### 2013 Esri Europe, Middle East and Africa User Conference

October 23-25, 2013 | Munich, Germany

# Geographic Communication with Solid Terrain Models

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# The Idea is simple

 To tell stories about a given territory, synchronized with the video projection of geographic information on top of a physical model of that same territory



# A glance with a video sample

Castro Marim Territory Interpretation Centre



#### Click the image to see the video on You Tube

# **The Concept**

### • From reality to a GIS database and back



# Abstraction





### Reality



Geographic Database

# **Physical Representation**





Geographic Database







#### **3D Physical Model**

Esri EMEAUC13 Geographic Communication with Solid Terrain Models

# Augmented Reality













#### **Geographic Data Projection**

# Why do it with 3D Physical Models?



### Because...

- 3D physical models are tangible products
- Scale, distance, slope, orientation, sight line, etc., are immediately perceived by everyone in an audience in a clear and consensual way
- Physical models are democratic tools: people will find it easy to understand others and make themselves understood



# The result is

- Beautiful communication
- Information easier to understand
- Improved communication with audiences
- Better public participation



## How do we do it?





#### Geographic Data Projection





# gison3dmap installations in Portugal

- Lamas de Mouro Gateway to Peneda Gerês National Park – Thematic Workshop
- 2. Serra da Estrela Interpretation Centre
- 3. Coimbra Superior Agricultural School
- 4. Herdade da Contenda Interpretation Centre
- 5. RAVE High Speed Train Network
- 6. Companhia das Lezírias Visitors Centre
- 7. Castro Marim County Interpretation Centre
- 8. Batalha County Community Museum
- 9. Sintra 3D Sintra World Heritage Landscape
- 10. Guimarães County Information Centre
- 11. River Lima Information Centre
- 12. Cascais County Urban Information Centre
- 13. Costa Lopes Arquitects
- 14. House of Rock Delivering Stones Arouca Geopark



## Lamas de Mouro Gateway to Peneda Gerês National Park

#### Lamas de Mouro gateway to the Peneda-Gerês National Park

Located at the Lamas de Mouro entrance of the Peneda-Gerés National Park, this was the first gison3dmap system installed in Portugal, in the year 2005.

Model: Melgaço County Scale: 1:15.000 Vertical exaggeration: 1.5 times Dimensions: 1.46 x 1.73 m Projection system: 2 XGA projectors Multimedia: None Calibration: 2D





#### Keywords: Sustainable Tourism, Education

## **Coimbra Superior Agricultural School**

#### Coimbra Superior School of Agriculture (ESAC) -Visulands Project

This system was used by ESAC for the Visulands project final results public presentation, and it is currently used in the context of the forest engineering curricula.

Model: Arganil county Scale: 1.25.000 (military map) Vertical exaggeration: None Dimensions: 1.47 x 0.76 m Projection system: Mobile with one XGA projector Multimedia: None Calibration: 2D Clients: ArcGIS and mmon3dmap





#### Keywords: Territorial Managment, Public Participation

### Serra da Estrela Interpretation Centre - CISE

#### Serra da Estrela Interpretation Centre - CISE

System integrated into the permanent CISE exhibition, in the area dedicated to the Serra da Entrela Natural Park. CISE is open to the public since March 2007.

Model: Serra da Estrela Natural Park and Seia county Scale: 1:35.000 Dimensions: 1.47 x 1.47 m Vertical exaggeration: 1.5 times Projection system: 2 XGA Sanyo PLC XU86 projectors Multimedia: Touch screen and video projection Calibration: 2D Clients: ArcGIS and mmon3dmap









#### Keywords: Sustainable Tourism, Education

### Herdade da Contenda

#### Herdade da Contenda

This system was used by the Portuguese Forest Agency at Expocaça 2008 (Santarém - May, 9-11), Feciex 2008 (Badajoz – September, 18-21) and Ovibeja 2010 (Beja, April 28 - May 2), to promote Contenda, a public owned 5270 hectares protected area property, with a deer population exceeding 3000.

Model: Herdade da Contenda Scale: 1:5.500 Vertical exaggeration: None Dimensions: 2.01 x 1.56 m Projection system: 4 XGA Sanyo PLC XU86 projectors Multimedia: None Calibration: 2D Clients: ArcGIS and mmon3dmap





#### Keywords: Sustainable Tourism, Territorial Managment, Touristic Promotion

### **Companhia das Lezírias Visitors Centre**

#### Companhia das Lezirias Visitors Centre

Companhias das Lezirias (from Arab. Al-Jazira) is the largest agriculture farm in Portugal. The system used for the promotion of the company agricultural, forest and touristic activities.

