contributions to the industries of photogrammetry, remote sensing and earth imaging. The award is dedicated to honorees in memory of Dr. Carl Pulfrich, a key member of the scientific team at Carl Zeiss, Inc., who from 1890 to 1927 oversaw the design of the company's first stereo photogrammetric and surveying instruments. Carl Zeiss, Inc. later teamed with Intergraph to create Intergraph's Z/I Imaging photogrammetry division.

Professionals in the photogrammetry, remote sensing and earth imaging industries may nominate candidates for the Carl Pulfrich Award, which will be presented during the 52nd annual Photogrammetric Week, Sept. 7-11, 2009, in Stuttgart, Germany. The recipient will be granted a monetary reward of up to $7,500.

"Intergraph has been presenting the Carl Pulfrich award to deserving earth imaging and remote sensing experts since 2001," said Dr. Mostafa Madani, chief photogrammetrist at Intergraph and chairman of the Carl Pulfrich Award Council. "We are thankful to be able to continue offering the award this year. It is very motivating for Intergraph and our peers in the community to simultaneously honor the memory of a true earth imaging pioneer while recognizing the top contributors of this generation."

Nominations for the Carl Pulfrich Award must be received by 5 p.m. (CST) on July 1, 2009. For more detailed information on nomination guidelines and procedures, visit: < www.intergraph.com/promo/carlpulfrichaward/ >

Curtin University Of Technology - PhD Scholarship on Photogrammetry and Laser Scanning

Australia, Western Australia, Perth

A PhD scholarship on Photogrammetry and Laser Scanning is available within the Department of Spatial Sciences < www.spatial.curtin.edu.au > at Curtin University of Technology < www.curtin.edu.au >.

The research topic is "Error budget analysis of Terrestrial Laser Scanners" but the research topic can be revised depending on the applicant's experience. A student with either the first class Honours or a research master degree in Photogrammetry, Spatial Sciences, Computer Sciences, Mathematics, Physics and Engineering is essential. In addition, a good knowledge on Mathematics and computer programming skill is preferable.

Stipend for this scholarship will be approximately $20,000 per annum (tax-free) for three and half year. For a candidate with high quality, a top-up scholarship of $5,000 per annum may be awarded. The successful student is expected to start his or her study as soon as possible.

Note that this scholarship is only for an Australian citizen or permanent resident. In order to apply, please contact Dr Kwang-Ho Bae < mailto:K.H.Bae@curtin.edu.au >, Phone: 08 9266-7604) with a brief CV by 31th March 2009.

Salary: from $20,000.00 AUD up to $25,000.00 AUD per year. Also **Relocation funds available**
Position Type: Full Time, PhD scholarship Curtin University of Technology
Kwang-Ho Bae
Department of Spatial Sciences
Perth, 6845, Western Australia, Australia
Phone Number: 08 9266 7604, Fax Number: 08 9266 2703, < mailto:K.H.Bae@curtin.edu.au >

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Employment Opportunities

Manager, Spatial Data
FSH00418
Level 6, $74,036 - $81,983 plus Superannuation
Location: Perth – CBD, Western Australia.
Job Description
The Manager, Spatial Data leads and manages the spatial data program including the implementation of appropriate structures, hardware/software and policy and guidelines to ensure maximum and effective use of spatial data for Departmental programs. This position is an important driver in how the Department stores, maintains and accesses spatial data collected through fisheries management activities. This position will be challenging and rewarding and will require a person with drive and initiative in updating and improving Departmental hardware, software and access arrangements to make more effective use of marine spatial data for policy, management and research purposes.

Job Enquiries: Andrew Hill - (08) 9482 7318 (Not to be contacted for Job Application Packages).
Closing Date: 9 March 2009 – 4pm
Application Instructions: Prospective applicants must obtain a Job Application Package that provides further details about the duties of the position and the selection criteria. To obtain a package, you can download the attached files at < http://www.jobs.wa.gov.au > or telephone (08) 9203 0362.
Send applications marked 'Confidential − Advertised Vacancy' to: Human Resource Officer, Department of Fisheries, Locked Bag 39, Cloisters Square Post Office, Perth WA 6850. Alternatively you may fax your application to (08) 9481 7640 or email it to < mailto:jobs@fish.wa.gov.au > with the position number only in the Subject Field.
If you wish to obtain further information about career opportunities in Department of Fisheries, please visit :
< http://www.fish.wa.gov.au >

Remote Sensing / GIS Officer
Australia, Victoria, Melbourne CBD
$50,175 - $60,922 + 9% Superannuation
Position No: DSE 418678
This role calls for someone with experience in remote sensing, image interpretation and digital image processing and demonstrated problem solving and project management skills.
To apply and for further information on the position description and selection criteria visit:
< www.careers.vic.gov.au > **Closing date** for applications is Sunday 8 March 2009.

Lonely Planet Snatches up Mapping Graduates
There's an interesting feature in the Australian newspaper *The Age*
< http://www.theage.com.au/national/mapping-out-a-future-20090213-86xz.html >that discusses the promising prospects of a bachelor of science degree in cartography and geovisualization at RMIT University
< http://rmit.edu.au/geospatial >. While the feature discusses coursework and strong prospects, the item that jumped out at me is the fact that travel publisher Lonely Planet has snatched up 25 of the graduates. It's good to see that there's still a strong interest in traditional cartography, and that Lonely Planet is making the investment to enhance their guidebooks with quality maps.
Source: V1 Media   http://vector1media.com/spatialsustain/lonely-planet-snatches-up-mapping-graduates.html

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Conferences, Events

Call for Papers for GSDI 11
Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 15-19 June 2009
- all FULL PAPERS submitted to this joint conference arriving on of before **1 December 2008** will be considered for inclusion in a refereed BOOK to be distributed at the conference or in a refereed SPECIAL ISSUE of the International Journal of Spatial Data Infrastructure Research (IJSDIR) to be published after the conference. Additional full papers received by **1 April 2009** also will be considered for the Special Issue of IJSDIR.
Source:< http://gsdi.org/gsdi11/papers.html >

For upcoming events of global or major international interest, please visit the **upcoming conference list** on the GSDI website < http://gsdi.org/events/upcnf.asp >.

Date	Location	Event
March 2009		
2-6 March	Tahiti	**11th Pacific Science Inter-Congress** < http://www.psi2009.pf/ > Theme: "Pacific countries and their ocean facing local and global changes". Abstract deadline: October 2008.
8-13 March	Baltimore, Maryland	**2009 Annual Conference** American Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing (ASPRS) http://www.asprs.org/baltimore09/index.html
15-22 March	Istanbul, Turkey	**5th World Water Forum** < http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/index.php?id=1842&L=0 > mailto:m.giard@worldwatercouncil.org

16 – 19 March	Tel-Aviv, Israel	**WG VIII/12 6th EARSeL SIG IS Workshop** "IMAGING SPECTROSCOPY: Imaging Spectroscopy: Innovative tool for scientific & commercial environmental applications" < mailto:bendor@post.tau.ac.il > URL:< www.earsel6th.tau.ac.il >
22-27 March	Las Vegas	Join 8,000 geographers, GIS specialists, and environmental scientists for the latest in research, policy, and applications in geography, sustainability, and GIScience during the **AAG Annual Meeting** in Las Vegas to be held March 22-27, 2009. Visit < http://www.aag.org > for additional information.
30 March – 1 April **"NEW"**	Denver, Colorado	**6th ANNUAL CONFERENCE** The theme of Spar 2009 is *3D Imaging and Positioning for Engineering, Construction and Manufacturing*. The event will focus on 3D laser scanning, mobile survey and mapping, lidar, dimensional control, asset management, BIM/CAD/GIS integration and security planning. Website: < http://www.sparllc.com/spar2009.php >
March 30 - April 3 **"NEW"**	Athens, Greece	**March '09 OGC Technical and Planning Committee Meetings** URL: < http://www.opengeospatial.org/event/0903tc >
April 2009		
April 8-9, 2009 **"NEW"**	Toronto, Canada	**DMTI Spatial announces registration for Expedition 2009** DMTI Spatial (DMTI), provider of solutions for location intelligence, announced that registration is now open for its annual customer and partner conference, Expedition 2009. The Conference is scheduled for, at The King Edward Hotel in Toronto Website:< http://www.dmtispatial.com >
26-28 April **"NEW"**	Dubai, UAE	**Map Middle East** Website: < http://www.mapmiddleeast.org/ >
15-17 April **"NEW"**	Moscow region	**III International conference Remote Sensing - the Synergy of High Technologies** Website: < http://www.sovzondconference.ru/eng/ >
19-22 April	Tampa, FL, USA	**Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions Conference 2009** maito:info@gita.org Website: < http://gita.org > The Geospatial Information & Technology Association (GITA) is very pleased to announce that an expanded slate of topics will be covered in more than 100 sessions during GITA's 2009 Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions Conference
22-23 April **"NEW"**	Penamg, Malaysia	**Map Malaysia 2009** Theme -'Geospatial for All - All for Geospatial' ,it will explore manners and ways in which geospatial tools can reach out and benefit the country in the future website: < http://www.mapmalaysia.org/ >
May 2009		
3-8 May	Eilat, Israel	**FIG Working Week and XXXII General Assembly** – New Horizons across the Red Sea – Surveyors Key Role in Accelerated Development < mailto:fig@fig.net > Website: < http://www.fig.net/fig2009/ >
4-6 May **"NEW"**	Khobar, Saudi Arabia	**The Fourth National GIS Symposium in Saudi Arabia** Website: < http://www.saudigis.org/ >
4-6 May **"NEW"**	Denver, Colorado, USA	**ESRI Business GIS Summit** **Website:** < http://www.esri.com/events/business/index.html >
4-8 May	Stresa, Lago Maggiore, Northern Italy	**33rd ISRSE** (The 33rd International Symposium on 'Remote Sensing of the Environment') < http://isrse-33.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php?page=home >
08-11, May	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	**Remote Sensing Arabia** Website: < www.remotesensingarabia.com >
May 21-22 **"NEW"**	Ibaraki, Japan	**GEOSS Sensor Web Workshop** < http://www.earthobservations.org/meetings/20090521_22_geoss_sensor_web_workshop_invitation.pdf >

