

Mark Reichardt (Open Geospatial Consortium) – Geospatial Standards Enabling the Rise of Machines

Abstract

More and more location information is being generated by people, sensors and processes. As an international industry consortium, the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) co-developed, together with the United Nations Group on Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) the published Guide to the Role of Standards in Geospatial Information Management to help organizations better understand what standards to use, when and why. In collaboration with NMGAs and industry, OGC has also created a technology study to more easily integrate strategic technology trends like 3D visualization or indoor positioning. Addressing the needs of decision makers, standards are key to the rapid integration of new geospatial information and technologies, and simple standards solutions will increasingly be the product of close collaboration among standards bodies. For the OGC, this means that in the future it is likely to be doing less standardization and more informing activities on the benefits of standards.

- OGC have over 500 members across the world
- Work with Auckland (New Zealand) has shown that applying open standards hundreds of individual water observations could be unified
- A Guide to the Role of Standards in Geospatial Information Management is an example of a common-sense document that makes it easy for non-subject experts to know which standards to implement
- Much technological change happening and standards need to be developed in an ever-increasing pace to keep up
- By using open standards precision agriculture has become more efficient and flexible
- Sydney has moved from 2D maps to 4D solution terrain models that can be linked up with data that is already held by the municipality
- Many of OGCs standards have been adopted by ISO
- In the future, it is likely that OGC will be less involved in standardisation but in informing on the importance of standardisation
- Standards solutions for complex problems is where the market is moving to