

***spatial@gov* Conference**

The inaugural *spatial@gov* Conference was held at the National Convention Centre, Canberra, on 15 and 16 June 2009. The conference focussed on the 'business of government' and how business at all levels of government can be made more effective and efficient through the use of spatial resources.

Presenters included representatives of the spatial community from most Australian jurisdictions and New Zealand as well as the Chair of ANZLIC (the Spatial Information Council) and a range of senior government officials. International presenters included the Open Geospatial Consortium and the Chinese Ambassador to Australia who provided an insight into spatial activities in China and potential linkages to the Australian spatial community.

Attendees gained an insight into the broad range of areas benefiting from the efforts of the spatial community. The presentations provided many examples of the benefits of using 'place' or 'location' as an enabler for government activities. These activities included social inclusion, water, health, climate change, local government, Indigenous cultures and communities. There were also presentations on data delivery and access, new approaches to mapping, and future directions for spatial technologies.

The conference attracted 352 delegates, 67 presenters, 25 sponsors and 19 exhibitors. It was organised by eight of the key spatial



information associations and organisations representing all areas of the spatial sector including the government, academia and the commercial communities.

Geoscience Australia was the main conference sponsor and the Office of Spatial Data Management convened the conference. A number of tertiary level students and several indigenous and remotely located spatial professionals were able to attend the conference because of various sponsorship arrangements.

The conference demonstrated a new energy and spirit of cooperation between the government and other sectors within the spatial community. The feedback from delegates, sponsors and technical exhibitors was very positive and all expressed a desire to attend another *spatial@gov* event. As a result, planning has already commenced on *spatial@gov* 2010.



Figure 1. Left to right: Ben Searle, General Manager, Office of Spatial Data Management; Dr Neil Williams PSM, CEO Geoscience Australia; Senator Kate Lundy, Senator for the ACT; and Warwick Watkins, Chair ANZLIC and Director-General, Department of Lands, New South Wales, following the opening of the conference by Senator Lundy.

For more information

visit www.spatial.gov.au/



Spatial Diversity SSC 2009	28 September to 2 October
Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute Adelaide Convention Centre Contact: ICMS Pty Ltd, 84 Queensbridge Street, Southbank, Victoria 3006	p +61 3 9682 0244 f +61 3 9682 0288 e ssc2009@icms.com.au www.ssc2009.com
Geothermal 2009: Making Renewable Energy Hot	4 to 7 October
Geothermal Resources Council 33rd Annual Meeting Peppermill Resort Reno, Nevada USA Contact: GRC, PO Box 1350, Davis, CA 95617	p +1 530 758 2860 f +1 530 758 2839 www.geothermal.org/
China Mining Congress	20 to 22 October
Ministry of Land and Resources, China Tianjin Binhai International Convention & Exhibition Centre, Beijing Contact: Julie Zhu (Registration Service)	p +86 22 2312 0923 f +86 22 2312 0583 e info@mining-expo.com www.china-mining.com/
Mining 2009 Resources Convention	28 to 30 October
Hilton Hotel, Brisbane Contact: Vertical Events, PO Box 1153 Subiaco WA 6904	p +61 8 9388 2222 f +61 8 9381 9222 e info@verticalevents.com.au www.verticalevents.com.au/mining2009/
Australian Geothermal Energy Conference and Trade Show	10 to 13 November
Australian Geothermal Energy Association Hilton Hotel, Brisbane Contact: Impact Environmental Conferences PO Box 5057, Port Macquarie NSW 2444	p +61 2 6583 8118 f +61 2 6583 8065 e ausgeothermal@impactenviro.com.au www.impactenviro.com.au/ ausgeothermal/
NAPE Expo 2010	11 & 12 February
American Association of Professional Landmen GBR Convention Center, Houston, Texas, USA Contact: NAPE, 4100 Fossil Creek Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76137 USA	p +1 817 306 7171 f +1 817 847 7703 e info@napeexpo.com www.napeonline.com
PDAC 2010 International Convention & Trade Show	7 to 10 March
Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Canada Contact: PDAC, 135 King Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5C 1G6	p +1 416 362 1969 f +1 416 362 0101 e info@pdac.ca www.pdac.ca/
XXIV FIG International Congress 2010	11 to 16 April
International Federation of Surveyors Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre Contact: Tour Hosts Congress & Exhibition Organisers GPO Box 128, Sydney NSW 2000	p +61 2 9265 0700 f +61 2 9267 5443 e fig2010@tourhosts.com.au www.fig2010.com/

For more information on Geoscience Australia's involvement in the above events
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