Model: Charneca property Scale: 1:10.000 Vertical exaggeration: 2.5 times Relief: 63 meter (relief at scale < 2 cm) Dimensions: 2.02 x 1.58 m Projection system: 4 XGA Sanyo PLC XU87 projectors Multimedia: Touch screen and LCD screen Calibration: 2D Clients: ArcGIS and mmon3dmap, with an institutional video









#### Keywords: Education, Sustainable Tourism, Territorial Managment

# **RAVE – TTT – Third Tejo River Crossing Exhibition**

#### TTT —Third Tejo river crossing Exhibition

This system was used between October 2008 and February 2009, as part of the TTT project public presentation for the high speed train network (RAVE), to presente the new "bridge for the future" ("Ponte para o Futuro").

Model: Lisbon Metropolitan Area Scale: 1:31.000 Vertical exaggeration: 3 times Dimensions: Circular with 2.4 m diameter Projection system: 4 XGA Sanyo PLC XU106 projectors Multimedia: Touch screen and sound Calibration: 2D





#### Keywords: Project Development, Public Participation

### **Castro Marim Territory Interpretation Centre**

#### **Castro Marim Territory Interpretation Centre**

Installed at Castro Marim, Algarve, on August 2008, the system was designed to be a county virtual belvedere, in which visitors are invited to depart on a journey to discover the territory history, heritages, people and traditions.

Model: Castro Marim county Scale: 1:10.000 Vertical exaggeration: 1.5 times Dimensions: 2.6 x 2.0 m Projection system: 4 XGA Sanyo PLC XU106 projectors Multimedia: A 15 min. county history video shown on 4 LCD screens Sound: Audioguides in Portuguese, English, Spanish and French Calibration: 3D manual Clients: ArcGIS, VisualSIG and mmon3dmap







#### Keywords: Education, Territorial Managment, Tourism

## **Batalha County Community Museum**

#### Batalha County Community Museum (MCCB)

System integrated in the MCCB permanent exhibition, in the area "All about us". The Museum is open to the public since February 2011.

Model: Batalha county Scale: 1.10.000 Vertical exaggeration: 1.5 times Dimensions:1.81 x 1.69 m with irregular cut Projection system: 3 XGA Sanyo PLC XU106 projectors Multimedia: Touch screen and LCD screen Calibration: 3D manual Clients: ArcGIS, VisualSIG and mmon3dmap





#### Keywords: Education, Tourism

### Sintra World Heritage Landscape

#### Parques de Sintra Monte da Lua - Sintra 3D

System integrated into the permanent Sintra 3D exhibition, open to the public since April 2011.

Model: Cultural Landscape of Sintra - World Heritage Scale: 1:3.000 Vertical exaggeration: 1.2 times Dimensions: 2.12 x 1.80 m Projection system: 4 XGA Sanyo PLC XU106 projectors Multimedia: Touch screen kiosk and 2 LCD screens Calibration: 3D manual Clients: ArcGIS, VisualSIG and mmon3dmap





#### Keywords: Education, Sustainable Tourism, Territorial Managment

# Guimarães County Master Plan Revision Public Participation

#### Guimarães County Master Plan System

Installed on July 2011, the initial purpose of this gison3dmap system was the presentation and public discussion of the county master plan revision. It is currently used for touristic and county managment purposes.

Model: Guimarães county Scale: 1:10.000 Vertical exaggeration: 1.5 times Dimensions: 2.33 x 2.08 m Projection system: 2 FullHD Mitsubishi FD630U projectors Multimedia: Touch screen kiosk and 2 LCD screens Calibration: 3D automatic







#### Keywords: Territorial Managment, Public Participation

### **Cascais County Urban Information System**

#### **Cascais County Urban Information Center**

Installed in the beginning of July 2012 at the Cascais Cultural Center, the system is used for touristic information and county planning purposes.

Model: Cascais county Scale: 1:7.000 Vertical exaggeration: 1.5 times Dimensions: 2.51 x 1.93 m Projection system: 3 FullHD Mitsubishi FD630U projectors Multimedia: Touch screen kiosk and 2 LCD screens Calibration: 3D automatic Clients: VisualSIG, Powerpoint and mmon3dmap







#### Keywords: Education, Territorial Managment, Tourism

### **River Lima Information Centre**

Lagoas de Bertiandos e S. Pedro d'Arcos" Interpretation Center (CILBSPA)

The Lagoas Environmental Interpretation Center gison3dmap system installation was completed on August 2012, and will open to the public on October 1st. The system will be used for informative and educational purposes related to the Lagoas protected lanscape area and the river Lima watershed.

Model: Ponte de Lima county Scale: 1:10.000 Vertical exaggeration: 1.5 times Dimensions: 2.51 x 1.93 m Projection system: 4 XGA Sanyo PLC-XU106 projectors Multimedia: Touch screen kiosk and 1 LCD screen Calibration: 3D automatic Clients: VisualSIG and Powerpoint





#### Keywords: Education, Sustainable Tourism, Territorial Managment

# Costa Lopes Arquitects – Luanda Marina Development Plan

#### Architectural Models

Since June 2012, gison3dmap can also be used sucessfully in architectural models. In this case the system was used to highlight an urban development plan in a coastal area.

