

ICSM NEWS - May 2001

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 held its second meeting for 2000/2001 in Hobart on 23 to 25 May 2001. The Committee reviewed the achievements of the past year and endorsed initiatives for the future some of which are highlighted below.

The ICSM was one of the sponsors for the "Centenary of Federation Surveying and Mapping Conference" held in Canberra in May 2001.

ICSM DELIVERS!!

ICSM is about to deliver several major outputs. Some of which are:

A final version of the CD Rom for the national transfer grid file will be available in July 2001

ICSM recognises and appreciates the hard work done by the Geodesy Technical Subcommittee on the gathering of the data.

The GDA Promotions group who have been responsible for the promotion of the grid file will be wound up with the release of the CD Rom. WELL DONE to BOTH GROUPS!!

A new GDA Implementation Working Group will be formed to encourage all users to adopt and use the new datum. Further information is available on www.anzlic.org.au/icsm/gda/.

The Cadastral and Topographic working groups have delivered their data models and are currently finalising their activities.

The Harmonisation working group has brought the two data models together and also incorporated street address and place names data into the model. This working group is currently completing the documentation for the harmonised model.

The Cadastral, Topographic and Harmonisation Working Groups will therefore also be wound up in the next 6 months.

CGNA in the Computer Age

The Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia (CGNA), a permanent Committee of ICSM, has been working with au. Domain Administration Limited (auDA) to develop processes for allocation of new place names based on second level domain (2LD) names for the Internet. In this model, the Internet address of the Dunolly site for example would become www.dunolly.vic.au. It is proposed that the existing jurisdictional naming process would be used to allocate the 2LD names and that broad community support would be required to gain access to any particular 2LD name.

The CGNA at its meeting in April 2001 addressed the ASDI Compliant Data Model for CGNA. Both the CGNA and ICSM Committees extend their appreciation to Kristin Stock of the ACT for her invaluable contribution to the development of the model.

The Great Barrier Reef and Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) has joined the ranks of the CGNA and is now a permanent member of the Committee. ICSM extends a warm welcome!

At its meeting in Darwin in April 2001 the CGNA recommended that the "Guidelines for the Consistent Use of Place Names (Vers.1.0)" be adopted by the jurisdictions. These guidelines were endorsed by ICSM in 1999.

Guidelines for the "Recording and Use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Place Names" have been finalised. These Guidelines can be viewed on the CGNA web site www.anzlic.org.au/icsm/cgna.

CGNA is continuing to work on the contentious issue of trade marking of geographic names. Current trade marking arrangements have the potential to deny community access to the use of a trade marked place name.

Update 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 draft Street Address Standard is currently with Standards Australia and has been released for public comment.

The draft Standard is expected to be certified late December 2001 or early January 2002. The Standard can be viewed on the web site at www.anzlic.org.au/icsm/street/.

ICSM is now focusing on the implementation of the new standard, and will work to ensure all appropriate authorities are aware of the existence of the Standard and ICSM will encourage the use by the authorities of Street Address Standard.

Southern Ocean

ICSM has adopted a resolution defining the limits of the Southern Ocean as it affects Australia.

This resolution was required because the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) was about to publish a new edition of the IHO Special Publication 23 - Limits of Oceans and Seas.

The resolution was proposed by the Australian Hydrographic Office (AHO) and replaces National Mapping Resolution 393. The new resolution provides new authority for the Limits of Oceans and Seas Adjacent Australia May 2001, and the naming process of offshore undersea hydrographic and oceanographic features.

The resolution provides for the AUS 5000 chart renumbered AUS 65953 to now be published.

Intertidal Interface

Initial work by ICSM has revealed that a large number of definitions are being used to define sea levels. There is little consistency in definitions within or between jurisdictions and similar sea levels are named differently, and/or vaguely

ICSM will now explore the options for limiting the range of definitions for future use by the surveying community. The initial model would define a high sea level, a mean sea level and a low sea level.

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

Benchmarking

Since its meeting in May 2001 the ICSM Benchmarking Working Group undertook a benchmarking survey on each jurisdiction's Geodetic Database.

The results allow each jurisdiction to compare the various functions and key geodetic databases. One of the key findings of the survey was that although there is no national standard there is significant alignment within the jurisdictions through the ICSM Publication SP1, which can be viewed at www.anzlic.org.au/icsm

The model that was used in the geodetic benchmark study needs some refinement, however ICSM has agreed to continue with the benchmarking initiative and the next area to be benchmarked would be aerial photography.

Future Issues

With a number of the ICSM Working Groups winding down, much of the discussion at the meeting was concentrated on future initiatives.

These include:

- Ensuring that data models are updated to maintain relevance
- Managing the implementation of initiatives including the data models, and GDA 94
- The future role of series mapping
- The future role of remote sensing
- Developing processes and procedures to be used in defining and recording the extent of native title claims