GPS, Centerline and APDM

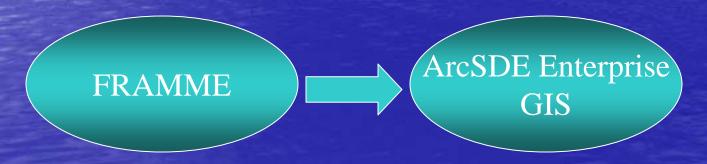
Joe Bentley – NGT&S Carl Meinke - GE James Moll - GE





HISTORY

NiSource (NGT&S) and GE had just concluded a project of migrating all 17,000 miles of the NGT&S data from a FRAMME based system to an ArcSDE Enterprise GIS.



FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The system is designed to be an Enterprise GIS

- Repository for all pipeline facility data
- Full Life Cycle application
 - Business Analysis
 - Operations
 - Pipeline Integrity
- Distributed technology for geographically dispersed audience

ACTIVITIES

- Pipeline data maintenance and mapping
- Web Applications GIS Web Portal
- Feasibility, planning, operations
- Pipeline Risk Analysis
- HCA, Class and MAOP calculations
- Special Mapping
- Facilities Planning
- Project Planning
- Keys to making the GIS a true Enterprise solution

MAINTENANCE PLATFORM

- ArcGIS (ArcSDE, ArcIMS, ArcServer)
- Oracle 9.x
- APDM data model
- PipeView for ArcGIS(PVAG)
- Production Tools
 - ASG
 - Arc PLTS, Arc Schematics, GPT
 - Report Generator

APDM Data Model Design

APDM is based on the concept of Linear Referencing

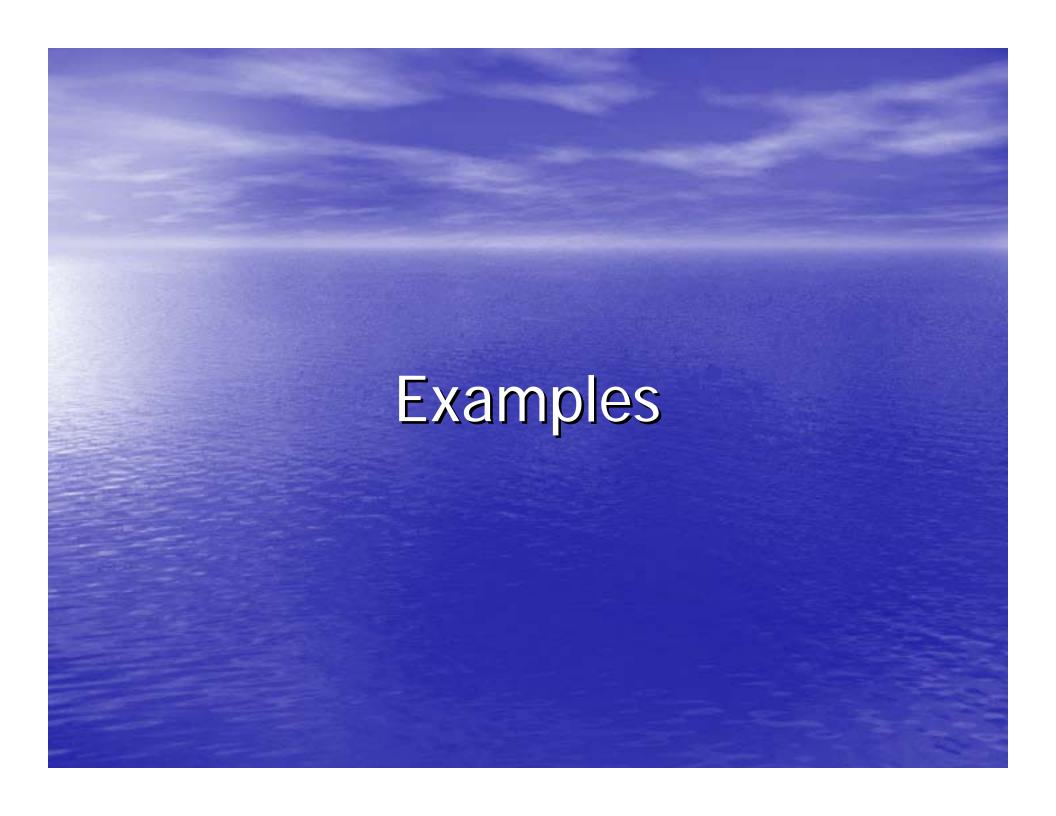
- The centerline is a M-Aware polyline
- The features are linear and point events.
- Topology rules in effect