Model: Urban scale model Scale: 1:1.000 Vertical exaggeration: 1 times Dimensions: 2.3 x 2 m Projection system: 2 WXGA Casio XJ-A251 projectors Multimedia: 1 LED screen Calibration: 3D Automatic Clients: VisualSIG and Android





#### Keywords: Project presentation, Real Estate Promotion

# House of Rock Delivering Stones – Arouca Geopark (UNESCO Geoparks Network)

#### Pedras Parideiras Interpretation Center

Located at Arouca Geopark, since December 2012, this system is mainly used to inform visitors of the Geopark's geological and environmental heritage and also its activities.

Model: Freixa's Plateau Scale: 1:5.000 Vertical exaggeration: 1.2 times Dimensions: 1.17 x 0.88 m Projection system: 1 XGA Casio XJ-M150 projector Multimedia: 1 LED screen Calibration: 3D manual Clients: VisualSIG and Android





#### Keywords: Education, Sustainable Tourism

### From user feedback

- Adding GIS data to a 3D physical model (terrain or architectural):
  - Has proven to be a very effective way to communicate geographic information to audiences
  - Enhances the perception of reality and facilitates the communication of information, events and development scenarios
  - Contributes to better and faster decisions in public participation processes

## How was this system architectured?

- GIS Database
- Client server application: gison3dmap
- Clients:
  - GIS
  - Multimedia
  - Presentation (Powerpoint and Android)
  - Custom develloped

# **System Architecture**



## gison3dmap is a GIS

- The gison3dmap core is a GIS engine
- The GIS Database is central to the system All projections are database driven and are consequently dynamic
- Controler manages projection requests
- Map displays are associated with video projectors
- Multimedia displays are used to show images and videos synchronized with GIS data projections on the 3D map

## Clients

- Each type of user interaction requires a specific user interface:
  - GIS for GIS users
  - Multimedia for visitors
  - Presentation for technicians
    - Powerpoint: to geographically illustrate a presentation
    - Android: to control the system (maps, videos, animations, free hand drawing, ...)
  - Custom develloped:
    - Geographic games, multiple users interaction with tablets and smartphones, natural interfaces, ...

# **GIS** clients



# **GIS** Clients

- GIS Clients (ArcGIS and VisualSIG) are central to the gison3dmap system
- All projection requests access GIS data dynamically
- GIS clients are used to define what to project and how
- gison3dmap projection requests can be capured using the GIS clients to use within non GIS clients, such as Powerpoint



**ArcGIS 10 client** 

# **ArcGIS** Online



# **ArcGIS Online**



### ArcGIS Online map projected on a 3D model

# **Multimedia Clients**



# **Multimedia Clients**

- Simple interfaces (menu driven or more flashy) oriented to the general public
- Automatic and user controled map projections synchronized with images and videos



# **Presentation Clients**



# **Powerpoint Client**

- Used to geographically illustrate a Powerpoint presentation
- Slides are shown on multimedia displays
- Map projections are trigered by slide transitions



Powerpoint client schema

# **Andoid Client**

- Used to control map projections and videos, execute command sequences (sun-rise to sun-set shadows, flood simulations, etc.) and draw graphics
- Maps available on the client interface are defined using a GIS project





## **Android Client – Freehand drawing**



#### Click the image to see the video on You Tube

# **Other Clients – gison3dmapQuiz**

- Clients can be developed using the gison3dmap API or sending commands via a TCP/IP socket
- gison3dmapQuiz is an example of an application developed to implement geographic games





# **Other Clients – gison3dmap Overview**

- Navigate on Web map application while using for each user the 3D map as a overview map, and to show locations, lines of sight, etc.
- This is the way to go to integrate 3D virtual scenes, 3D animations anf fly throughs with a solid terrain model



# **Special interfaces**

- Natural (gestures)
- Laser pointer



# Calibration



# **Projection calibration**

 Match calibration targets projected on the 3D map surface with previously defined calibration points



# **Automatic Calibration**

 Calibration can be partially automated, using fiber optics installed at the calibration points locations, and a PCB with light sensors and a Arduino board



# **Automatic Calibration**

Road and water lines are out of place and can be repositioned automatically



#### Click the image to see the video on You Tube

### **Geographic Communication with**



- gison3dmap transforms a 3D physical model into a 3D physical screen, by projecting GIS data themes on the 3D physical model surface
- Adding thematic value to a 3D physical model:
  - Has proven to be an efficient and effective way to communicate geographic information to audiences
  - Enhances the perception of reality and facilitates the communication of events and development scenarios
  - Contributes to better and faster decisions in public participation processes

# How to get more info



# Visit us at Orbits Engineering booth on the GIS Solutions Expo





# **Thanks for listenning**

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