25-29 May	Chengdu, China	**EOGC2009 (the Second International Conference on Earth Observation for Global Changes)** Website:< http://www.eogc2009.com.cn/ >. The deadline for abstracts closed on 31 December, 2008. Conference web site: < http://www.eogc2009.com.cn/ > Contact: Xianfeng Zhang, Ph.D., Conference Secretariat, EOGC2009 Institute of Remote Sensing & GIS, Peking University Beijing 100871, China Tel: 86-10-62759123 < maito:xfzhang@pku.edu.cn >
May 28-30 **"NEW"**	Molde, Norway	**ISO/TC211 28th Plenary** Website: < http://www.isotc211.org/ >
June 2009		
01 – 04 June	Vancouver, BC, Canada	**GeoTec Event 2009** Website: < www.geoplace.com > < mailto:khastings@geoplace.com >
2-5 June	Hannover, Germany	**Call for Papers for the 12th AGILE International Conference** Deadline of pre-conference workshop proposals: November 30, 2008; Deadline for full paper submissions: December 12, 2008; Deadline for short paper and poster submissions: January 16, 2009 < http://www.ikg.uni-hannover.de/agile/ >
15-19 June Theme: Spatial Data Infrastructure Convergence - Building SDI Bridges to address Global Challenges	Rotterdam, The Netherlands Information: http://www.gsdi.org/gsdi11 (English) and http://www.gsdi11.nl (Dutch)	**11th International Conference on Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI 11)** Website: < http://gsdi.org/gsdi11/ > The first call for papers is published at < http://www.gsdi.org/gsdi11/papers.html >. Please, visit < http://www.gsdi.org/gsdi11 > for more information. If you want to secure your participation in the GSDI 11 World Conference, it is now possible to register here as well! **DEADLINES:** 1 December, 2008 and 1 April, 2009 Contact information: PCO agency GSDI 11 (BlomBerg Instituut/Geonovum) Esther Stukker, tel. +31 (0)73 - 684 25 25 and maito:e.stukker@geonovum.nl
17-19 June **"NEW"**	Newport Pagnell, UK	**The British Cartographic Society's Annual Symposium**, Mapping At Work. This 3-day event is an opportunity for mapmakers, users, librarians and enthusiasts to share information about recent mapping projects, research and know-how. URL: < http://www.cartography.org.uk/default.asp?contentID=581 >
22 June 2009	Nottingham, UK	**CFP - FIRST OPEN SOURCE GIS UK CONFERENCE 2009** Website: < http://www.opensourcegis.org.uk > The Centre for Geospatial Science of University of Nottingham, Open Source Geospatial Foundation (UK Chapter), ICA Working Group on Open Source Geospatial Technologies, SOSoRNET and Open Knowledge Foundation are organizing the First Open Source GIS UK Conference **Abstracts** (max 500 words) can be submitted to < mailto:Suchith.Anand@nottingham.ac.uk > before 15 March 2009. **IMPORTANT DATES:** * Notification of acceptance: 15th March 2009 * Final papers delivered by: 15 May 2009 * OSGEO UK Live Software demo submission deadline: 30 April 2009 * Notification of acceptance: 15th May 2009
29 June – 2 July **"NEW"**	Yongin, Korea	**Fourth International Workshop on "Geographical Analysis, Urban Modeling, Spatial Statistics" (GEOG-AN-MOD 09)** < http://www.lisut.org/workshop/GEOG-AN-MOD09/ > in conjunction with **The 2009 International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications (ICCSA 2009)** < http://www.iccsa.org/ >

