

Managing up-to-date Geodata

Service specialist Enseco uses VPmap to bring utility network plans and construction plans online.

The power supply network industry is under constant cost pressure which is likely to increase. Accessing reliable and up-to-date geodata is an essential objective for energy suppliers and local authorities for cost efficiency and public accountability. Efficient conversion of geodata from analogue to digital is a critical task.

The Competence Centre GIS of Enseco GmbH in Munich, Germany, is an established GIS expert organisation. Enseco has an online GeoService Portal for their partners at RDE GmbH & Co KG. RDE is a network of thirty public and private energy suppliers and successfully markets the Portal's information to the utilities sector.

Business advantage through efficiency.

The GeoService Portal functions as a Business Service Provider. It allows users rapid data access with minimal costs and resources. Many clients already manage their business processes using 'e-plan room' and 'e-construction'. These services ensure process optimisation through all stages of a construction project.

topographic map
construction plan
ortho photography
cable plan



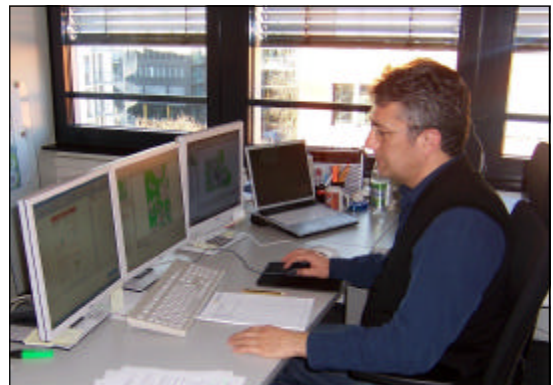
Methods of analogue data conversion are critical to the Portal's service. Enseco's methods have assisted fifty energy suppliers to secure cost efficiency. "We have secured savings of an impressive 80% by improving standard procedures. Assigning data intelligence to raster maps increases their value by 60-80% compared to traditional GIS approaches. Our clients are very pleased as the improved cost efficiency allows the initiation of projects which would otherwise never gain financial approval," reports Karl-Heinz Gerl, the GeoService Portal's product manager at RDE.

The unique approach adopted by Enseco is to increase the status of scanned maps. "Traditionally scanned maps are not considered of value once they have been fully vectorised" comments Enseco's project manager Eva Pfluegl. "Commonly no attention is given to accurate georeferencing and high quality raster processing and GIS specialists are reluctant to 'waste' money on unintelligent images." Pilot projects were carried out for a number of local city suppliers and demonstrated that focussing on quality raster processing generated a considerable return on investment. Raster maps could be adjusted to be compliant to general cadastral information and local street plans.

With expert GIS knowledge, Enseco tested a variety of raster conversion methods on different platforms. Softelec software was selected as the most efficient from these tests. It was found that all the necessary processing steps such as calibration, merging / splitting, georeferencing and data compression could be successfully achieved within the single software solution. The generation of 'TFW' (World Tiff Files) is a processor intensive task and the Softelec software was found to be very efficient in handling the large amounts of data involved, especially with colour raster documents.

Specialist raster processing.

Mario Begic is the project coordinator at Enseco's headquarters in Munich. He was using VPmap forerunner software from softelec in 2004 for map processing tasks. "To submit geo-reference maps for the GeoService Portal we needed a quick and easy method to tile (or 'mosaic') the original documents and to provide the tiles in different resolutions. This was the only way we could minimise system



memory requirements to ensure fast response times even with the extensive dataset of raster images in the Portal.”

softelec enhanced the software with all the required GIS functionality and released VPmap. Mario Begic reports “ with the new VPmap software we could perform all necessary work in a single application and compared to other GIS systems we found we could save more than 30% time but with improved accuracy.” Enseco have now successfully processed thousands of images using VPmap.

Mario Begic is also extremely complimentary of the customer service levels provided by Softelec. “Softelec always give us prompt and reliable assistance. At an early stage of using the software we needed a customisation for the mosaicing function. softelec provided this for us promptly with great cooperation and efficiency.”

www.enseco.de
www.geoservice-portal.de
www.rde-dienstleistungen.de
www.softelec.com

Formerly founded as GDV-Service Schuele in 1979, Enseco GmbH was established and registered in 2000. The company provides specialized services for geodata and metering to the energy utilities sector.

Enseco’s applies high-standard information technology and ensures a countrywide service availability with a staff of 200 people.



User: Enseco GmbH, Germany
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softelec software: VPmap

softelec gmbh
Joseph-Seifried-Str. 8
80995 München
Tel.: +49 (89)-158 143-0
Fax: +49 (89)-158 143-33
info@softelec.com
www.softelec.com
Germany

