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## Welcome to The Harlow Report - GIS

Welcome to the 9th issue of 2003! This issue looks at standards, and that led my mind to the subject of office politics. If you don't believe that there is a relationship between standards and politics, then say hello to Santa when he comes down your chimney.

### Featured Articles

- **Jack Dangermond Named Honorary Chair for World Standards Day 2003.** ESRI President Jack Dangermond served as honorary chairman during a special World Standards Day exhibition, reception, and dinner
- **Open GIS Standards Move Forward** There is a move afoot to standardize GIS. You know all about standards, don't you? They are more often than not established by people who cannot catch the front runner. In our world of GIS we have something called the Open GIS Consortium.
- **Office Politics: Ear Of The Boss** Unless you work in a cave by yourself, sooner or later office politics will play a major role in your career. In "Office Politics: Ear Of The Boss" by Richard Lowe Jr., we get a good look at politics at the corporate level.

### More to Know

- **Out of the Box** Our collection of news events that may indirectly effect your GIS project. Events are categorized by State and Local Government, Technology and Utilities.
- **News to Use.** Short takes on the latest GIS news with links to more information

### Just 4 Laffs

- **Real Insurance Reports** A funny look at how some people butcher the English language when they report their insurance claims.

As always, we thank you for your support, and trust that you and your loved ones remain safe, healthy and prosperous.

*Chris Harlow*



## **Jack Dangermond Named Honorary Chair for World Standards Day 2003**

**E**SRI President Jack Dangermond served as honorary chairman during a special World Standards Day exhibition, reception, and dinner on Tuesday, September 30, 2003, at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C. The theme for this year's event was 2003 World Standards Day: Building Global Security Through Standards

### **What is World Standards Day?**

On October 14, 1946, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) which held its first meeting in London. World Standards Day began as a celebration of that event ISO began with an initial roster of 25 countries and now has 123 member nations. The Geneva Switzerland-based organization evolved into the global clearinghouse for all standards activities. ISO's U.S. representative, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), is one of the founding organizations of World Standards Day.

Today, the people who set standards, sponsor World Standards Day: ISO; the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), which develops international standards for the electrical and electronics industries; and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), an international organization responsible for the coordination, development, regulation, and standardization of telecommunications standards.

The organizations that sponsor World Standards Day have a simple goal: to raise awareness of the importance of global standardization to the world economy and to promote its role in helping meet the needs of business, industry, government, and consumers

In the U.S., World Standards Day is a joint effort between the private and public sector. This year's World Standards Day events are being coordinated and funded by the World Standards Day Committee, consisting of representatives from more than 50 major companies, professional and technical societies, trade associations, standards developing organizations and government agencies. The co-chairs of the World Standards Day Committee are the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

### **Dinner with Jack**

At the U.S. World Standards Day reception and dinner, held in Washington D.C., the winners of the Ronald Brown Standards Leadership Award and the World Standards Day Paper Contest are announced. Named after the late U.S. Secretary of Commerce, the Ronald Brown Standards Leadership Award recognizes demonstrated leadership in promoting the important role of standardization in eliminating global barriers to trade. The World Standards Day Paper Contest is designed to raise awareness of the importance of standards, as well as present various perspectives on national and international standards issues.

At the U.S. World Standards Day reception and dinner, held in Washington D.C., the winners of the Ronald Brown Standards Leadership Award and the World Standards Day Paper Contest are announced. Named after the late U.S. Secretary of Commerce, the Ronald Brown Standards Leadership Award recognizes demonstrated leadership in promoting the important role of standardization in eliminating global barriers to trade. The World Standards Day Paper Contest is designed to raise awareness of the importance of standards, as well as present various perspectives on national and international standards issues.

## **The Harlow Report Geographic Information Systems - Vol 26 Issue 09**

Jack Dangermond's participation in the U.S. Celebration of World Standards Day symbolizes this year's theme, "Building Global Security Through Standards," and highlights ESRI's recognition and commitment to the development and interoperability of standards in the area of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). ESRI's technology, software development and support help perform countless vital tasks including the determination of new national boundaries during peace negotiations, the rebuilding of cities around the world, the containment of oil spills and routing of emergency vehicles.

"The U.S. World Standards Day Planning Committee, and the ICC as the Administrating Organization, is privileged to have Jack Dangermond serve as the honorary chairman," said Pamela Suett, ANSI Education and Training manager. "He is recognized in both academia and industry as a business leader and an authority in the GIS field. His commitment to incorporating technology standards in the business practices for ESRI will help promote the role of national and international standards in enhancing security and emergency planning world-wide."

