The Carbon Project
Innovative Geosocial Solutions

GOS Dashboard
Enterprise GIS Dashboard for Geodata.gov
2009 NSDI CAP

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Overview

Geodata.gov contains a vast amount of geospatial data. With the help of a robust filtering/searching mechanism, they allow for retrieval of that data.

With the GOS Dashboard, we attempted to make things easier for the casual user. Instead of having to open a web browser to retrieve that data, you are now able to view changes in a feed form and access data of interest with a few button clicks - straight from your desktop.

Key features:

- GeoRSS data retrieval based on user filtering.
- Extensive filtering mechanism, built to mimic geodata.gov website both in style and functionality.
- Bounding box display in MS Virtual Earth map w/current RSS feed items.
- External application launching from the gadget (ex. Gaia)

GOS Dashboard
Overview

- To create the GOS Dashboard we use the GOS Portal flexible GeoRSS feed generator. Based on the options specified by the user, a query is generated and the result are returned in a GeoRSS format.

In the GOS Dashboard options we try to mimic the website’s look and feel for search & filtering as much as possible in both style in functionality, making some improvements when necessary.

- There is a server limitation of only 20 results, and those results are displayed 4 at a time, much like the default RSS gadget that comes with Windows Vista. We also emulated the default RSS styling when displaying the current feed items as well as the paging capabilities.

- The open source desktop Gadget has been tested in both Windows Vista and Window 7 and works well in both environments.
Installation

- Installation of Windows gadget is very easy. All that is required is a double click of the GOSGadget.gadget file and the following dialog will appear.

- Just click on Install, and the gadget will appear in your Vista sidebar. In Windows 7, there is no sidebar, so it will just appear on your desktop.
Main Viewable Area

- The main viewable area displays 4 GeoRSS feed items in a list.
- You can navigate the list by pressing the up and down arrows in the navigator. The results are limited to 20 by the server.
- On the Virtual Earth map below, the bounding boxes of each feed item are displayed (each in a different color).
- When a feed item is selected (by clicking on the title), the map will display only the current feed item bounding box.
- Double-clicking the feed title will open up the metadata in a browser window.
Main Viewable Area

- List of feed items
- Navigator control
- Virtual Earth Map
- Feed Bounding Box

*Note:* The gadget will increase its size when undocked. In Windows 7, there is a menu option to change sizes.
The Settings window is where feeds search parameters are set. The top of the dialog allows keywords to be set. The keyword defaults to “map” if nothing is specified.

The other filtering options correspond very closely to those that appear on the geoddata.gov website. To expand a filtering section, just click on the blue header bar.

The external applications section allows feed items to be opened up with Gaia. If you don’t have Gaia installed, a link to the free download site is provided. The path settings is by default the application default installation path. The Search button allows an automatic detection of the Gaia path.
The flyout window appears when you click on a feed link. The flyout window displays the feed description (as sent from the server.) The description usually contains a few links that you can follow for additional information about the item.

The icons below allow easy navigation to external services/applications that display the feed geospatial data. When not applicable the icons are grayed out.

- **Map** shows the data on a Geodata.Gov online ArcExplorer.
- **Globe** shows the data on ArcGlobe.
- **Gaia** adds the capabilities of the OGC service (if available) to the Gaia application.
Workflow
Project Online Presence

YouTube:
www.YouTube.com/thecarbonproject

Press Release (picked up by numerous blogs and news sites):

Virtual Earth an Evangelist Blog (Chris Pendleton):
http://blogs.msdn.com/virtualearth

Community Forum (coming soon)
Process

Community Workshop

Release

Release
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