		June 29th to July 2nd, 2009 Kyung Hee University-Global Campus, Yongin (Korea) *Important dates *16 February 2009: Deadline for full paper submission *24 March 2009: Notification of acceptance *12 April 2009: Deadline for Camera Ready Papers *June 29 - July 2, 2009: ICCSA 2009 Conference.
June 29-July 10 **"NEW"**	Florence (Firenze), Italy	**Vespucci summer institute 2009: 7th Annual Summer Institute on Geographic Information Science** < http://www.vespucci.org/ >
July 2009		
7-11 July	Cape Town, South Africa	**2009 IEEE International Geoscience & Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS)** < http://www.igarss09.org >
13-14 July	Oxford, UK	**GEOSENSOR NETWORKS 2009** Website: < http://www.comlab.ox.ac.uk/geosensornetworks/ > Sponsored by: University of Oxford Papers to be published by Springer IMPORTANT DATES: Paper Submission: 3 April 2009 Notification of Acceptance: 27 April 2009 Camera Ready Papers Due: 5 May 2009 Conference: 13-14 July 2009
13-17 July	San Diego, CA, USA	**29th ESRI International User Conference** The deadline for abstract submissions has been extended to **November 14, 2008:** Abstracts can be submitted at < http://www.esri.com/ucpapers >
13-17 July **"NEW"**	Cairns, Australia	**18th IMACS WORLD CONGRESS - MODSIM09** International Congress on Modelling & Simulation "Interfacing Modelling and Simulation with Mathematical and Computational Sciences" < http://www.esri.com/events/uc/index.html > Early Bird Registration closes Friday 13 March 2009 Submission and Acceptanbce od Abstracts has CLOSED Final papers submitted Friday 13 March 2009 Websites: < http://www.imacs-modsim-world-congress.org > and < http://www.mssanz.org.au/modsim09 >
July 27-31 **"NEW"**	Vancouver, Canada	**GeoWeb2009** GeoWeb 2009 organizers are currently seeking submissions for presentations and workshops at < http://geowebconference.org/papers-workshops >. Details: All abstracts must 200 words and be submitted via the online form at < http://geowebconference.org/papers-workshops > no later than February 27, 2009. For all questions regarding the submission of abstracts and agendas please contact Julie Eckhart at mailto:jeckhart@gita.org. Complete information on the call for papers process and conference may be obtained at http://www.geowebconference.org.
August 2009		
4 - 7 August	Bali - Indonesia	**10th South East Asian Survey Congress** (SEASC '09) Hosted by Bakosurtanal (Indonesia's land information agency) URL: < http://www.bakosurtanal.go.id/seasc2009/04/ > < mailto:dkirana@bakosurtanal.go.id >
3-14 August	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	**XXVII General Assembly of the International Astronomical Union** < http://www.astronomy2009.com.br/ >
August 12-14, 2009 **"NEW"**	Fairfax, Virginia, USA	**The 17th International Conference of Geoinformatics** (Geoinformatics 2009) George Mason University, URL: < http://www.geoinformatics2009.org/ >
27-8 August	Bishnek, Kyrgyzstan	**GISCA '09 Conference (3rd Central Asia GIS)** **Call for Papers announced for GISCA'09 Conference** The Kyrgyz State University for Construction, Transportation and