## **Conclusions**

About those useable, workable, useful GIS standards ...



## **Open GIS Standards Move Forward**

**T**here is a move afoot to standardize GIS. You know all about standards, don't you? They are more often than not established by people who cannot catch the front runner. In our world of GIS we have something called the Open GIS Consortium (<http://www.opengis.org>) It is an organization that describes itself as “a member-driven, non-profit international trade association that is leading the development of geoprocessing interoperability computing standards.”

Interoperability seems to be the latest buzz word that has just about replaced the word “standards.” For one thing it sounds less threatening. For another, unlike strict standards interoperability seems to leave more room for growth and future development. From an end-user perspective it doesn't matter that much. What we want is the ability to use our chosen software on any geo-file, no matter which platform created it.

Besides, who wants to tell their clients that their software can read ESRI's shape files, when they can say that it adheres to the OGC's interoperability standards?

### **Web news from Spain**

While the rest of us were raking the autumn leaves the technical and planning committees of the OGC were toughing it out in Spain. As a result, the Open GIS Consortium, Inc. (OGC) moved two OpenGIS® Web Services specifications through the approval process. The committees adopted the Web Coverage Service Specification, which defines how to access gridded geographic data. Also, they moved the Web Terrain Service Specification, which details how to render vector and raster data as a 3D view, to Request For Comment status. The Web Coverage Service (WCS) provides access to intact, raw data such as imagery, digital elevation matrix (DEM) and other types of gridded data

### **Web coverage, what's that?**

If you want a static map, you use the specs of the Web Map Service (WMS). On the other hand, Web Coverage Service provides only data access. Typically client-side applications will model, analyze and render the data. WCS was submitted by BAE SYSTEMS – Information Systems Sector (U.S.), Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Exploration and Mining (Australia), CubeWerx Inc. (Canada), German Aerospace Center – DLR (Germany), Galdos Systems Inc. (Canada), George Mason University (U.S.), Intergraph Mapping and Geospatial Solutions (U.S.), IONIC Software (Belgium), MITRE Corporation (U.S.), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (U.S.), PCI Geomatics, Inc. (Canada), Polexis, Inc. (U.S.), Raytheon Company (U.S.), United States Army Corps of Engineers, and the United States Geological Survey. The approved specification is publicly available for download at <http://www.opengis.org/specs/?page=specs>.

### **But what is the Web Terrain Service all about?**

The Web Terrain Service (WTS) specification defines a standard interface for requesting three-dimensional terrain scenes from a server capable of their generation. A “3D scene” is defined as a 2D projection of three-dimensional features into a viewing plane. The membership approved WTS as a Request for Comment. OGC invites any interested parties to review the document, now available at <http://www.opengis.org/specs/?page=requests&request=rfc18>, and suggest additions or changes.

According to the OGC “A Web Terrain Service (WTS) produces views of georeferenced data. We define a ‘view’ as a visual representation of geodata; a view is not the data itself. These views are generally rendered in a 2D pictorial format such as Portable Network Graphics (PNG), Graphics Interchange Format (GIF) or Joint Photographic Expert Group (JPEG) format. This specification standardizes the way in which clients request views and the way that servers describe their data holdings. Two required operations are defined:

- \* GetCapabilities: Obtain service-level metadata, which is a machine-readable (and human– readable) description of the WTS's information content and acceptable request parameters.
- \* GetView: Obtain a 3D scene whose geospatial and dimensional parameters are indirectly defined.”

## **Conclusion**

GIS grew up without many standards. Developers pushed the envelope and kept changing the stationery. The idea of proprietary software was not new to GIS. In fact it was a way of business in the IT community. The web changed all that. In fact most college students cannot understand that there was once a time when computers of different vendors could not interact with one another. They have grown up in a world of cross-platform compatibility.

for GIS to succeed on the Web, it must work across all platforms, browsers, operating systems, and whatever else comes down the pike. Frankly, interoperability of desktop GIS is far less important that interoperability across the web. Encourage our suppliers to participate in the evolving standards and insist on compliance. Get acquainted with the OGC: Visit the OGC website at <http://www.opengis.org>.



# Office Politics: Ear Of The Boss

by  
Richard Lowe, Jr.

