

Abstract

GIS Web Services: A Route to Societal GIS

Track: New Technology and Technology Integration

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Geospatial Web Services are changing the way in which spatial data and functionality are managed, analyzed, and distributed. They provide opportunities that will unlock GIS functionality for a far wider audience than has hitherto been seen--creating the possibility for truly societal spatial data information networks. They also have significant benefits for data managers and developers alike, providing an environment for rapid system development and, potentially, overcoming longstanding issues of security, update, and licensing. Illustrated by a series of case studies, this paper examines this rapidly evolving field, assessing current technology, opportunities, and limitations.

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