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### Consistent

### All Hazards Symbology for Australia and New Zealand on the way

A collaborative project, involving all levels of government and the private sector, is underway to develop a consistent set of all-hazards mapping symbols. This means that emergency services and national security organisations will be able to share a common understanding of spatial products.

The key organisations driving this initiative include Emergency Management Australia (EMA), the Emergency Management Spatial Information Network Australia (EMSINA), ANZLIC – the Spatial Information Council and its Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM).

For more information contact Ian O'Donnell at [ian.odonnell@ga.gov.au](mailto:ian.odonnell@ga.gov.au).

# OSDM Network News

## May 2006

### Spatial Data Management Group

The Spatial Data Management Group (SDMG) met on 6 April 2006. The main focus was to review a draft of the *Australian Government Spatial Information Strategy 2006–2008*. The SDMG endorsed the draft, in principle, subject to further development. The document is scheduled for completion at the end of June.

The Strategy is intended to support the Australian Government's e-Government Strategy (see article below) by 'mainstreaming' spatial data into broader government ICT initiatives. It is also designed to support jurisdictional coordination of spatial information by ANZLIC—the Spatial Information Council and to benefit from the *Virtual Australia* initiative of the Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information.

The SDMG also reviewed issues relating to coordinated procurement of spatial data and services, in the light of wider government ICT procurement guidelines, National Competition Policy, National Service Improvement Framework and other mechanisms, as well as progress with the ANZLIC Metadata Project, Maritime Boundaries Guidelines and international spatial data standards.

**Peter Holland**

*Chair, Spatial Data Management Group*

### Launch of e-Government Strategy

The Hon Gary Nairn MP, Special Minister of State, launched the Australian Government's 2006 e-Government Strategy *Responsive Government: A New Service Agenda* on 30 March 2006. Mr Nairn, who is now responsible for the Australian Government Information Management Office (AGIMO), drew particular attention to improving service delivery through spatially enabling government.

Mr Nairn said there are "great opportunities for government in getting the place and location of information joined with the huge amounts of data that government have in various departments ... to link business transactions to a place in using those few reference places to facilitate the evaluation, analysis and comparison of relationships between people, places, transactions and governments. You get much better government decisions if you can do your analysis in a much more strategic way which you can do if you have that spatial content to your data".

A copy of the Strategy is available online at [http://www.agimo.gov.au/publications/2006/march/introduction\\_to\\_responsive\\_government](http://www.agimo.gov.au/publications/2006/march/introduction_to_responsive_government).

### International Standards

The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC<sup>®</sup>) is seeking feedback on the following technical specifications as part of its OGC<sup>®</sup> Web Services Phase 4 (OWS-4) interoperability initiative. More information is available at <http://www.opengeospatial.org>.

- Geospatial Digital Rights Management (GeoDRM) Reference Model: "packaging, distributing, controlling and tracking of geospatial content based on rights and licensing information".
- OpenGIS<sup>®</sup> Catalogue Services Specification 2.0.1 – ISO Metadata Application Profile: a catalogue application profile based on ISO19115:2003/ISO19119:2005 metadata.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) activities:

- ISO has released a technical update to its metadata standard (ISO 19115:2003 Cor. 1:2006; currently with ISO for publishing). The most significant change to the standard is the removal of the Coordinate Reference Systems (CRS).
- A new version of the ISO 19139 XSD is available online at [http://eden.ign.fr/xsd/isotc211/index\\_html?set\\_language=en&cl=en](http://eden.ign.fr/xsd/isotc211/index_html?set_language=en&cl=en).

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## OSDM COMMUNITY

### Geoscience Australia

Australian Marine Spatial Information System (AMSIS) to be launched in June

Geoscience Australia is launching the new Australian Marine Spatial Information System (AMSIS) in June 2006.

AMSIS is a web-based mapping service that provides people interested in offshore activities with access to a range of spatial information that falls within Australia's Marine Jurisdiction.

It will enable marine planners, scientists, policy development officers, offshore operations managers and industry to find out about other activities occurring within or near their area of interest.

Over 80 layers of spatial information including maritime boundaries, underlying bathymetry, physical and environmental information, legal interests, fisheries and shipping is available. There are also plans to add more data, including State and Territory data to AMSIS at a later date.

