

The Tasmanian Spatial Information Council (TASSIC) was established in 2008 to provide the forum to facilitate increased collaboration and cooperation between public, private and community sectors in all aspects of spatial information in Tasmania.

April Meeting Report

Dr Hugh Pederson (Technical Sales Manager, Myriax Software; Honorary Research Associate, Tasmanian Aquaculture & Fisheries Institute, University of Tasmania) provided Council with development background and a demonstration of *Eonfusion* – 4D geospatial visualization and analysis software, developed largely by graduates of the University of Tasmania within a Tasmanian company.

Dr Pederson's presentation illustrated the capabilities and benefits of the application in relation to the Tasmanian spatial information industry:

- A fast, easy and effective solution to analysing and viewing large volumes of time-varying data;
- Data can be viewed in 3D space and time, or it can just as easily be viewed in any other 4 dimensional space;
- Time data is fully and seamlessly integrated and can be modified, analysed and summarised in the same way as spatial attributes or any other attribute;
- Four-dimensional scene views provide insight into the relationships within and between combined datasets;
- Streamlining the integration of large and diverse datasets;
- Exploring and analysing relationships among multiple variables; and
- The production of simple graphic and tabular reports based on complex analyses.

Strategic Direction

Council is currently working on the development of a Strategic Plan for Spatial Information in Tasmania.

As part of that work, a *Statement of Strategic Intent* was developed and subsequently distributed to a comprehensive stakeholder group. Individuals and organisations were invited to submit comments, particularly suggestions for initiatives and specific courses of action that would enable the more effective use of spatial information in Tasmania.

Comments on the *Statement of Strategic Intent* were received from a range of stakeholders across private and public sectors. Common themes include:

- Evaluation of the role and membership of TASSIC;
- A more outward strategic focus, with links to other industries;
- Mechanisms to improve discovery, access, delivery, currency, scalability, availability, maintenance, quality and quantity of spatial information;
- Collaboration in the acquisition and maintenance of information;
- Recognition of spatial information as a core element of the State's infrastructure;
- Alignment with key government priorities;
- Promoting and embedding spatial information as a key component of informed decision-making processes;
- A simple mechanism to enable value added data to be returned to update existing data layers;
- A 'one-stop-spatial-shop' through which to view, access and download data.

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Comments and suggested initiatives will now be consolidated with outcomes from further stakeholder consultation activities and a draft strategic plan will be considered by Council in June 2009.

Public release of the fully developed plan is anticipated before the end of 2009.

TASSIC Membership

TASSIC has seven permanent members and one interim member, providing a balance of competencies and experiences in different industry sectors. Members and respective nominating organisations are:

- Mr Michael Giudici, Independent Chair;
- Mr Mitchell Knevett, Department of Premier & Cabinet (DPAC);
- Mr Stephen Godfrey, Department of Primary Industries & Water (DPIW);
- Mr Mark Wise, Local Government Association of Tasmania;
- Dr Jon Osborn, University of Tasmania;
- Mr Hugh Clement, Spatial Sciences Institute;
- Mr Malcolm Lester, Australian Spatial Information Business Association;
- Dr Richard Mount (interim member).

Meeting Schedule for 2009

The next TASSIC meeting is a full day strategic working session scheduled for 26 May 2009.

Further Information

For more information on TASSIC activities, please contact the Executive Officer:

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