



MAP ASIA Conference to be held in Singapore for the 1st time

New Delhi, 18th MAY 2009 -GIS Development and Singapore Land Authority (SLA) have teamed up to organise Map Asia 2009, the largest geospatial conference. The conference and exhibition will be held from 18 - 20 August, 2009 at Suntec Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre. This will probably be the biggest gathering in Asia of the international geospatial community with an expected attendance comprising of geospatial professionals and practitioners across the globe. This is the 1st time that Singapore is hosting the Map Asia conference. The organizers are delighted that the Conference is supported by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) under the "Business Events in Singapore" (BEIS) incentive scheme.

2 The theme of the conference is "**Connecting Geospatial Communities-Creating New Dimensions.**" This theme was chosen to highlight the new dimensions that geospatial tools like Geographic Information Systems (GIS) have created, or can create, for businesses and Government in their strategic planning and business operations. The conference agenda will comprise topical issues such as spatial economics, e-city and location-based services.

3 Vincent Hoong, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Land Authority said: "SLA is delighted that Singapore has been chosen to host this year's edition of the Map Asia Conference. This gathering of some of the world's leading geospatial experts and professionals is timely as Singapore steps up its geospatial drive. The Conference will be a useful platform for the international geospatial community to share industry knowledge and experience, discuss the latest global trends and issues and provide updates on the developments taking place across world. The business community and the public will also gain an insight into the geospatial industry and how it is transforming businesses and society in general."

4 Sanjay Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, GIS Development said: "With this collaboration with SLA, we are sure to provide the companies with a unique opportunity to reach out to a global audience with their company message. Both the companies have made tremendous contribution to the development of geospatial technologies in the Asian market. We are confident that Map Asia 2009 will prove as an apt platform for companies to market their services to the target audience and for delegates to develop a broader perspective on the application and usage of geospatial technologies."

5 With platinum sponsors, ESRI (USA) and DigitalGlobe; supporting organizations like Infocomm Development Authority, Singapore Exhibition and Convention Bureau, Open Geospatial Consortium, Land Surveyors Board, Singapore and Singapore Institute of Surveyors and Valuers; knowledge partners National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University and Singapore Management University; media partners Asian Surveying Mapping, Geo Connexion and Geo Informatics, pledging their support and participation, the Organisers are confident that Map Asia 2009 will attract delegates ranging from business users to government to academics to students.

6 Many local and international exhibitors have expressed interest in participation, including Erdas, AAMHatch, and Trimble. Plenary speakers include Ed Parsons, Geospatial Technologist of Google, Kwoh Leong Keong, Director - Centre for Remote Imaging Sensing and Processing, National University of Singapore, Bryn Forsburgh, Vice President of Trimble, US and Prof. Dr. Orhan Altan, President of International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing.

\$12m national spatial data infrastructure

7 The geospatial industry is rapidly expanding in Asia with many businesses establishing a base here to grow their Asian business activities. Singapore has to focus on capacity-building in order to support this fast-growing industry. On its part, the Singapore Government, through SLA, has initiated the development of a \$12-million national spatial data infrastructure called the Singapore Geospatial Collaborative Environment (SG-SPACE). Participants will have a unique opportunity to learn more about SG-SPACE at Map Asia 2009.

About GIS Development

GIS Development promotes and propagates the usage of Geographic Information Science, Technology and Applications in various areas of development, worldwide and Asia in particular. It assists community and government in developing their productivity, policies and management capabilities by facilitating knowledge transfer in the domain of geographic information. It fosters the growing network of those interested in geo-informatics and encourages the exchange of scientific know-how through its key platforms: Magazines, Portal, Conferences and Training. www.GISdevelopment.net

About Singapore Land Authority

The Singapore Land Authority (SLA) is a statutory board under the Ministry of Law. Its mission is to optimise land resources for the economic and social development of Singapore. SLA is responsible for the administration and management of State land and properties. It is also the national land registration and land boundary survey authority. In the area of spatial information, SLA is responsible for the management of a land data repository and data exchange among public agencies, and is a key agency in a whole-of-government effort to establish a national spatial

data infrastructure. SLA also licenses land data for both online and printed street maps at www.map.gov.sg for the general public. SLA Streetmap 2008 depicts the modern technique of creating maps using Geographic Information System (GIS). SLA's streetmap today contains over 8 million details. This technique is recognised internationally and has won the ESRI Special Global Achievement in GIS in 2007.

SLA manages a land data repository and spatial data exchange among public agencies through its Land Data Hub and Land Information Network (LandNet) system. LandNet won the URISA Exemplary Systems in Government - Distinguished Systems Award and the Government Technology Awards' GIS Award in 2008. Over 100 government departments and agencies are currently using SLA's digitised land information and maps to assist in improving public services. SLA licenses land data for the development of corporate and consumer products. SLA's vector maps are updated weekly to capture the approximately 300 changes to roads, buildings names and addresses a month. www.sla.gov.sg.

Issued by:
GIS Development and Singapore Land Authority
12 May 2009

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