AMSIS also provides information about ocean governance and legislation.

For more information, contact Bill Hirst, Senior Advisor, Maritime Boundaries, Geoscience Australia at [bill.hirst@ga.gov.au](mailto:bill.hirst@ga.gov.au).

### ASRIS

Award winning Australian Soils Resource Information System

Developed by CSIRO Land & Water and led by Neil McKenzie, ASRIS won ESRI Australia's 2005 Web GIS Challenge. A collaborative initiative of the Australian Collaborative Land Evaluation Program (ACLEP), partners included the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Natural Heritage Trust and the National Land and Water Resources Audit. ASRIS can also be viewed using Google Earth.

For more information or to view ASRIS go to [www.asris.csiro.au](http://www.asris.csiro.au).

## SDMG Working Groups

Working Group meeting minutes are available from the [OSDM Web Site](#). To apply for login and password details email [OSDM](#).

*Access is available to Australian Government employees.*

### Metadata

Working Group members await the release of the ANZLIC Metadata Profile, the implications of the 2006 technical update on ISO 19115 and the finalisation of ISO 19139 to meet and review Australian Government Profile alignment. If you would like to join the MWG in these activities, please contact OSDM at [info@osdm.gov.au](mailto:info@osdm.gov.au).

### Schedule

Migration of Schedule and Auxiliary datasets to a centralised database (the OSDM Schedule Database; OSDB) is underway, as is the associated auditing of dataset names, metadata URLs and download URLs. Mary-Ellen Feeny (recently returned from leave – welcome back!) will be responsible for managing the OSDB. Mary-Ellen is currently updating Schedule and Auxiliary datasets, and commencing agency data audits.

If clarification of metadata currency, completeness and accuracy is a priority in your agency or would hasten effective business processes contact Mary-Ellen ([maryellen.feeny@osdm.gov.au](mailto:maryellen.feeny@osdm.gov.au)) to fast track your dataset listings on the Spatial Data Schedule. Enhanced online access to data downloads, search and report facilities are also being developed into a new Spatial Data Schedule interface ... stay tuned for progress!

### Marine Boundaries

The *Guidelines for Describing Maritime Boundaries* is being finalised. Email [bill.hirst@ga.gov.au](mailto:bill.hirst@ga.gov.au) for more information.

### Google Earth

The Working Group met on 20 February to discuss issues related to the use of Google Earth for government purposes, including licensing, standards and security.

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This release has the word "final" in front of it. The XSDs validate using full-schema checking and the Xerces-j tool which means it is now possible to start building ISO 19139 compliant tools!

Email Chris Body at [chris.body@ga.gov.au](mailto:chris.body@ga.gov.au) for more information.

## ANZLIC News

### Staff news

Steve Blake, Executive Director ANZLIC is moving west to take up the position of Chief Executive Officer at the Western Australian Marine Science Institute in Perth.

*Good luck Steve and family!*

### ANZLIC Metadata Project

The make-up of the ANZLIC Metadata Profile has been finalised and the project team is reviewing the initial drafts of Part 1 – Profile Definition & Part 2 – Profile Guide. Jurisdictional feedback will be sought once cleared by the project team.

For more information email David Lee Steere at [davidls@walis.wa.gov.au](mailto:davidls@walis.wa.gov.au).

## OSDM COMMUNITY National Native Title Tribunal

The NNTT is now providing their native title datasets in Google Earth's KML (Keyhole Markup Language) format. The data, hosted by Geoscience Australia's free download service, is available now.

*Native Title Vision* – an online visualisation and mapping tool and winner of last year's Spatial Excellence Awards – has been recognised again. It made the shortlist for the inaugural Special Minister of State's Excellence in e-Government Awards.

You can now view native title matters at <http://www.ntv.nntt.gov.au/> (username: nntt\_guest; password: nntt\_guest).

Contact Peter Bowen, Manager Geospatial Services NNTT at [peterbo@nntt.gov.au](mailto:peterbo@nntt.gov.au) for more information.

## MEMBER PROFILES

### News, features, projects, visitors and events?

If you have something worth sharing with the Australian Government Spatial Data Management Community let us know and we'll feature it in our quarterly newsletters updating you on meetings, our web site and initiatives of interest. Just email us at [info@osdm.gov.au](mailto:info@osdm.gov.au).