



D-SPEC Drainage Specifications Pilot in Western Australia.

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Working Group of Local Governments has been established in Western Australia to test the viability of implementing the ***D-Spec Digital Drainage Specifications*** following the success of the project in Victoria.

The Group wishes to work with consultants/developers in a co-operative and efficient manner, for the delivery of drainage information to stake holders within the Land Development Industry, thus delivering benefit to Local Government and the wider community.

The key objectives of the working group is to streamline stake holders' (local government) processes for receiving, handling and storing of assets created through the development of new subdivision developments in their GIS. This process will increase the efficiency of information access and result in greater customer satisfaction when dealing with inquiries from consultants, developers, prospective residents and the general public.

Eliminating duplication of effort: Significant duplication of effort exists in the digitising and attributing of as-constructed drainage information. This duplication exists between the private sector (who capture as-constructed information in order to lodge that information), and council staff (who may digitise that information from paper plans).

Improving process efficiency, in the process of accepting and processing lodgments, and in checking existing data against design criteria and/or design plans;

Improving customer service to both internal and external customers of asset information by providing more timely and accurate information;

Improve the quality of drainage information held in councils systems for audit and financial requirements, as well as operational and business requirements;

Managing drainage assets better to reduce the need for capital works and/or to reduce ongoing maintenance costs.

D-Spec Objectives

The specification is for use by Private Developers, the Representatives of Private Developers, Consultants and Surveyors. These organisations will be required to submit survey enhanced "As Constructed" digital data of newly constructed drainage and telecommunication information to **D-SPEC** members to comply with council's Land Development Application requirements.

The concept of the specification is to provide Survey Enhanced "As Constructed" drainage and telecommunication information (conduits constructed within a subdivision for optical fibre) in a **GIS ready format** to the D-Spec members.

The specification document outlines the details required for the creation and submission of digital files containing drainage pipe, pit, house connections, underground conduits and design boundary extents to be provided to the D-SPEC councils.

The basic principals of the D-Spec Standard are:

- Consultants and developers have a preference for a **single specification** for all Local Governments involved in broad-acre subdivision developments.
- The essence of the specification is to provide survey enhanced "As Constructed" stormwater drainage information in a **GIS ready format** to all participating councils.
- The D-SPEC councils agree to be consistent in their application of the D-SPEC standard to all new subdivision developments.
- The specifications are a **"living"** document and changes will be made through consultation and agreement by D-SPEC members.

Project Deliverables

Test the viability of the W.A. working group to adopt the D-Spec model.

Review the capability of consultants and surveyors to supply digital drainage data in accordance with the D-Spec specification.

Review the capability of councils to receive and manage D-Spec data.

Make recommendations to the working group on the implementation of D-Spec in W.A.

Modify D-Spec to address the local issues

Project Management

The Project will be managed by Workforce Solutions on behalf of the WA D-Spec Working Group.

George Havakis

Kerrie Cruickshank

The D-Spec Working Group was established to oversee and guide the development of the Project.

- Graeme Hoey (City of Albany)
- Glyn Davies (City of Armadale)
- Steve Fisher (Shire of Busselton)
- Gunther Schlomer (Cockburn City Council)
- Jack Dowling (City of Gosnells)
- Michael Gunton (City of Mandurah)
- Rex Ballard (City of Rockingham)
- Arthur Colyvas (City of Swan)
- Greg Melvin (City of Wanneroo)

Project Success

The critical success factors are largely independent of the technology aspects of the D-Spec project. In order to ensure the success of the project, the following factors have been considered;

That consultation and promotion of the specification with the private sector survey and engineering consultants is constant and consistent.

The number of councils in W.A. prepared to participate and commit to the project remains high as this is a critical factor in gaining recognition and securing support from the Land Development Industry.

That "change" management is considered an essential part of this process. Change management in current processes at councils as well as how consultants and surveyors currently capture and process "as-constructed" information.

The A-SPEC Group

Recently a new Framework Management Model for 2007-2010 was adopted that would expand the initial concept and enable the inclusion of other asset standards to be created.

D-Spec is now part of an overarching umbrella that addresses standards in the Local Government environment. The new group is called **A-SPEC**.

D-Spec is synonymous with drainage information and has been the catalyst for the consolidation of effort between councils. **D-Spec** is not only used for newly created assets through new subdivisions, but also for the recording of newly created assets through council's own capital works and renewal programs.