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**Editor's Note:** Unless you work in a cave by yourself, sooner or later office politics will play a major role in your career. Sometimes that is a good thing, and other times it is quite the opposite. In "Office Politics: Ear Of The Boss" by Richard Lowe Jr., we get a good look at politics at the corporate level. Although we usually turn to Richard to learn about technical issues, technically speaking this is an issue about which you should learn. Richard Lowe Jr. is the webmaster of Internet Tips And Secrets at <http://www.internet-tips.net>,

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I clearly remember the day I was sitting across from a man I shall refer to as Dick, getting yet another tongue thrashing for something which, in his expert opinion, I was supposed to be doing. I was much younger and less experienced at the time, so I just sat there, getting more and more caved in, listening to him explain to me that everything was going wrong because of me. Now I am much wiser and stronger, and this idiot would not be screaming at the top of his voice at me for very long.

What was going on with Dick was that he had the ear of the boss. This "man" always had an excuse for everything that was going wrong around him, and it was always someone else's fault. In fact, Dick was directly responsible for the firing of two good people before I quit, and two additional people left on their own after I left.

Dick, you see, had the ear of the boss, and he took advantage of that to "educate" him on how a business should really be run. And it seemed that the proper way to run a business meant belittling the employees, screaming at the top of his lungs, and loudly asking people what was wrong with them.

I remember when Dick came on board at our small consulting company. He claimed he had an incredible amount of marketing experience and convinced my boss that he was the answer to everything, and would make our company big and profitable. Up until that point, by the way, our company was small but excellent - we had a concept that we would be the best at what we did and that we would create a wonderful place to work.

That all changed when Dick came on board. He spent endless hours talking with the boss, educating him on how to run a company. He also spent quite a bit of time trying to figure out "what was wrong", and soon isolated an employee (we'll call him Marvin) as a serious non-producer. Now, it didn't seem to matter that Marvin was actually doing a pretty good job. It didn't seem to matter that the agreement that Marvin had with the boss was to "at least make his salary". You see, Marvin had fallen to rough times and come to his friend, the boss, for help. A temporary job selling our products. The boss was happy with this arrangement, and Marvin did make enough money to pay his paycheck plus a few dollars on top of that. At least, the boss was happy until Dick decided otherwise.

Marvin got fired shortly afterwards for reasons which were, well, contrived and unfair, but it didn't seem to matter to anyone. Unfortunately, this left Dick without a reason for his own failures, so he quickly had to find someone else. Another employee soon found herself the reason for all of the problems occurring at work, and before long she quit because she could not take it anymore.

Now it was my turn. I did much better than the previous two employees - it took Dick about six months to discredit me enough that I finally left the company that, until Dick arrived, I loved with all my heart.

Oh, those were terrible times. It seemed that I could do nothing right, and everything seemed somehow to get reported to the boss. Of course, Dick was "just trying to help" and "had the best interests of the group at heart". More and more I found myself called into meetings with the boss, with Dick sitting in as an advisor,

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explaining some issue, problem or concern. These meetings often became shouting matches in which I found myself mentally cowering in the corner, only wanting the pain to stop.

I found myself getting sick more and more often - and this was very unusual as I never really get sick. I had colds all of the time, and a couple of bouts with the flu and food poisoning.

You have to understand that my work at that time was my life. I typically spent 80 to 100 hours each week at the office, sitting in my chair writing programs which could make computers almost literally dance. I have always loved my job and poured my heart and soul into everything that I did.

Thus, it was a direct shot to the core of my being to be told over and over, day after day, that I was failing, messing up, causing problems, creating issues and letting everyone down. It was worse that the boss didn't seem to be helping the situation - he just listened and mediated.

I eventually fled the company and got a wonderful job somewhere else. It actually required years of therapy (over 500 hours) to get over the results of the pain and agony caused by this man. For the first couple of years after I left it was so bad that even the thought of him caused me to get very sick.

Now, of course, I understand things better - in the words of the song, "I can see clearly now that the rain is gone...". Dick was actually a very small, terrified man, not worth the time of day. The only way he feels he can get ahead in life was to belittle and bring down other people.

So how do you fight this kind of person? You have to recognize the situation early, before things get out of hand. Then you must take decisive, conclusive action and get the situation handled fast. You MUST remember that this kind of person is an enemy and has to be handled as such. You also have to recognize that he has the ear of the boss, which means the boss trusts him and believes in him implicitly and for no good reason. This makes this kind of person very dangerous and very difficult to deal with.

