Case study: Calderdale MBC

*Web Mapping • **Spatial Data Loading** • Digital Maps & Data • MapInfo & FME software • Training & Consultancy*

DOTTED EYES®

Using **SuperpOSe** to load, hold and enhance OS MasterMap

The project

Calderdale, situated in the heart of Pennine Yorkshire, has a thriving population of 190,000. The district is mostly rural, covering part of the South Pennines, but there are some thriving towns, such as Halifax, in the east. In 2005, Calderdale's GIS Team identified the need to move to a data centric approach to GIS rather than relying on individual file-based storage of this vital corporate information. Calderdale MBC was already using the market-leading translation tool, InterpOSe from Dotted Eyes, to process the OS MasterMap Topography and ITN Layers.

Choosing a supplier

Calderdale's GIS team evaluated SuperpOSe from Dotted Eyes against another loader product. Corporate GIS Manager, Craig Moulding, explains, "When we did the evaluation, the alternative product loaded the raw data with no problems, but stopped there. We quickly realised that our requirements went well beyond that, as we also needed to style the features and split them into layers, and we didn't want to set up separate views once the data set was in Oracle. By contrast SuperpOSe allowed us to get going straight away, even using our existing InterpOSe parameter file, and it offered all the functionality we required with its single integrated approach."

Benefits

The main value of SuperpOSe to Calderdale lies in the open, interoperable way the features are stored. For example, a single Legend column is populated while the data files are being loaded, so the style file supplied with the software can be used in ESRI software to render the data in exactly the same way as it appears in MapInfo products. Styling is also available for Autodesk and Oracle MapViewer, which combined with text and symbols being stored as stroked lines, allows consistent styling throughout an organisation, even if it hosts multiple software packages.

Benefits of FME

SuperpOSe also gives Calderdale the flexibility of the full FME Oracle Edition, which is supplied as part of the product. FME enables the council's own layers of GIS and CAD data, as well as those from partner agencies such as the NHS and emergency services, to be loaded directly into the Oracle Spatial data repository, because it supports more than 170 formats.

Next steps

After taking part in the beta test programme for SuperpOSe v5, Calderdale staff plan to upgrade their version of SuperpOSe late this year. They have also participated in FME training, delivered by Dotted Eyes, to enable them to streamline some of their other translation processes by using the full richness of data transformers in the FME workbench.

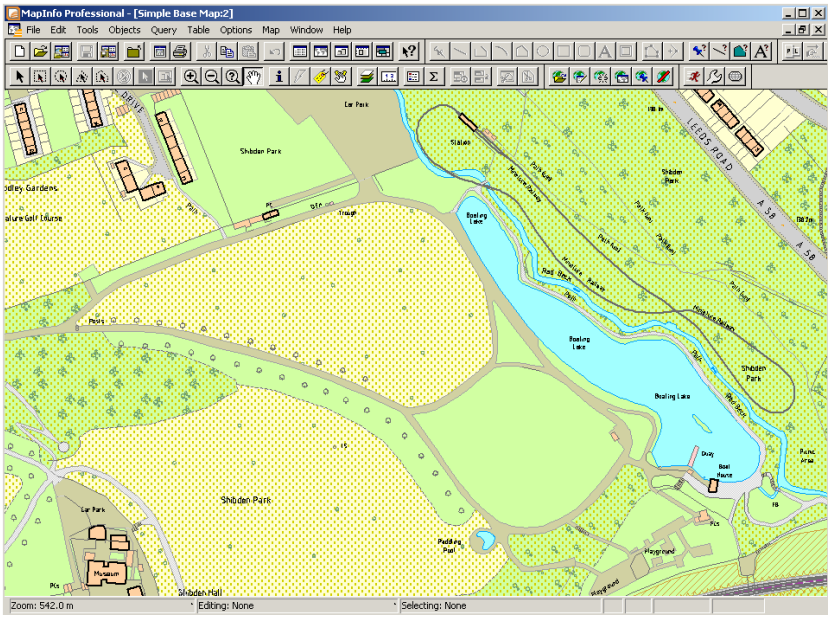

Image showing OS MasterMap, held in SuperpOSe, rendered through MapInfo Professional. © Crown Copyright 2007. Licence Number 100019918.

Technical overview

SuperpOSe manages the entire process of setting up a spatial database, loading OS MasterMap from compressed GML, maintaining the database by applying Change-Only Updates and extracting to files if required.

The server hosts an Oracle database – either 9i Release 2, 10g Release 2, or 11g – which include Oracle Locator as standard in all editions & licence levels at no extra cost. Calderdale uses this core-functionality set of the optional Oracle Spatial. There is even a free Oracle XE edition (with limitations) which is suitable as a proof-of-concept to demonstrate the benefits of storing OS MasterMap and other spatial data in an Oracle database prior to committing to the full database.

Calderdale Council

An evaluation copy of SuperpOSe can be requested from sales@dottedeyes.com

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