Saving the World One Grid Square at a Time

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Overview

• The importance of standards and the lost art of cartography
• Understand your audience and their challenges
• What’s old is new again: fundamental skills
• Interdependencies of infrastructure: collaboration and professional networks
• New paradigms
In those days, the thread on fire hydrants and fire hoses was not standardized; each county and city had its own kind of thread. When the first out-of-town firefighters rushed from Washington to help, they could do little because hoses from their apparatus could not hook to Baltimore’s hydrant system or local fire trucks...

Fire departments learned that they needed to standardize when Baltimore burned in 1904.
331 Years of Experience in the US

- Emergency services are standards based organizations
  - Standard of care
  - Interoperability/interchangeability
  - Organizational consistency (NIMS/ICS)
  - Scalability
  - Continuity of operations
- When the incident occurs IS NOT the time for innovation

George Washington was a volunteer firefighter with Friendship Veterans Fire Co.
A number of people here are not seeing this presentation as intended. Are they seeing your maps? Will you bet your life on it?

Approximately 10% of the male population is red/green color blind.
Standards Bodies

- Federal Geographic Data Committee
- Open Geospatial Consortium
  – [http://www.opengeospatial.org](http://www.opengeospatial.org)
- ANSI and ISO for paper sizes
- US National Grid and the National Search and Rescue Committee
  – Search “NSARC” and “Georeferencing”

OGC’s Carl Reed was there to tell Roger Tomlinson how to format the data when he “invented” GIS...
Geospatial Standards – What About Presentation?

- Colors
- Symbols
- Scale
- Coordinate system
- Projection
- Page size

Map of Australia, pet rock, or “other”?
http://www.abc.net.au/rural/content/2009/s2742168.htm

Office of Management and Budget Circular A-16 (rev. 2002) mandates the coordination of geospatial information and technologies among Federal agencies through the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC).