

ICSM works to:

encourage learning



Understanding Maps and Mapping

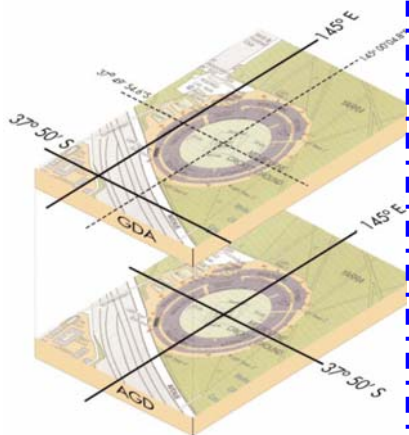
ICSM's newest resource is a web-based package called the *Fundamentals of Mapping*. The package was an instant success and it now averages 15,000 downloads per month.

It is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of maps and mapping, in simple language – and includes sections on datums, projections and surveying for mapping.

It has been written using plain English and avoids the use of jargon wherever possible. The package uses informative images and graphics to enhance learning and includes numerous hyperlinks to websites which offer greater detail on specific subjects.

See <http://www.icsm.gov.au/mapping/index.html>

Understanding the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA)



When GDA was introduced to replace AGD (the Australian Geodetic Datum) in the 1990's it was recognised early that informing people of the change was essential – especially for GPS users and commercial service providers.

The ICSM website has played a pivotal role in supplying this information. Such pages as the FAQ page (*Frequently Asked Question and Answers*) have proven very popular indeed – no wonder when conundrums such as these were answered:

- What is GDA?
- Why has Australia adopting the GDA?
- How will GDA affect legal boundaries?
- How will 'continental drift' affect GDA?
- Will zero degrees longitude still pass through Greenwich?
- Will the Equator still be in the same place?

See <http://www.icsm.gov.au/icsm/gda/faq.html>.

WEB Based Place Names Teaching Package

In order to grow the national understanding of the importance and history of place names, ICSM has developed an interactive WEB based teaching package for use by both teachers and students.

Over time this package has been expanded to provide more assistance and information to teachers while continuing to provide interesting and fun learning activities for students.

This package is a further development of the CGNA's very popular Place Names Quiz and includes a presentation hosted by Ernie Dingo 'What's in a Name'.

See <http://www.icsm.gov.au/icsm/cgna/index.html>





Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying & Mapping

WHO ARE WE?



We are the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying & Mapping for Australia and New Zealand
(delegates to the last ICSM meeting – Melbourne, November 2009)

ICSM was established in 1988 by the heads of Australian governments – the Australian Prime Minister, State Premiers and Territory Chief Ministers. New Zealand joined in 1997.

Our Role is to provide leadership in the establishment of protocols and technical standards for national spatial information – including creating forums for information exchange.

We work in the area of

- topographic information – including elevation and imagery
- geodetic datums and coordinate systems
- land administration and cadastre
- place names
- street addressing
- tides and hydrography

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