



GIS247 IN FOCUS

GIS247 – expert knowledge, flexible training. Providing e-learning for GIS users.

AGI GeoCommunity '13 Conference

The AGI's GeoCommunity '13 'Open for Business' Conference is over for another year. This highlight event took place at the East Midlands Conference Centre in Nottingham on 17th and 18th of September.

GeoCommunity is the annual conference for the UK's GI industry; it is a great way to get up to speed with the latest industry news and developments as well as an opportunity to interact with potential future employers and project partners.

With a varied programme, covering everything from open source and new technology to managing data and policy, the conference provided an excellent environment for developing knowledge of the industry and sharing ideas. There were hands-on-training sessions too, giving access to popular GIS software, digital data and relevant methodologies.

GIS247 were one of the conference sponsors, so members of our training team were at the event showcasing some of our recent training presentations and meeting lots of our customers.

Debbie Soloman, GIS247 Training Manager said “We were really pleased to be a conference sponsor this year and exhibiting. We got to speak to lots of delegates from a range of organisations about their use of GIS and training needs. Some people we spoke to hadn't considered e-learning before and were amazed when we showed them how easy it is to use and how comprehensive the training is. It was great to finally meet face to face with some of our new and old customers too!”

The conference was really well organised and the range of keynote addresses and conference papers were very engaging, keeping everyone up to date with the latest developments in the industry.

But it wasn't all work and no play - The conference 'Masquerade Mask' party was a fantastic evening! There were some great activities and games to keep people entertained including casino tables, a surf simulator and karaoke to name a few. A great time was had by all!

It was fantastic to see so many of our customers at the conference and hear how they are enjoying GIS247's training courses. We look forward to seeing you all again next year at GeoCommunity '14!



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www.gis247.com

GIS247 Course Updates

It's been a busy month with on-going developments to our courses for ArcGIS version 10.2. Many of them are now fully available. We have also been busy extending the modules in the GIS Essentials series that focus on the intriguing subject of map projection.



New training that has arrived:

- [Beginners Guide to ArcGIS v10.2](#) – full course with presentations & exercises
- [Intermediate Guide to ArcGIS v10.2](#) – full course with presentations & exercises
- [Mastering Guide to ArcGIS v10.2](#) – full course with presentations & exercises
- [GIS Essentials: Elements of Map Projection](#) - presentation
- [GIS Essentials: Different Types of Map Projection](#) - presentation

New training that is on its way:

- [Beginners Guide to MapInfo v12.0](#) – full course with presentations & exercises
- [Upgrading from ArcGIS v10.0 to v10.2](#) – full course with presentations & exercises

Click <https://www.gis247.com/catalog> to see this latest training.

If you would like to see any particular training course, modules or new software/topics become available please do let us know. Email us at info@GIS247.com



GIS247 E-learning Courses

- ArcGIS - beginner through to advanced
- MapInfo - beginner through to advanced
- ArcGIS Extensions
- GIS Essentials

ArcGIS and MapInfo courses are available in all software versions.

Award Nomination

We are delighted that the project "What Makes a View" has been shortlisted for the prestigious Landscape Awards 2013. This project was undertaken by a number of landscape architects, specialist and GIS specialists on behalf of the Blackdown Hills AONB partnership.

The consortium was led by Fiona Fyfe Associates. Consultants from Sological Solutions (GIS247) undertook the GIS elements of the project. This involved 3D view mapping and analysis and the development of a web-based public consultation application.

The consortium has been shortlisted for an award in the Landscape Policy & Research category. The awards are being held in London on 21st November. Fingers crossed!



Competition Winner!



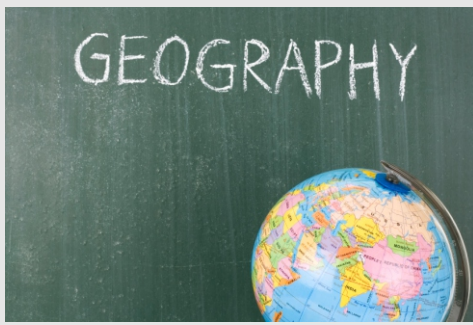
During the AGI Conference delegates were invited to enter GIS247's competition for a free training course. The winner is Zoe Briggs, who is the GIS Team Leader from the Canal & River Trust.

Zoe has decided to donate her prize to her colleague Louise Shakeshaft who is just starting out in GIS. Zoe thought access to the GIS247 e-learning training would be an ideal way for Louise to develop her skills and knowledge. Louise is going to take the Mastering ArcGIS 10.1 course. We look forward to hearing from Louise how she got on once she has completed her training.

Congratulations to Zoe and Louise!



Canal &
River Trust



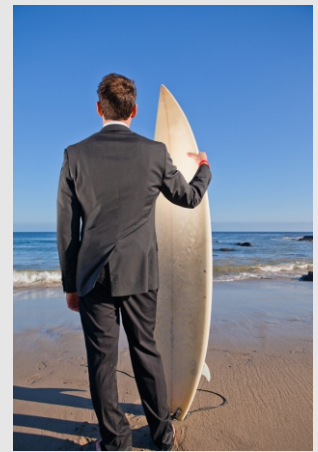
E-Learning Benefits

The **SELF-PACED** nature of e-learning ensures that users assimilate knowledge and develop understanding at their own comfortable pace. This makes learning a positive and enjoyable experience and is more likely to encourage people to use what they have learnt. It also makes them much more likely to want to continue with their training and development and access follow on e-learning courses.

A self-paced approach works extremely well for those who have a natural aptitude for GIS and want to forge ahead as well as for those who take a bit longer to feel comfortable with what they have learnt. Neither is constrained nor pushed by an inconvenient 'timetabling' of courses to attend.

E-learning can be followed when it suits the individual in frequency and location, resulting in a very personal and positive experience. One of the principal benefits of e-learning is that the training content can be much more thorough than a face to face approach.

Read about all the benefits that e-learning has to offer on our website www.gis247.com/benefits_you



Surfs Up!

A big well done to Ross McDonald from Angus Council for demonstrating his surfing prowess at the AGI GeoCommunity'13 Conference.

During the 'Masquerade Mask' conference party there was the opportunity to take part in a surfing challenge.

Ross managed an impressive 29 seconds whilst the operator tried furiously to get him to topple off the board.

Question of the Month: What is a GIS247 Administrator?

How long does a training licence to GIS247 last for?

Access to training (for your chosen software) lasts a full 12 months! This means you have plenty of time to go through the training course you're interested in multiple times. This includes the video presentations of the training and also the hands-on exercises. It's a really good idea to repeat the videos and exercises so that you consolidate properly. You will be surprised at how much additional information you will pick up on subsequent viewings!

The licence lasts for 12 months but also gives you access to a range of courses. This means that you can take follow-on courses at no additional cost. This will really allow you to develop your GIS capabilities a lot further than you would normally be able to.

GIS247 Website Changes

This is a call to all GIS247 Administrators

We are going to make some changes to the capabilities that administrators have. We would like to hear your ideas about what you would find useful to be able to do that you can't do already. No suggestion is too big or too small! Some of the suggestions that we have had are; for each user to upload a picture of themselves to personalise their account and for administrators to be able to review the grades people achieve in their submitted assessments.

We are eager for your suggestions so please email us at info@GIS247.com





Interesting in the world of GIS...

Secrets of Whale Shark migration

The world's biggest fish are hungry migrators on a mission, according to a 9 year tracking study that mapped whale sharks' long journeys around the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean, to a favorite feeding hot spot off the Yucatan Peninsula. And one whale shark's incredible 5,000-mile swim could even help solve the long-standing mystery of where whale sharks give birth - an event no scientist has ever seen!

The whale shark species as a whole is currently listed as vulnerable on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) 'Red List of Threatened Species' and is still hunted for fins and oil in some Asian waters. Using data gathered by this in-depth study and others to determine where the animals travel, feed, and reproduce is key to the protection of this amazing, yet threatened species.

Read the full article from National Geographic www.nationalgeographic.com



Treasure Trail

Delegates at the AGI conference were invited to take part in a 'treasure trail' where they had to find the answer to a question posed by each exhibitor. GIS247's question was:

Question:

Delegates from how many different countries have used training from GIS247?

Answer:

106

Our mailing address is:

GIS247 (Sological Solutions)
15 Whitehall Court, Upper Saxondale
Radcliffe-on-Trent
Nottingham, Nottinghamshire NG12 2NJ
United Kingdom

E-mail: info@gis247.com

Tel: +44 (0) 115 933 6633

Website: www.gis247.com