



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio DOT Adopts GIS-Based EQulS for Its Geotechnical Data Management

Redlands, California—June 30, 2009—The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will implement an enterprise version of EarthSoft's Environmental Quality Information System (EQulS) for ArcGIS to better manage, analyze, and share geotechnical data throughout the organization. An agreement between ODOT and EarthSoft, an ESRI business partner, will see EarthSoft provide the transportation industry standard Data Interchange for Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Specialists (DIGGS) as electronic data deliverables (EDD). The new data will then reside and be accessible through ODOT's enterprise-wide geographic information system (GIS)-supported EQulS database.

Built on the ESRI ArcGIS software platform, which boasts key interoperability and Web computing concepts, EQulS Enterprise combines high-volume EDD processing with integrated .NET Web applications for publishing reports and graphics to an unlimited number of users. As EDDs are received through any combination of e-mail, FTP, or Web channels, they are automatically processed by EarthSoft's EQulS Data Processor (EDP) and, if no data errors are found, they are posted to the EQulS database. Through its automated data upload process that can be done from the field or the office, EQulS will allow ODOT to streamline its data management system and workflow.

ODOT estimates it has more than 1.2 million paper-based files stored in warehouses and believes that by transferring its historical data to the GIS-based EQulS, it will reduce duplication of past field-based projects by 10 to 20 percent and save 12 to 24 million dollars per year. EQulS will be the data warehouse to help realize these savings.

"ODOT has been working to implement a geotechnical data management system for several years," said Kirk Beach, geology program supervisor for ODOT's Office of Geotechnical Engineering, Geology and Exploration Section. "We expect our EQulS-based geotechnical data management system not only to result in substantial savings annually but also to make critical information available to ODOT districts, our consultants, and others in the Ohio geotechnical community."

[GIS for transportation](#) allows agencies such as ODOT to manage roadway assets such as signs, pavement, and bridges and analyze data, author maps, and create models on the desktop; serve them to a GIS server; and use them through Web, desktop, and mobile clients. ESRI's ArcGIS family of products includes desktop, server, mobile, and online GIS as well as ESRI data. ArcGIS software is an important tool in managing planning, evaluating, and maintaining transportation systems.

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About ESRI

Since 1969, ESRI has been giving customers around the world the power to think and plan geographically. The market leader in GIS, ESRI software is used in more than 300,000 organizations worldwide, including each of the 200 largest cities in the United States, most national governments, more than two-thirds of Fortune 500 companies, and more than 7,000 colleges and universities. ESRI applications, running on more than one million desktops and thousands of Web and enterprise servers, provide the backbone for the world's mapping and spatial analysis. ESRI is the only vendor that provides complete technical solutions for desktop, mobile, server, and Internet platforms. Visit us at www.esri.com.

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