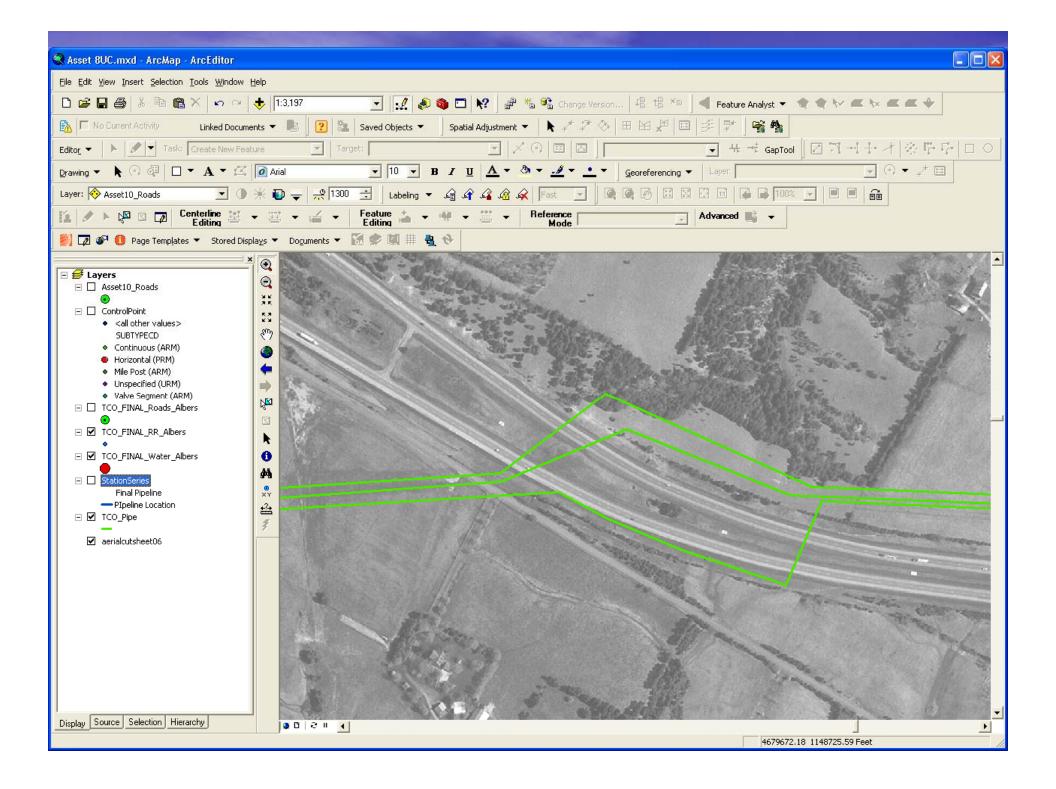
NGT&S Challenges

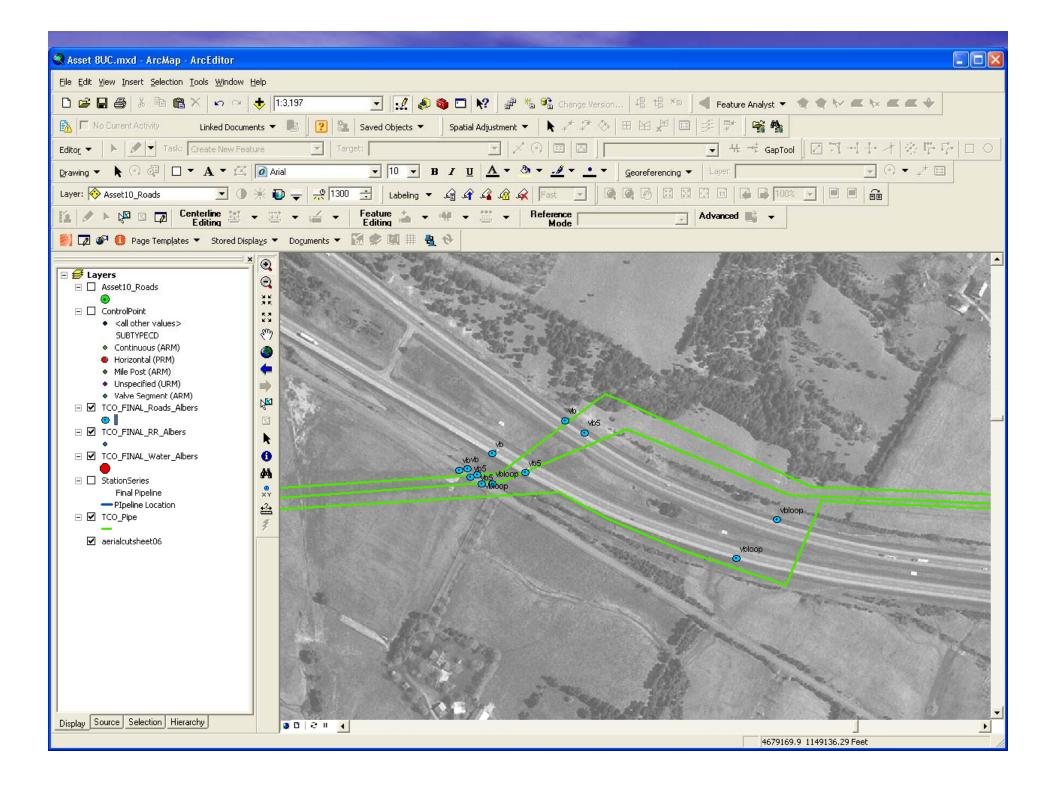
- Discovery of pipeline location issues
- The need to reconcile pipeline location
- 17,000 miles of pipe
- What constitutes "correct" location? (Integrity driven)
- Needed GPS points
- Needed to complete quickly



- Columbia contracted Photo Science to GPS whole system.
- Data returned and centerline adjusted







NGT&S next challenge



- Utilized PVAG to maintain data in the APDM rather than utilizing core ArcGIS functionality
- Topology rules were in effect.
- Edits were painfully slow. (unexpected)



- Routine work had to continue
- Time and resources



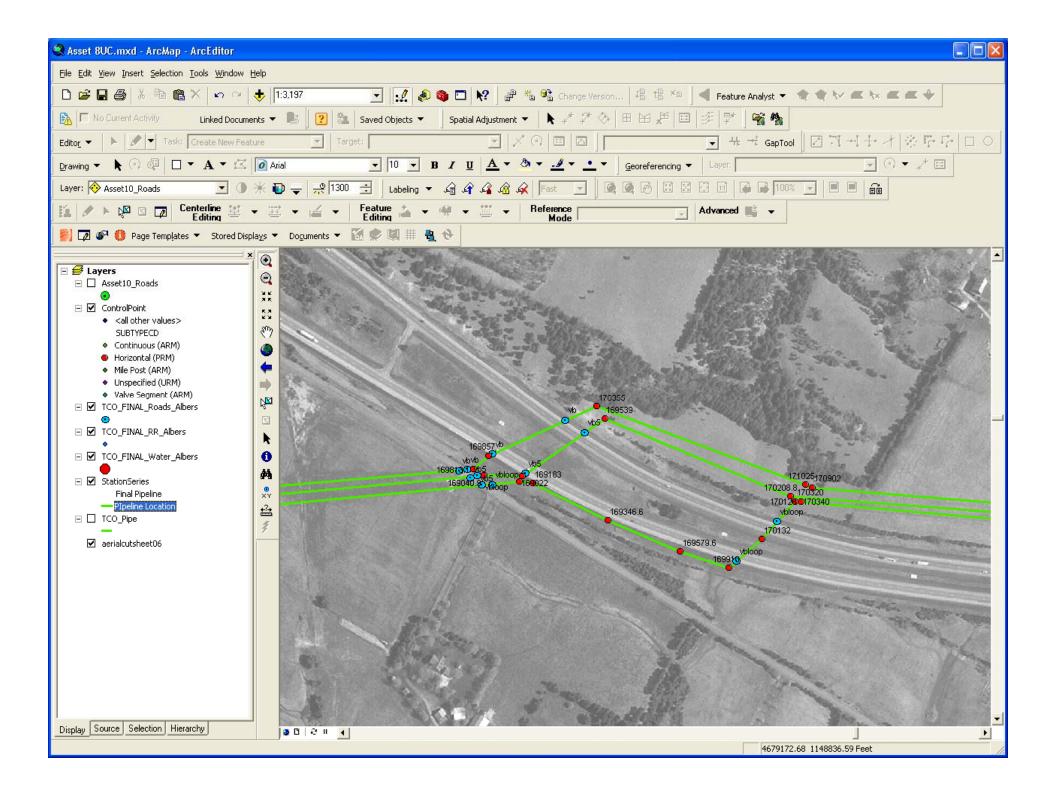
- Hire a larger staff and stop all other work (NOT!)
- Needed to solve that problem NOW!

SOLUTION

- Columbia approached GE with the problem
- GE proposed a solution
 - a leaner data model utilizing:
 - Event tables, (from features based to events based)
 - Core ArcGIS functionality
 - Customized light weight toolbar stack



- Higher productivity rate
- Data integrity maintained
- Toolbar helped to drive placement of new events where needed, and ArcGIS managed the rest.
- Quick turnaround of project



SUMMARY

- NGT&S put 20 users on the project completed it in 2 months rather than years
- Met the deadline
- GE had the GIS up and running on APDM/PVAG production system within a week of the completion of the edits.
- Credibility maintained by delivery
- Improved data



- GIS applications can have many purposes and uses
- Designs that work well for their initial need may fall short when pressed into service for other purposes.
- This was a good training opportunity for practical experience in a production environment.
- Ask the questions

BENEFITS

- NGT&S and GE were able to leverage talents
- Faster turnaround, credibility maintained
- Because data integrity was enforced, GE was able to manipulate the database design easily for smoother transitions and apply knowledge in future products and enhancements
- NGT&S was able to control cost and schedule
- Better data for calculations and analysis

