



The A-Spec Group announces the release of it's LandXML schema for D-Spec.

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The A-Spec Group announced the release of it's LandXML data format for it's drainage standard D-Spec at the Newtech Conference in Warrnambool on Thursday March 24th 2009.

George Havakis of Workforce Solutions and Executive Officer of the A-Spec Group outlined the strategic direction of the group and it's objectives with this release.

LandXML is a data exchange format originally created by Autodesk then placed in the public domain for adoption and further development by industry.

Locally Mr Havakis described how A-Spec's objectives are to align with other key initiatives such as "eDA" (SPEAR in Victoria) and ePlan nationally.

He further went on to outline how through discussions with both public and private sector industry participants; A-Spec plans to implement this LandXML initiative. Initially this will occur through a number of projects. Identifying the requirements to include the A-Spec groups LandXML schema for drainage data through SPEAR. Also identifying the requirements the industry will face to capitalise on these developments of the latter through discussions with Autodesk.

Mr Havakis also informed the conference of a trial being planned with local consulting firm Brian Consulting in conjunction with A-Spec members in the region: Shire of Colac Otway, Warrnambool, Glenelg and Surfcoast Shire Councils.

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What is LandXML?

LandXML is a way of specifying civil engineering and surveying data. XML stands for eXtensible Markup Language, a text-based method for data exchange. Most XML can be easily interpreted—by people as well as computers. Unlike HTML, which describes the way data looks; XML describes only how data is organized.

LandXML data can be used to:

- ❖ Exchange data between many civil engineering/survey desktop and CAD-based software applications.
- ❖ Export data for automated machine control.
- ❖ Create engineering/construction reports.
- ❖ Import parcels, roads, surfaces into Architectural applications.
- ❖ Submit online cadastral surveys.
- ❖ Export data to Geospatial applications.
- ❖ Send staking data to survey field instruments.
- ❖ Create 3D project visualizations.

Why LandXML?

LandXML—built upon XML—has become an industry standard for modeling and describing civil engineering and surveying data.

The LandXML standard has been endorsed by most major land development software and hardware vendors, including Autodesk, Bentley, Carlson, Geopak, Intergraph, Leica, and Trimble. Numerous government agencies, including Landonline (cadastral e-survey system in New Zealand), EPlan, cadastral e-survey system in Queensland Australia, ePlan (Land and Property Information New South Wales, Spear Victoria) and eLDP in Western Australia.

Please see the Prime Ministers Press Release of 3 March 2008) in this release he stated that “The Government will invest up to \$30 million to roll-out nationally electronic development assessments (eDAs) and online tracking services to streamline planning approvals and cut the cost of new homes”.

Aligning with Australian Government Initiatives

The Intergovernmental Committee on Survey and Mapping (ICSM) is made up of senior representatives from New Zealand and Australian (Commonwealth, State & Territory) government surveying and mapping/charting agencies. ICSM's role is to provide leadership, coordination and standards for surveying, mapping/charting and national framework datasets.

The Electronic Lodgment and Transfer of Survey Data Working Group (know as the ePlan Working Group) formed in 2003 to develop a national cadastral digital data transfer standard. A Unified Modelling Language (UML) model was created and has evolved, showing the various data elements pertaining to a survey plan and their relationship with each other. It also holds detailed descriptions of each element and its attributes. The latest version can be obtained here-
ICSM ePlan Model

Land Victoria is a member of the ICSM ePlan Working Group that will develop an Australasian standard for the transfer of digital cadastral and survey data in LandXML format.