

D-SPEC Consortium announces implementation of the Drainage Digital Data Specification.

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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D-SPEC is the acronym for the Consultant/Developer Specifications for the delivery of Digital Data to Local Government.

A consortium of Victorian Local Councils has been formed to participate in the use of the **D-SPEC** standard.

They are:

- Brimbank City Council
- City of Casey
- City of Ballarat
- City of Greater Dandenong
- City of Greater Geelong
- Colac-Otway Shire Council
- Hume City Council
- Melbourne City Council
- Mitchell Shire Council
- Whittlesea City Council
- Wyndham City Council
- Shire of Melton
- Surf Coast Shire Council

A common specification for the supply of digital drainage data has been identified as a major opportunity for this group of councils to achieve efficiency and cost savings in the process of maintaining their corporate geographic information systems (GIS) and asset management systems (AMS). Moreover, a common specification shared between Councils would also provide savings to the Land Development Industry by removing the need to maintain separate processes, standards and software tools for numerous Councils.

It will now become a condition of all new subdivision/development applications commenced after this date that consultants/developers submit digital information of drainage and new telecommunications underground assets in accordance with the D-Spec specifications.

Workforce Solutions is co-ordinating this initiative on behalf the D-Spec Consortium.

Submission of Survey Enhanced "As Constructed" Digital Data

The key objective of the specification is to provide Survey Enhanced "As Constructed" digital data of drainage and/or telecommunication conduit information in a GIS ready format to the D-Spec consortium.

An accepted alternative is the use of DXF (Digital Exchange Files) generally produced from Computer Aided Design packages and Comma Separated Variable (CSV) files. The DXF provides the graphical data connecting assets together, and the CSV provides information relating to the different asset types as outlined in the Specifications.

D-Spec outlines the specifications for digital files containing drainage pipe, pit, property connections, underground conduits and design boundary extents to be provided to the **D-SPEC** consortium members.

Supplier Register

The **D-SPEC** Consortium will maintain a register of Suppliers this specification is issued to, and provide updates or revisions as necessary.

- The register of suppliers will be made available on the **D-SPEC** website currently at:
www.dspect.wyndham.vic.gov.au

Intellectual Property

The **D-SPEC** consortium members own the intellectual property of the developed specifications and Intellectual Property rights are not to be sold, transferred or assigned to any party (other than a new participating **D-SPEC** consortium member) without the prior written approval of the **D-SPEC** consortium.

The **D-SPEC** Specifications will be available free of charge to the development industry.

Benefits

The consortium members wish to work with consultant/developers in a co-operative and efficient manner, for the delivery of digital information to stake holders within the Land Development Industry, thus delivering benefit to Local Government and the wider community.

The key objectives of the D-Spec consortium is to streamline stake holders' (local government) processes for receiving, handling and storing of 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 and prospective residents.

- ❖ **Eliminate duplication of effort.** Significant duplication of effort exists in the digitising of as constructed drainage information. This duplication exists between the private sector and council staff (who may digitise that information from paper plans);
- ❖ **improve process efficiency**, in the process of accepting and processing lodgements, and in checking existing data against design criteria and/or design plans;
- ❖ **improve customer service** to both internal and external customers of asset information;
- ❖ **improve the quality** of drainage information held in council systems for audit and financial requirements, as well as operational and business requirements;
- ❖ and ultimately **manage drainage assets better** to reduce the need for capital works and/or to reduce ongoing maintenance costs.