Abstract Descriptions

The True ROI of Accurate GIS Data for Public Safety

Primary Presenter
Patrick Melancon
GIS Data Resources, Inc
Nashville, TN

Attendee Level: Beginner
Program track: Economy
Presentation format: Single presentation

Abstract text: Highly accurate GIS data can be pricey to collect and build, however it is becoming a necessity in the public safety community. Public safety is moving in the direction of an IP based call handling setup named Next Generation 9-1-1, which is heavily reliant on highly accurate GIS data to route calls to the appropriate 9-1-1 call center. The true GIS return on investment for public safety is saving seconds which translates directly to saving lives.

This presentation will cover real life situations where GIS has been pinnacle in the finding of emergency situations and how these situations can be utilized to communicate the value that an accurate GIS dataset has for use in public safety. We will also cover ways to better understand your data, to measure the overall quality of the data, to document the results in a report of findings, and communicate it to stakeholders and finally develop a remediation plan. While everyone within public safety understands the importance of accurate data and value that an accurate GIS dataset has for use in public safety, those outside of the public safety venue will likely need help understanding the importance and level of effort involved.
Local Government GIS Consortia

Primary Presenter
Stephen Berry, GISP
Clark County GIS
Winchester, KY

Attendee Level: Intermediate
Program track: Management
Presentation format: Single presentation

Abstract text: The presentation will present case study information from the formation of the Clark County GIS Consortium in Clark County, Kentucky. The presentation will present the practical and political considerations of the formation of the consortium. The presentation will also show the measured ROI of consortium concept. The management and structure of the consortium will be discussed, as well as the necessary skill set required to manage the various priorities of member organizations.
Exploiting GIS for the Non-GIS User Deploying a Web Map

Primary Presenter
John Wright, GISP
Range Resources Corporation
Canonsburg, PA

Second Presenter
Chris Pounds
Range Resources Corporation
Canonsburg, PA

Attendee Level: Beginner
Program track: Management
Presentation format: Single presentation

Abstract text: At Range Resources Corporation, an oil and gas exploration and production company, many important decisions are made based on spatial relationships by people who are not GIS professionals. Most of these decisions in the past were made from a paper map or through ArcMap over a Citrix server. Paper maps work great if they are not out of date or if they show the exact information that the user needs. Providing information in ArcMap through a Citrix server provided valuable information, but had many issues such as; licensing, difficulty to use and train, speed, and convenience. We needed a lightweight mapping application to get valuable GIS information to the eyes of our non-GIS users and deploying a web map was our solution.

We realized a several years ago that there was a need to provide a web base application, but it took awhile to get management buy-in to get the process initialized. After reviewing several proposals, and three sample pilot projects our software provider was selected. The hardware and software requirements were installed by our IT department and the GIS staff met with different departments to evaluate their needs. Individualized web maps were published to meet the requirements of these different groups. We also wanted to spread the gospel of GIS by offering it to departments who didn't typically interact or utilize the GIS department.

Users now have the ability to produce coal seam thickness maps, generate pooling unit maps and construct permitting documents. They can now make their own printable maps and spreadsheets of expiring leases and can even customize their search criteria. Execution of simple queries and buffers of layers such as mineral leases, pooling units, tax parcels, gathering pipelines, Marcellus horizontal wells, and production pads are now straight forward. Other helpful tools are; export selected items to Excel, create PDF documents, e-mail geo-referenced map images to GIS staff, and the ability to share maps easier by e-mailing hyperlinks. The system provides maps and data via friendly interface, usable by non-GIS professionals.

The positive response that we have received since our web map has been up and running has been tremendous. Users are thrilled with the ease of learning the application and now have the ability to be connected to live data. Through the web map, the user is now empowered to complete basic tasks that the GIS staff previously performed. It has improved the decision making process of our organization and increased GIS department efficiency. As more users are exposed to GIS, the better our internal data will become based on user feedback. Awareness of the GIS Department has increased as well as recognition of the crucial role we play throughout the organization.