

TRAINING DAYS

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LATEST EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION ON TRAINING COURSES, DISTANCE LEARNING, COMPANY TRAINING DAYS, SEMINARS, AND WORKSHOPS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE. THIS SECTION WILL ALSO INCLUDE COMPETITIONS, AND STUDENT OFFERS AMONG OTHER EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES.

ESRI UK RESPONSE TO THE OFSTED REPORT

Following publication of the recent Ofsted report "Geography – Learning to make a world of difference" (available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Thematic-reports/Geography-Learning-to-make-a-world-of-difference <<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Thematic-reports/Geography-Learning-to-make-a-world-of-difference>>)

Dr Richard Waite, Managing Director of Esri UK, commented: "I welcome the Ofsted report and the spotlight it shines on the importance of geography as a subject taught in primary and secondary schools, and on the potential of GIS to enhance its teaching."

He noted the report's finding that while geography is taught well in many schools, in others this is not the case and suggested that some of the concerns identified can be addressed with GIS. "For example, GIS can support the teaching of geographic core knowledge and its practice through fieldwork, provide a resource for non-specialist teachers, and inspire Key Stage 3 students to continue studying geography to GCSE. GIS is a powerful teaching tool."

The Ofsted report refers to the 'enormous potential of GIS' which is 'revolutionising and extending' the experiences of a few students. "But it makes clear that "most teachers are reluctant to use such technology, despite the requirements of the Key Stage 3 curriculum and examination syllabuses to teach its use. The report therefore throws down a challenge

to us," said Waite.

He went on to outline ways in which Esri UK is helping schools introduce GIS into the geography curriculum. "In 2009 we launched our GIS for Schools Programme on a not-for-profit basis. Last year we became a strategic partner to the Geographical Association and have jointly developed a successful GIS CPD course for teachers. Last month we became the corporate partner to the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)'s Geography Ambassador Programme. With our support ambassadors will continue to inspire young people to study and pursue careers in geography and GIS, and indeed 22 Esri UK staff are now poised to join the programme. However, it is clear that there is still much to do," Waite concluded.
www.esriuk.com

JOIN THE SKILL WAVE AND BECOME PART OF THE GROWING COMMUNITY OF ELEARNERS

Traditional learning processes rely on a stop-start approach. In GIS terms, this invariably relates to a user attending a training course, listening to presentations, interacting with software and then returning home. The actual "learning" is often done after a course, through consolidation albeit without the lessons or the teacher remaining available.

eLearning permits a more fluid approach to learning. Lessons are available whenever they are required, 24/7; not constrained to a couple of days in a classroom. This "on demand" style provides great flexibility, allowing valuable information to be gleaned as and when required and lessons to be heard, paused and repeated as necessary. The teacher is only a mouse-click away. This flexibility allows learning to become part of working, allowing skills to be put into practice, transforming lessons into



knowledge through the act of "doing".

Thousands of GIS users currently enjoy the benefits of GIS247s approach, individually and collectively. Developing the skills of the "lesser" skilled allows them

to become self-sufficient whilst freeing the "more" skilled to their work, also ably supported by 24/7 training material. This elevation of the ability of all is one of the finest advantages from GIS247s approach. This is the Skill Wave – the effect of training one GIS user radiating outwards to improve the situation for many. With multiple GIS users learning and generating their own ripples, the Skill Wave radiates through an organisation.

GIS247 has a proven track record in enabling GIS to be used better, more efficiently and to a greater extent in those organisations allowing their users to ride the Skill Wave.

SNOWFLAKE SOFTWARE TRAINING

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DATE	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY/FRIDAY
June			
7th – 10th	INSPIRE Essentials	GML Fundamentals	GML Fundamentals (2 days)
28th – 1st (July)	XML Primer	GML Fundamentals	GML Fundamentals (2 days)
July			
12th – 15th	INSPIRE Essentials	GML Fundamentals	GML Fundamentals (2 days)
26th – 29th	XML Primer	GML Fundamentals	GML Fundamentals (2 days)
August			
2nd – 5th	INSPIRE Essentials	GML Fundamentals	GML Fundamentals (2 days)
16th – 19th	XML Primer	GML Fundamentals	GML Fundamentals (2 days)

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