

The Tasmanian Spatial Information Council (TASSIC) continues to work on the development of constructive opportunities for individuals, community groups, business and government to come together to promote and achieve shared outcomes and mutual benefits through the use of spatial information.

The success of this work has been acknowledged by the Minister for Primary Industries, Bryan Green, in a recent letter to TASSIC Chair, Gary Nairn, in which Minister Green stated that "through the establishment of TASSIC and an ensuing whole of State approach to spatial information supply and management, the spatial information community is now seeing positive outcomes from the Council's work in increasing collaboration between government and the private sector". Minister Green went on to say that he appreciated the work undertaken by TASSIC in promoting the value of spatial information to the Tasmanian economy.

The new spatial information infrastructure being developed by the Tasmanian Government through the *Spatial Information Foundations* Project will provide a robust framework for the development of more tangible infrastructures such as roads, gas pipelines and ports, not to mention more streamlined planning processes and better focused government decisions.

Recent activity

Council is currently working on a new three-year strategic plan to ensure that Tasmania can build on the good work accomplished so far and lead Australia in the provision of, access to, and reliability of spatial information to support Tasmania's much needed economic growth.

While the intent and vision of the 2009-2012 strategic plan remains relevant, the new plan will focus on priorities and proposed activities, including an overview of our work plan for the next few years.

Links between TASSIC and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) have been strengthened through representation on TASSIC by the ABS' Tasmanian Regional Director. ABS has initiated development of a *Statistical Spatial Framework* to link the spatial and statistical communities, offering a common approach to spatially enabling statistical and administrative information. The components of this framework fit well with many of the principles pursued by TASSIC since its inception in 2008.

In April, Council was provided with a briefing on the background and status of *SenseT*, a collaborative initiative to develop a world-leading sensor and knowledge management network to drive economic, social and environmental benefits for Tasmania. The *SenseT* concept is to combine underlying historical data (from sources including CSIRO, University of Tasmania, government agencies and utilities, ABS and the Bureau of Meteorology) with data from sensor networks and make this information available through a sustainable digital repository, for use by research, government and commercial organisations and the general public.

The *SenseT* team also reviewed [TASSIC's SDI framework](#) and noted that there were no apparent contradictions between *SenseT* and the principles of the SDI expressed by TASSIC. It was noted that good spatial information infrastructure is crucial to the success of *SenseT*.

Tasmania's Spatial Data Infrastructure - a new framework for the use of spatially referenced data in Tasmania is publicly available on the **Publications** page of the TASSIC website www.tassic.org.au.

Celebrate **your** spatial success story . . .

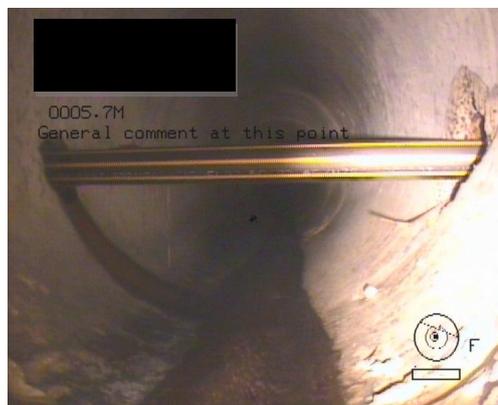
If you would like to highlight your spatial achievements on the TASSIC website, please send an email to info@tassic.org.au

What happens when it all goes wrong . . .

Do you know what can happen when information about underground services is either inaccurate or simply doesn't exist? The accurate spatial location of underground services at the time of installation can reduce the breadth and depth of excavation for future maintenance and repair work.

If you know what is where, incidents such as those shown below are much less likely to occur.

See these and other graphic examples of what can and does go wrong in '***The importance of spatially locating underground services***' now available on the **Publications** page of the TASSIC website.



Meetings and briefings

TASSIC continues to build closer links and more effective communication within the spatial information community, identifying opportunities, breaking down barriers and optimising the use of resources. We are also very aware of the need to communicate the role and value of spatial information to people outside the traditional spatial information sphere.

From February to August of this year, Chair Gary Nairn has met and briefed:

- Hon Bryan Green, Minister for Primary Industries and Water
- Jeremy Rockliff, MP
- Members of the Tasmanian Infrastructure Advisory Council
- Planning Schemes Online Project Team

About us

Led by an independent Chair, TASSIC members are nominated by key spatial organisations to ensure an appropriate balance of competencies and experiences. The Council reports to the Minister for Primary Industries and Water.

Invitation to stakeholders and user groups

TASSIC endeavours to influence policy and decision makers, providing cross-sectoral advice and recommendations to help achieve our vision of 'abundant and useful spatial information within reach of all'.

Do you or your organisation have an issue or a proposal that you would like to discuss with us? We are always interested in hearing about relevant and emerging issues or initiatives.

To express your interest in arranging a focus meeting, please email info@tassic.org.au.

Meeting schedule

The next TASSIC meeting is scheduled for 16 October 2012.

Further information

For more information, please contact the TASSIC Executive Officer on 03 6216 4476 or email info@tassic.org.au.