

Edmonton Finds Location is Everything With Intergraph® Technology



Edmonton, home to more than one million people, teamed with Intergraph to develop a central repository where location-based information is kept and available to everyone in the organization.

CITY BRINGS SPATIAL INFORMATION TOGETHER WITH INTERGRAPH GEOMEDIA® SOLUTIONS

THE CHALLENGE:

The City of Edmonton in Alberta was one of the first cities to have all of its data in digital format, making that transformation in the 1970s. With newer technology available and more than 100 land-type applications in its geographic information system (GIS), the Corporate Services Department within the Information Technology Branch of the city wanted to reduce the number of applications, consolidate its data, and improve maintenance. The city wanted fast and reliable access to the information – whether it was the status of a streetlight or the condition of a sidewalk.

THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Develop a central repository for GIS data that everyone could access
- Establish the ability to report and analyze information while integrating it with other corporate applications

THE SOLUTION:

Edmonton has a long relationship with Intergraph®, having used GeoMedia® for its road networking. Edmonton began working with Intergraph after issuing a large request for proposal (RFP) in 1997. The city wanted a vendor-driven solution that was built around proven technology. Competing companies were asked to develop their solution under a tight timeline, and Intergraph met all of the requirements. When Edmonton needed additional GIS solutions, Intergraph's proven technology influenced the city's selection process as it phased in different applications. The city teamed with the company to bring its information together, developing a Spatial Land Inventory Management (SLIM) application for GIS data. Already using GeoMedia software, it implemented Transportation Manager to collect more data. Edmonton used Intergraph's IntelliWhere® OnDemand for collecting sidewalk information. It took advantage of other products in the GeoMedia suite to create a collection of user-friendly information. Other GeoMedia products implemented by Edmonton included Professional, Parcel Manager, Transaction Manager, Transportation Analyst, and WebMap

PROFILE:

Name – City of Edmonton, Alberta

Web site – <http://www.edmonton.ca>

Edmonton is the capital of Alberta and has a growing population of more than one million people. Located on the banks of the majestic North Saskatchewan River, Edmonton is known as Canada's cultural capital, presenting arts and cultural activities throughout the year. Edmonton serves as a staging point for large-scale oil sands projects occurring in northern Alberta and large-scale diamond mining operations in the Northwest Territories.

At 684 square kilometers (264 sq mi), the City of Edmonton covers an area larger than Chicago, Philadelphia, Toronto, or Montreal. Edmonton has one of the lowest population densities in North America, about 9.4 percent that of New York City.

KEY BENEFITS:

- Central repository that makes data available to everyone without having to share files
- Accuracy in bringing information together
- Consistency in building information together instead of in isolation
- Application integration

PRODUCTS USED:

- GeoMedia
- GeoMedia Professional
- GeoMedia Parcel Manager
- GeoMedia Transaction Manager
- GeoMedia Transportation Analyst
- GeoMedia Transportation Manager
- GeoMedia WebMap Professional
- GeoMedia Objects
- IntelliWhere® OnDemand

Professional. The city is consulting with Intergraph on implementing the latest version of GeoMedia.

Edmonton is relying on its past experience with Intergraph as it continues to collect useful information for city departments as well as its citizens. IntelliWhere proved to be an inexpensive solution in providing information on sidewalk conditions. The city generated pre-defined maps using GeoMedia Objects to detail water and sewer applications and more. It integrated GeoMedia Professional with SAP to manage cemeteries and plot locations.

Intergraph collaborated closely with Edmonton in the development and building of its SLIM system and defining how it would be used. Intergraph also provided a solution for Edmonton in 1997 when the city wanted long-term transaction management and chronological historic data throughout the organization.

The City of Edmonton is one of the frontrunners in recognizing the importance of location-based data. It estimates that about 80 percent of the work it does is based on location. Edmonton used geospatial solutions to build and maintain a GIS, incorporating and matching the data with all of its applications.

System integration allows data to be exchanged from external partners. For example, the nine utilities in Edmonton can all share data. Information comes in throughout the province, including title information on a nightly basis. The city can also sell GIS data and deliver it to companies in any format.

THE FUTURE

For the City of Edmonton, being a frontrunner with location-based data isn't enough. The city is studying ways to integrate more data that will help it better serve its citizens. One of the key projects for the future is developing a corporate 311 to provide citizens with non-emergency information. Citizens can report things ranging from a pothole to a lost dog, and mapping will be a major component. Edmonton is looking at Intergraph products as part of the solution

for the 311 initiative, where reports and statistics can be analyzed.

Edmonton's police and fire departments use dispatch systems in Intergraph's Computer-Aided Dispatch (I/CAD) family. New versions of I/CAD will integrate with the city's GIS database. The city is placing an emphasis on mobility, as well as Web services for the future with geographic information a priority. As Edmonton continues to grow, Intergraph will be there, offering its solutions and support to improve the city's spatial technology and services.

Wendy Ritchie, director of Geo Edmonton during the GIS data repository implementation, says incorporation of location data to other applications is becoming more important to most organizations. "My advice to other organizations is to definitely do it and not hold back," Ritchie said. "It is challenging, but definitely worth it in the long run. Location, location, location is really everything. It's very important to a lot of things, especially to what a municipality does."

ABOUT INTERGRAPH

Intergraph is the leading global provider of engineering and geospatial software that enables customers to visualize complex data. Businesses and governments in more than 60 countries rely on Intergraph's industry-specific software to organize vast amounts of data into understandable visual representations and actionable intelligence. Intergraph's software and services empower customers to build and operate more efficient plants and ships, create intelligent maps, and protect critical infrastructure and millions of people around the world.

Intergraph operates through two divisions: Process, Power & Marine (PP&M) and Security, Government & Infrastructure (SG&I). Intergraph

PP&M provides enterprise engineering software for the design, construction, and operation of plants, ships, and offshore facilities. Intergraph SG&I provides geospatially powered solutions to the defense and intelligence, public safety and security, government, transportation, photogrammetry, utilities, and communications industries.

For more information, visit www.intergraph.ca.