When you first recognize that someone has the ear of the boss and is an enemy, take a look over your own situation. If you've got anything at all which needs to be corrected, then do it fast. It doesn't matter how small it is, get it corrected. This kind of person has an almost unique ability to find small, seemingly insignificant issues and blow them up to incredibly horrible problems. For example, if you take a longer lunch than you should, stop doing it. Or if you come into work late, then start coming in on time. Look over yourself with a very critical eye (and take on the role of your boss for a few minutes) and fix everything that you find. Clean your desk, look over the quality of your work and make sure you are dressing appropriately. Don't give these kinds of people anything to sink their claws into.

Also, and this is a good idea regardless of where you work, make sure your personal life is completely segregated from your work life. Your loves, hobbies, sports and everything else you do on your own time has nothing to do with work, so be sure and keep it from the workplace. This kind of idiot loves to find problems anywhere he can, and your personal life is just as good a place to find them as anywhere.

Now that you've spent a little time on defense perhaps it's time for a little offense. Careful now, this kind of person is very good at this, so don't move before you are ready.

Before I go any further, let me preface what I'm telling you by restating a fact - this type of person is your enemy. He is the enemy of your boss. He is the enemy of your co-workers, your loves, and everyone in the community. He does not care about anything or anyone other than himself. He will not hesitate for one nanosecond to blame all of his failures directly and totally on you, with all of the facts necessary to hang you until dead. So don't worry for one minute about defending yourself.

Okay, so what do you do? You keep your eyes open and do some research Start making a journal of things that he is doing. Track whatever you want. When he gets to work, when he leaves, how long of a lunch

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he takes, who he goes with. Make it your hobby to find out all about this person. In fact, depending upon the circumstances, you might use other means, up to and including private investigators, to find out more information. Believe me, if this guy has you in his sights, you will need everything you can get.

Understand this, the Dick's of the world are trying to, almost literally, kill you. They want to get you fired. They have this almost obsessive need to destroy everything good. They are very hostile and very aggressive, and seemingly untouchable, because they have the ear of the boss. This means they are trusted, and they are using that trust to, again almost literally, kill you.

Now, let's say you are in a meeting with the boss and this guy, and he starts to try and attack you. He says something like, "you are the reason why this project is failing, and you are behind schedule, why?". **DO NOT ANSWER HIS QUESTION. DO NOT EVEN ACKNOWLEDGE IT** unless the BOSS brings it up.

Why not? Because I've learned from experience that this is exactly what he wants. He wants to turn all eyes away from himself and his own miserable existence to someone else. By answering and defending yourself, you have helped him achieve his purpose.

Today, now that I am older and wiser, I would just look him in the eye and ask him how his sales are doing. If he was as smart as Dick, he would say he asked me a question and try to get the eyes back to me. I would repeat, how are his sales doing? If he continued pressing me, I would point out that they must be doing great because he seems to have enough time left over to be concerned about my area. So why isn't he answering the question?

You see? The eyes go right back to him. If the boss wants to pursue his question, then bring out your **FACTS** and discredit the poor fool. Simply state that your project is on schedule, as agreed to by the boss. If your project is late, be sure to pass credit to the boss - you might say something like, "well, the Davidson project is a week late because George [the boss] asked me to delay it in order to work on the Peterson project, which is now finished."

I could write a whole book on this subject, but I will sum it up here briefly. Your existence at this company is literally at stake. If the guy keeps attacking you, then pull out all of the stops. You **MUST** get this person fired, or he will get you fired or force you into a situation in which you will quit - or you will get so sick that you will die. It's that simple. This man (or woman) is the enemy, and you can be absolutely certain that he will not stop.

The best advice I can give is (a) find some way to destroy him (and you can be absolutely certain that he is doing some seriously bad things, you've just got to look to find out what they are), or (b) leave before he destroys you.

Office Politics: Ear Of The Boss  
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## **Out of the Box**

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**Editor's note:** In “Out of the Box” we bring you news snippets that are not necessarily related specifically to GIS. These are items that come across my screen that help me understand our industry, by understanding the world around us. For the complete article just click “Details Here.” Think of it as thinking **Out of the Box**

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### **In State and Local Government ...**

- GAO weighs in on firefighting GIS. The collaborative interagency effort required to fight fires complicates the use of geographic information systems, GAO wrote in its report.

Details Here: [http://gcn.com/vol1\\_no1/daily-updates/23690-1.html](http://gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/23690-1.html)

- Oklahoma city hopes pavement management program will lead to better ... GIS stands for geographic information systems, which pinpoints geographic locations. “It’s about a 3 month process to get this up and running,” Details Here: [http://ardmoreite.com/stories/100503/loc\\_pavement.shtml](http://ardmoreite.com/stories/100503/loc_pavement.shtml)

- FREE “Up From Zero” tells of those at ground zero. After the terrorist attacks of 2001, thousands of building trades workers poured into the site, starting the massive rescue and cleanup operations. These volunteers worked nine months, at great personal risk. A documentary has been completed on this work, including interviews with the workers. It is available from the U.S. Department of Labor free of charge.

Details Here: [http://www.dol.gov/opa/dvd/combined\\_form2.htm](http://www.dol.gov/opa/dvd/combined_form2.htm)

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### **In Technology ...**

- Georgia Tech Center for Geographic Information Systems, College of Architecture, will present a series of GIS courses, beginning in October 2003 and continuing through May 2004. Courses include: Introductory Course in ArcGIS 8.3, Building GIS Applications Using Visual Basic, Designing Geodatabases for GIS Application, Using GIS for Data Integration and Asset Management, Developing Web-based GIS with ArcIMS, and Building GIS Applications Using Visual Basic and VB.Net. All courses are open to the public, and held in Georgia Tech’s Global Learning Center in Technology Square, Atlanta, GA. For complete course descriptions and registration fees visit: [www.pe.gatech.edu](http://www.pe.gatech.edu) and select “geographic information systems” from the drop down menu. For additional information, call: (404) 385-3501. Details Here: <http://www.pe.gatech.edu>. Select “geographic information systems” from the drop down menu. For additional information, call: (404) 385-3501.

- Tektronix’ Network Monitoring System Gains Another First for Mobile Operators Striving to Maximize GSM Revenues. Bob Agnes, Vice President, Monitoring & Protocol Test, Tektronix said “Tektronix’ new NET-X RST enables technicians to quickly understand where their largest sources of revenue – in-roamers – are located and what activities they’re performing, enabling the operator to prioritize maintenance tasks and protect an important revenue stream.” Details Here: <http://www.pressi.com/us/release/77223.html>

- Microsoft Corp. announced the creation of the Anti-Virus Reward Program, initially funded with \$5 million (U.S.), to help law enforcement agencies identify and bring to justice those who illegally release damaging worms, viruses and other types of malicious code on the Internet. Microsoft will provide the monetary rewards for information resulting in the arrest and conviction of those responsible for launching malicious viruses and worms on the Internet. Residents of any country are eligible for the reward, according to the laws of that country, as Internet viruses affect the Internet community worldwide.

Details Here : <http://www.microsoft.com/presspass>

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## In Utilities ...

- Debunking Some Myths About the Great Northeast Blackout. Like earlier outages in 1965 and 1977, the widespread blackout that plunged most of the Northeastern US into darkness August 14th will be seen as a watershed event in the history of the US power industry.

Details Here.: [http://www.energypulse.net/centers/article/article\\_print.cfm?a\\_id=475](http://www.energypulse.net/centers/article/article_print.cfm?a_id=475) Story by Jack Ellis

- U.S. generators trim power to absorb solar flare. North American power generators said they throttled back the amount of energy flowing onto the transmission grid on Wednesday, October 29, to shield it from the impact of a solar flare that earlier hit Earth. The transmission grid, a vast system of electrically charged lines suspended on towers above the Earth's surface, is especially vulnerable to solar flares, acting like a net fully exposed to the sun's burst of magnetic energy. "There have been some minor impacts. We've had several nuclear power plants reduce power and a small hydroelectric facility went out of service, but it's been well within companies' ability to handle," said Ellen Vancko, a spokesperson at the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC). In New England, the region's electric grid operator warned on its Website that power imports from Quebec and exports to New York could be reduced because of the solar magnetic disturbance. Details Here:

[http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma\\_newsarticle1\\_reuters.htm?SMDOCID=reuters\\_pma\\_2003\\_10\\_29\\_eng-reuters\\_pma\\_U-S-GENERATORS-TRIM-POWER-TO-ABSORB-SOLAR-FLARE&SMContentSet=0](http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_reuters.htm?SMDOCID=reuters_pma_2003_10_29_eng-reuters_pma_U-S-GENERATORS-TRIM-POWER-TO-ABSORB-SOLAR-FLARE&SMContentSet=0)



## **News to Use**

### **Intergraph discusses technology directions**

<http://www.intergraph.com/gis>

Intergraph discusses technology directions with leading utilities and communication customers. Utilities and communications industry executives from the United States and Canada gathered at Intergraph HQ to discuss technology directions with Intergraph leaders. At the conference, Intergraph demonstrated its continued commitment to provide open, standards-based solutions for the utilities and communications markets by discussing new developments underway for the company's geographic information system, Geospatial Resource Management and outage and mobile workforce management technology.

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### **U-HAUL® selects MAPQUEST**

<http://www.uhaul.com>

Finding the nearest U-Haul location just got easier for do-it-yourself movers thanks to a new agreement jointly announced today between Mapquest and U-Haul International, Inc.

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### **Kissimmee Utility Authority**

<http://www.kua.com/>

Kissimmee Utility Authority (KUA) chose Miner & Miner's ArcFM™ technology to modernize its business operations and improve facilities asset management. KUA completed data conversion for the project in-house in only 3 months. In July, KUA went live with ArcFM and they are currently in the process of completing the implementation of the remaining ArcFM applications, including Designer, Responder, Network Adapter, Conduit Manager, and ArcFM Viewer.

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### **Map-Mac: Avenza Relocated**

<http://www.avenza.com>

Effective on Monday October 27th, 2003, Avenza will be occupying new offices in midtown Toronto. The new office address is:

124 Merton Street • Suite 400  
Toronto, ON • Canada M4S 2Z2  
Telephone: 416-487-5116 • Fax: 416-487-7213

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### **Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet**

<http://ky.gov/agencies/sas/index.shtml>

The Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet chose PlanGraphics as one of two geographic information systems niche vendors for the Commonwealth of Kentucky's new Strategic Alliance Services (SAS) contracts. The Strategic Alliance is a state price contract arrangement that allows Kentucky agencies, local governments and education agencies to procure GIS and other information technology (IT) services more quickly and competitively from pre-qualified expert providers.

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**ESRI's MapObjects–Java Edition 2 Is Available**

<http://www.esri.com/mapobjectsjava>

-ESRI announced the release of MapObjects– Java Edition 2. MapObjects-Java Edition is a powerful collection of pure Java clientside and serverside components used to build custom, cross platform mapping and GIS applications. Software developers can use the high–level components for rapid development or exercise the programming interface for fine grained control and deliver applications that perform a variety of spatial-based query and display functions at the presentation, Web, and server tiers.

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**Itron Chooses Power Delivery Associates' Origin GIS**

<http://www.itron.com>

Under a joint agreement, Itron and Power Delivery Associates will collaborate to create a newly extended version of Origin GIS that will include a number of Itron's design and analysis functions. Among these include Structural Analysis, Clearance Analysis, Profile View, Standards Manager, and Structure Modeler as well as validation routines that will allow the user to launch one or more analysis tools based on user-defined preferences. The tools will be integrated into the existing facilities placement and editing capabilities of Origin GIS and will provide users seamless design functionality with the new product.

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## Real Insurance Reports

From the web site English-zone: <http://www.english-zone.com/language/ins.html>

### Real Insurance Reports

The following was published by an insurance company for internal distribution. These reports were submitted when policy-holders were asked for a brief statement describing their particular accident. An Ann Landers reader sent them in from Raleigh, N.C.

- \* The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intention.
- \* I thought my window was down but found it was up when I put my hand through it.
- \* A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.
- \* The guy was all over the place. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.
- \* I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law and headed over the embankment.
- \* The accident occurred when I was attempting to bring my car out of a skid by steering it into the other vehicle.
- \* I was driving my car out of the driveway in the usual manner, when it was struck by the other car in the same place it had been struck several times before.
- \* I was on my way to the doctor's with rear-end trouble when my universal joint gave way, causing me to have an accident.
- \* As I approached the intersection, a stop sign suddenly appeared in a place where no stop sign had ever appeared before. I was unable to stop in time to avoid the accident.
- \* The telephone pole was approaching fast. I was attempting to swerve out of its path when it struck my front end.
- \* To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck the pedestrian.

- \* My car was legally parked as it backed into the other vehicle.
- \* An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my vehicle and vanished.
- \* When I saw I could not avoid a collision, I stepped on the gas and crashed into the other car.
- \* The pedestrian had no idea which direction to go, so I ran him over.
- \* I saw the slow-moving, sad-faced old gentleman as he bounced off the hood of my car.
- \* Coming home, I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have.
- \* The indirect cause of this accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth.



If you change your  
Email address,  
tell us!

[Charlow@charter.net](mailto:Charlow@charter.net)



**Looking for a domain name, email address or an inexpensive web hosting services?  
Go to <http://www.aaadomain.net> where domain names are \$8.75 or less!**