

Geographic Information System (GIS) Product Standard

Definition

GIS is an information system that integrates, stores, edits, analyzes, shares, and displays geographically referenced information. GIS applications provide a platform with tools that allow users to create interactive queries (user-created searches), analyze spatial information, edit data in maps, and present the results of all these operations.

Rationale

Use of a common, integrated set of GIS tools provides the State's workforce with:

- The ability to easily share geospatial information, within a department and between departments, seamlessly without the need to convert files from one format to another; thus minimizing the risk for lost data, and increasing data delivery and workforce productivity.
- Enterprise-oriented data and application accessibility offered by the use of common GIS software deployed across state agencies.
- The use of standardized, statewide GIS tools providing reproducible and consistent results for GIS workflow.
- A common scripting tool that can be used to write macros that cross applications.
- The ability to utilize existing geospatial business intelligence ensuring data integrity and consistency via the establishment of topology rules, data attribute domain rules, and data validation rules.
- A basic web interface and an integrated set of internet authoring tools.
- A tool that reduces training time and expense. Once an employee has learned how to negotiate geospatial processing, they can more easily learn map making and geo-analytics. Employees can leverage skills between products as they move within a department and between departments.
- The ability to access centralized geospatial information using subscription based online services. Through this service most employees will have access to geo-spatial information with minimal training; thereby increasing overall productivity. The cost of expensive desktop training will also be reduced. This will also reduce expensive desktop licenses.
- Simplified and cost effective license tracking and seat management through an Enterprise License Agreement.

Approved Products

GIS products and tools supplied by ESRI – Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. including but not limited to ArcGIS® tools and ArcGIS Online® subscription-based services.

Guidelines/Technical Considerations

Although a large installed base already exists in State government, consideration will have to be made for various versions of software in use or being planned. A planned approach should be considered with the help of the Office of Technology Services for migration from older versions with minimal business and financial impact.

Exceptions

All exceptions shall require approval of the statewide Chief Information Officer.

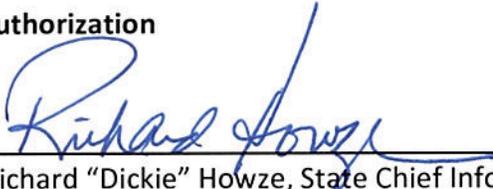
Review Cycle

As needed

Timeline

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Authorization



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