

ICSM NEWS – December 2008

ICSM & 150 years of the Torrens Titling Conference

In October 2008, ICSM timed its bi-annual meeting to coincide with the Torrens Title Sesquicentennial Conference in Adelaide. The conference involved parallel meetings of Surveyors General (ICSM), Valuers General and Registrars General; plus an Industry Day. In his capacity as the in-coming Chairman of ICSM, Dr Russell Priebbenow (Director of Surveys, Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water) stated that *“this had been a particularly useful forum because of the quality of the exchange of ideas between the three groups and growth in understanding of each other’s work”*.



ICSM Delegates to the Torrens Sesquicentennial Conference

back row: Gary Johnston (Aust), Jasbir Randhawa (Aust), Dave Mole (NZ), John Gallagher (Vic)
middle row: Greg Scott (Aust), John Tulloch (Vic), Bill Hirst (ACT), Don Grant (NZ), Peter Kentish (SA)
front row: Garry West (NT), Russell Priebbenow (Qld), Peter Murphy (Tas), Barry Cribb (WA), Paul Harcombe (NSW)

ICSM, as key coordinating body for surveying and mapping issues, comprises representatives from Australian (Commonwealth, State and Territory) and New Zealand surveying, mapping and hydrographic charting agencies.

Topics discussed at the ICSM meeting included:

- Geographic Names in Australasia
- Digital lodgement and transfer of survey plans
- Topographic mapping
- National digital elevation modelling
- Geodetic measurement in Australia
- The forthcoming conference of the International Federation of Surveyors – FIG2010 – in Sydney

National Digital Elevation Modelling

ICSM's newly created National Digital Elevation Modelling Working Group has published its [Guidelines for Digital Elevation Data](#):

The purpose of this document is to provide investors, providers and users of elevation data with consistent guidelines and recommendations for acquiring elevation data depicting the earth's surface – based on current best practice.

The guidelines were prepared under the auspices of the National Elevation Data Framework (NEDF) initiative which is currently under development. The Working Group involves experts from State and Federal mapping agencies, industry and academia.

FIG 2010

International Surveying Congress 11-16 April 2010 in Sydney



There are less than 500 days to the start of this significant international Congress.

The organisers are keen for this Congress to showcase the Australian and New Zealand surveying industry and would like to urge all ICSM member organisations to participate in what will be a magnificent showcase event.

To present a paper, your Abstract needs to be submitted by 22 September 2009, and Early-Bird Registration commences in January 2010.

For more information, and up-to-date news on the Congress, visit www.fig2010.com

Dual Geographic Names

ICSM's Committee on Geographical Names of Australasia (CGNA) has updated its [Report on the Storage and Depiction of Dual Names in Australia and New Zealand](#)

It recognised that a dual naming system needs to be in place for recording traditional indigenous names alongside introduced European names – across the whole of Australia and New Zealand.



This report is part of a suite of reports relating to the consistent use of place names. It, and related publications, can be viewed at the [ICSM website](#).

The ICSM Fundamentals of Mapping WEB Package is NOW LIVE!



This groundbreaking package was released in early August 2008:

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

In the ensuing 4 months to early December, the package has received over 6,000 unique visitors and has had 25,000 page views – all things being considered, this is a phenomenal beginning.

It is envisaged that this package will grow over time, with additional modules and content being added progressively – the first to be added will provide an explanation of mapping datums.

ICSM Working Groups

At its October meeting ICSM agreed to:

Disband the ASDI Working Group,

noting that it has fully met its Terms of Reference – namely to complete a review of the potential future direction of the Australian Spatial Data Infrastructure (ASDI) and ICSM's involvement with it. The two resulting reports are available on the [ICSM website](#).

Establish a Street Addressing Working Group,

to conduct the 5-yearly review of the Australia / New Zealand Rural and Urban Street Addressing Standard (AS/NZS 4819).

This review is necessary to ensure that the Standard stays relevant in a rapidly changing world.

Members of CGNA will be represented on this Working Group to ensure that issues associated with consistent naming of roads are addressed.

Harmonised Data Model

In September 2008 ICSM held a series of strategic planning workshops to review the revitalisation of ICSM's Harmonised Data Framework (HDF). Outcomes include:

- Endorsing the revised model (HDM Version 2) which is housed on the CSIRO Solid Earth and Environmental Grid ([SEEGrid](#)) website;
- Recognition that ICSM needs to focus on developing a governance framework to maintain the integrity of the model;
- Agreeing that ICSM needs to promote the up-take of the HDM – including the development of additional modules; and
- Agreeing to monitor the development of the European [INSPIRE](#) Data Specifications.

Next ICSM Meeting

ICSM's next meeting is scheduled for 6-7 May 2009, in Canberra.