



SPATIAL INFORMATION DAY 2010

Adelaide Convention Centre | FRIDAY 13 AUGUST 2010

Spatial Information Day 2010 Abstract

Title: Emergency Information Management - *Avoiding Data Catastrophes*

Session: 1 – Emergency Information Management & Infrastructure

Presenter: Nicholas Hassam – Department of Justice

Abstract:

Introduction

As evidenced by the 2009 Victorian bushfires, the need for information before, during and following catastrophic events is critical. The Public Safety Communications Unit; a part of the South Australian Department of Justice, have developed a comprehensive spatial information system to manage emergency data for the state. The collation, management and dissemination of disparate spatial data have provided multiple challenges which will be discussed during this presentation.

Project Objectives

The primary objective of the Public Safety Communications' spatial information system is twofold;

- To collect, maintain and provide spatial data required for the effective operation of the South Australian Computer-Aided Dispatch (SACAD) system
- To provide a platform for the development and dissemination of spatial data and services, in the context of the state's emergency information

Methodology

Emergency information has its own intrinsic peculiarities and spans the full spectrum of geographic repositories. The information required extends beyond the frequently-used business rules of much of the base-data, and the reliance upon high availability and quality cannot be understated. As such substantial extract, transform, load (ETL) and quality assurance (QA) procedures are required, utilising third-party middleware and integrated applications to ensure timely, accurate and fit-for-purpose data enters the emergency information system from a wide variety of disparate sources.

The approach to managing emergency data has at its' heart an enterprise geographic information system that addresses the fundamental goals of the project. Surrounding this infrastructure are resources and processes that enable the flow of data from source to sea.

Results

Following years of discussion and collaboration with external data custodians and the development of robust data cleansing and manipulation processes, a consistent data feed from origin to emergency information system has been developed.

The resulting GIS provides a robust, cutting-edge hardware and software environment, combining high-end computing power with server-based enterprise GI software. This is distributed either as open form data, web applications, or web services.

Spatial Information Day hosted by:





SPATIAL INFORMATION DAY 2010

Adelaide Convention Centre | FRIDAY 13 AUGUST 2010

Conclusions

When collating information from multiple disparate sources, the importance of data “broking” cannot be understated. Further consolidation of the state’s spatial information will make the process of sourcing and collecting data a more simplified process.

Robust solutions for emergency information management are essential for the timely supply of data for emergency service call receipt and dispatch, and to aid in catastrophic event management and prevention. All this is done in the hope of avoiding data catastrophes.

Further Information

2009 Victorian Bushfires: <http://www.royalcommission.vic.gov.au/>

South Australian Justice Portfolio: <http://www.justice.sa.gov.au/>

South Australian Attorney-General’s Department: <http://www.agd.sa.gov.au/>

South Australian Computer-Aided Dispatch (SACAD) Project: <https://sacad.sa.gov.au/portal/>

Spatial Information Day hosted by:

