

# ICSM NEWS – June 2010

## A New Phase of Openness

### ICSM Meeting Records

Records from ICSM meetings are now available on the ICSM website

- A summary of the latest meeting will be released within days of the meeting concluding. The summary from the Wollongong meeting (May 2010) is available at: <http://www.icsm.gov.au/icsm/about/WollongongSummary.pdf>
- The endorsed, unclassified version of the full Minutes from the previous meeting will also be released approximately 6 months after the meeting. The minutes of the Melbourne (November 2009) meeting are available at: <http://www.icsm.gov.au/icsm/about/MinutesMelbourne.pdf>



### Creative Commons

Creative Commons licensing will soon be adopted to manage copyright issues for ICSM standards, guidelines, policies, protocols and documents.

## ICSM Elects a New Chair

Russell Priebbenow, Director of Surveys, Queensland Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) has completed his term as ICSM Chair for 2008-2010 and Don Grant, Surveyor-General Land Information New Zealand (LINZ), has been unanimously elected as the ICSM Chair for 2010-2012.

ICSM would like to thank Russell for his dedication over the last 2 years.



Russell Priebbenow and Don Grant

## AusGeoid 2009

AusGeoid09 will be released in mid-2010.

AusGeoid09 is a more direct and more accurate method of calculating Australian Height Datum (AHD) heights from GPS ellipsoidal heights when compared with previous AusGeoid models. Unlike previous versions, which were based predominantly on the gravimetric geoid, AusGeoid09 includes a geometric component to model the offset between the gravimetric geoid and AHD. This will allow high precision GPS users to compute AHD heights either in real time in the field, or via post processing back in the office to within  $\pm 4\text{cm}$  across most of Australia; this is an order of magnitude more accurate than previous models.

Upon completion, AusGeoid09 will be available to download from the Geoscience Australia website (<http://www.ga.gov.au>) to install in GPS receivers, and a new web page is currently being developed to perform computations online.

## International Surveying Congress

In April 2010, the XXIV FIG International Congress was held in Sydney. Its theme was: *Facing the Challenges – Building the Capacity*.

The ICSM community made a significant contribution to this Congress and a selection of their papers (including PowerPoint and flash presentations) is available on the ICSM website. These papers are seen as presenting an excellent snapshot of the Australian and New Zealand spatial community in early 2010.

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

The full set of Congress Papers is available from [http://www.fig.net/pub/fig2010/sess\\_prog\\_overview.htm](http://www.fig.net/pub/fig2010/sess_prog_overview.htm)

In addition to these papers, ICSM and ANZLIC hosted a booth in the Spatial Innovations Down Under Pavilion of the FIG Trade Exhibition. This proved very popular with Congress delegates.



## Points of Interest

An ICSM sub-committee has been established to review current thinking regarding Points of Interest (POI) information and to develop a strategy for progressing the capture of POI data.

This committee is to report to the next ICSM meeting. Its Strategy and Vision is to:

- identify the role of government in developing a national POI database
- examine drivers (benefits) and restraints
- identify issues associated with establishing an ICSM POI working group



## Tides Workshop and Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors

The next Tides Workshop will be held in Adelaide from 20 to 23 September 2010.

ICSM's Permanent Committee on Tides and Mean Sea Level (PCTMSL) is working with the Australian Hydrographic Service (AHS) and the Bureau of Meteorology's National Tidal Centre (NTC) to modify the workshop content in order that it satisfies the requirements for certification of hydrographic surveyors.

The Australasian Hydrographic Surveyors Certification Panel (AHSCP) uses the FIG-IHO-ICA 'International Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors' as its reference for assessment of surveying competence.

[www.iho-ohi.net/iho\\_pubs/standard/M510thed08.pdf](http://www.iho-ohi.net/iho_pubs/standard/M510thed08.pdf)

The Standards outline the competency requirements for both Category A and B courses. The Tides Workshop will cover the entire syllabus requirements listed for Essential Subject 2 (*Water Levels and Flow*) of the Category B course, and some requirements of the Category A course.

## National Tidal Centre Glossary of Hydrographic Terms

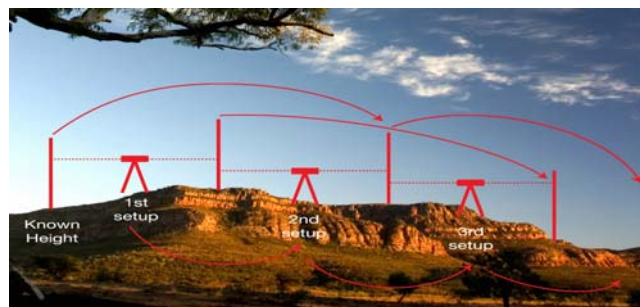
The NTC Glossary is an integral part of ICSM's Australia Tides Manual (The Australia Tides Manual – SP9). It has an emphasis on Australian tidal terms – eg the tidal datums used in Australian jurisdictions. The revised version of this was released in April 2010. See:

[www.icsm.gov.au/icsm/SP9/links/NTC\\_glossary.pdf](http://www.icsm.gov.au/icsm/SP9/links/NTC_glossary.pdf)

## Roads Data Dictionary

In January 2010 the ICSM Roads Working Group released a discussion paper on proposed features for national roads data models – in essence a draft roads data dictionary. [http://www.icsm.gov.au/icsm/roads/Roads\\_Data\\_Dictionary-V1.0.pdf](http://www.icsm.gov.au/icsm/roads/Roads_Data_Dictionary-V1.0.pdf)

We are still seeking feedback on the data dictionary – [please use this link to email your comments](#) to the ICSM Executive Officer.



## Surveying for Mapping

In March 2010 ICSM released the final module in its highly popular Fundamentals of Mapping web package – Surveying for Mapping.

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

In May 2010, the package as a whole was viewed 12,000 times and the surveying modules were viewed over 1,000 times. Topics discussed range from fundamental surveying concepts and techniques to height, Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and the impact of plate tectonics.

## Educating about Spatial

The Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI) has launched a website which informs about the spatial industry and promotes training and employment pathways. ICSM recommends that you visit this website:

<http://www.destinationspatial.org>



## Next ICSM Meeting

ICSM's next meeting is scheduled for 10-11 November 2010, in Perth.