

ICSM NEWS - June 2000

As part of ICSM's commitment to keeping Industry informed about ICSM activities, ICSM will publish two newsletters per year. Each will contain a brief summary of the major issues which Industry may find of interest and hi-light opportunities where Industry can contribute to ICSM's activities.

ICSM Workshop

ICSM will be running a workshop at the Trans Tasman Conference in Queenstown (NZ), 16:00-17:30, Monday 21 August 2000. The main topic for discussion will be ICSM's data model harmonisation activities as well as outlining ICSM other activities.

For more information contact: Mr Peter Ramm (peter.ramm@nre.vic.gov.au).

ASDI and Harmonisation of Data Models.

ICSM has taken on responsibility to sponsor a number of ASDI "Themes". These being, Topographic data, Cadastral data, Place Names, Street Addressing and Geodesy. ICSM Working Groups have been working on the development of data models, feature catalogues (or data dictionaries) and associated guidelines for these Themes.

In November 1999 ICSM recognised the need to harmonise these data models and wherever possible use consistent terminologies and definitions between each theme.

As part of this and to bring ICSM activities inline with international standards, ICSM has adopted UML for all data modelling and XML as the transfer standard.

For more information contact Mr Andrew Jones (ajones@deh.sa.gov.au).

GDA



ICSM is in the process of developing transformation grids across Australia from AGD to GDA. At present all the State grids except South Australia have been completed and work is

beginning on the development of the National Grid. Currently investigations are under way to extend the National grid out to the edge of Australia's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This enhancement is being incorporated as a result of industry requests. For more information see: www.anzlic.org.au/icsm/gda/.

Draft Street Address Standard

ICSM has been working with Standards Australia and Industry in developing a more comprehensive Street Address Standard for Australia and New Zealand. The first draft of the Standard is very near completion and ICSM is about to seek comments from feedback on the draft. More information on the draft and copies of the draft will be made available from the ICSM WWW site soon at www.anzlic.org.au/icsm/street/.

Australian Gazetteer

A revised version of the Australian Gazetteer of Place Names has been compiled and is available from AUSLIG. The revised version contains over 240 000 records and has a simpler structure which will aid its update. At present ICSM is aiming at releasing annual editions. Copies of the user documentation will be available soon on the ICSM WWW at www.anzlic.org.au/icsm/cgna/. Anyone interested in purchasing the product should contact AUSLIG Data Sales (datasales@auslig.gov.au).

New Cadastral Reform Sub-committee

ICSM has created a new Cadastral Reform Sub-committee. The sub-committee has been charged with the task of identifying the key reform issues, development of educational information, consultation with industry and development of associated best practice guidelines. For more information contact Mr Keith Bell (Keith.Bell@nre.vic.gov.au).

Intertidal Interface

Where does onshore or offshore boundaries start and finish? ICSM has become aware there is an amount of confusion with the definition of boundaries within or near the tidal limits. These

boundaries can relate to either onshore or offshore zones or administrative areas and there is an increasing interest in these boundaries. A good example of this interest is in the petroleum and mining community. While ICSM is not likely to be able to solve these problems alone it feels it is time to start to think about the problem and at least initially try to define the extent and nature of the problem that groups are having. This is an ambitious task and from initial indications there are a lot of "boundaries" which exist near the tidal zone.

For more information please contact Mr Henry Houghton (henry.houghton@dola.wa.gov.au).

Geodesy Ten Year Vision

What type of Geodetic network is going to be required in Australia and New Zealand ten years from now? Or what type of technology advances will take place of the next ten years which will alter our requirements for geodetic information? These are just two of a number of questions which the ICSM Geodesy Technical Sub-committee are considering in their deliberations of the geodetic infrastructure requirements in the near future.

If you have views on what Geodetic infrastructure developments are required, ICSM would certainly welcome your views. If you would like to contribute to these deliberation please contact Mr John Manning (JohnManning@ausliq.gov.au).

Tides and Sea Level

The prediction and observation of tides and sea levels is something we all take for granted and most of us who use our waterways for fishing and other recreational activities take tidal and sea level information for granted. For well over the twenty years the members of the Permanent Committee for Tides and Mean Sea Level (PCTMSL), a sub-committee of ICSM, have been working hard to improve the level of reliability of these levels and predictions. This is very important for not only recreational users but also commercial and scientific researchers who want to accurately determine the windows of opportunity for moving large ships in and out of ports or modelling long terms tidal information for global warming studies. For more information on PCTMSL contact Mr Wayne Jones (Hts.hydro@navy.gov.au).

New Chairman of ICSM

Mr Peter Ramm has taken over Chairmanship of ICSM from Mr Graeme Rush. Peter will hold the chairmanship for the next two years.

Peter Ramm is currently the Manager, Geodetic Infrastructure, Land Victoria, and has extensive experience in other areas of the Victoria Government and on overseas projects. Peter has played an active role in the Institute of Surveyors and is currently a Federal Councillor. Peter has a Bachelor of Surveying from Melbourne University, and a Graduate Diploma in management. He is a Licensed Surveyor and a Fellow of the Institution of Surveyors Australia.

ICSM Biennial Report to be released 3rd Quarter

ICSM is preparing a biennial report for the period July 1998 – June 2000. The report is due for completion during the third quarter 2000 and will be available in hardcopy or downloadable from the ICSM WWW site at www.anzlic.org.au/icsm/about/.

Resolutions and Agreements

ICSM and its predecessor's organisations such as the National Mapping Council have recorded their major decision as Resolutions and Agreements. These resolutions and agreements have historically helped to guide the way mapping and surveying has evolved over the years.

The Executive Officer for ICSM is frequently contacted by historians and researchers wanting access to these Resolutions and Agreements. Over recent years Mr Rod Menzies has compiled all these into a comprehensive lists and ICSM has just completed a review of them all to determine if they are still current or if they should be archived.

At the May meeting of ICSM it was agreed that both the current and archived Resolutions and agreements should be made available to everyone via the ICSM WWW site. Over the next six months it is hoped these can be converted and placed on the web for everyone's benefit.