		Architecture together with the Salzburg University Centre for Geoinformatics have published a call for papers for the forthcoming GISCA (GIS-in-Central-Asia) conference. The conference is being organised on August 27-28, 2009 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan with a focus on "GIScience for Environmental and Emergency Management". The GISCA conference aims at building a regional network of GIS experts to stimulate and enhance Geoinformatics applications for the development of regional expertise and qualified human resources. **Submission of contributions:** May 1 - Submission of abstracts (min 500 words) June 1 - Notification of acceptance July 1 – Camera-ready copy of full papers (see authoring instructions!) Aug 1 – Registration for poster exhibit **Pre-conference events:** Aug 14-16 Joint ICA-UNIGIS summer school in Kashgar Aug 17-23 ICA-led field trip Kashgar-Lhasa return Aug 24-26 pre-conference summer school and various workshops in Bishkek Website: < http://www.aca-giscience.org >
28-9 August **"NEW"**	Bangalore, India	**The iGeoMap 2009 conference on urban infrastructure and geoinformatics.** The Indian Institute of Science and GIS Consultancy Sky Group are calling for paper submissions. The conference will address urban infrastructure issues and GIS practices. Website:< http://www.igeomap.org/ >
September 2009		
9-12 September **"UPDATED"**	Beijing, China	**6th International Symposium on Digital Earth** < maito:ISDE6@ceode.ac.cn > Website:< http://www.isde6.orgk > **The deadline** for abstract submissions for the 6th International Symposium on Digital Earth (9-12 September, Beijing) **has been extended to** 30 April
14-16 September **"NEW"**	Beijing	**Emergency Management Conference** The international conference on **Geospatial Solutions for Emergency Management** (GSEM 2009) is being held in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Chinese Academy of Surveying and Mapping. The organisers are calling for papers on themes including data and image fusion, disaster management and new sensors. The deadline for abstracts is 31 March. **WEBSITE:** < http://www.gsem2009.org/ >
21-25 September	Venice, Italy	**OceanObs '09** Website: < http://oceanobs09.net/ >
October 2009		
5-7 October	Westminster, Colorado	More information will be forthcoming but we ask you to "save the date" for the **Location Intelligence Conference 2009**.We'll be at the Westin Westminster Hotel in Westminster, Colorado, just outside of Denver toward Boulder from Oct. 5-7
19-22 October	Hanoi, Vietnam	**7th FIG Regional Conference** < http://www.fig.net/vietnam/ > *awaiting Timeline for registration and submission of abstracts, papers, and presentations* < *http://www.fig.net/news/news_2008/vietnam_july_2008.htm* > **Electronic submission of papers by June 2009**
26-29 October	Kampala Uganda	**AFRICAGIS 2009; International Conference** Theme of the conference "GEO-SPATIAL INFORMATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA; FACING CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL CHANGE" URL: < http://www.africagis2009.org/ >

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10-12 November **"NEW"**	St Petersburg, Florida, USA	**Fifth National GIS in Transit Conference** This biennial conference will focus on the growing role of GIS in supporting planning, service delivery, and decision making in public transit. The Programme Committee will organise an educational programme based upon the abstracts submitted through the Call for Participation. All abstract submissions, received by February 27, 2009, will be reviewed and considered for this conference. The Program Committee encourages abstract submissions in one or more of these four general categories - Applications, Tools, Data, and Management & Policy. Website: < http://www.urisa.org/gis_transit >
15-22 November	Santiago, Chile	**XXIV International Cartographic Conference** < http://www.icc2009.cl/ > **First call for papers:** < http://www.icc2009.cl/pdf/First_Call_for_Paper_ICC2009.pdf > **Deadline for Abstracts**: 16 January, 2009
17-20 November	Denver, USA	**7th William T. Pecora Memorial Remote Sensing Symposium** < mailto:asprs@asprs.org > Website:< http://www.asprs.org/pecora17 >
30 November - 2 December	Sydney, Australia (Univ NSW)	**GeoComputation 2009** **Call for Papers** **The 10th International Conference on GeoComputation** < http://www.biodiverse.unsw.edu.au/geocomputation/index.html > Contributors are invited to submit extended abstracts, which will be reviewed for inclusion in the conference program. See http://www.biodiverse.unsw.edu.au/geocomputation/index.html for more information. The abstracts should be sent as either Word documents or pdf files to < mailto:geocomputation@unsw.edu.au > Files larger than 1Mb should be sent as zipped archives. The submission deadline is **30 June 2009**. Authors will be notified of acceptance/rejection in the end of August 2009. Any questions regarding the submission and publication process should be addressed to < mailto:geocomputation@unsw.edu.au >
April 2010		
11-16 April **"UPDATED"**	Sydney, Australia	**International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) Congress 2010** URL: < http://www.fig2010.com/ > < mailto:info@isaust.org.au > Alternative URL: < http://fig2010.com/ > **The deadline for submission of abstracts is 22 September 2009.**
Date to be announced	Taipei	**ASIA GIS 2010 Conference** further details to be announced – see: < http://www.asiagis.org/ >

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