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The *IAG Newsletter* is under the editorial responsibility of the *Communication and Outreach Branch* (COB) of the IAG.

It is an open forum and contributors are welcome to send material (preferably in electronic form) to the IAG COB (newsletter@iag-aig.org). These contributions should complement information sent by IAG officials or by IAG symposia organizers (reports and announcements). The *IAG Newsletter* is published monthly. It is available in different formats from the IAG new internet site: <http://www.iag-aig.org>

Each *IAG Newsletter* includes several of the following topics:

- I. news from the Bureau Members
- II. general information
- III. reports of IAG symposia
- IV. reports by commissions, special commissions or study groups
- V. symposia announcements
- VI. book reviews
- VII. fast bibliography

Books for review are the responsibility of:

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General Announcements

IAG Membership Application Form 2005

The Membership Application Form 2005 in PDF can be downloaded from the IAG website: <http://www.iag-aig.org>. Those members, whose membership expires by the end of 2004 may consider renewing their

membership for 2005 or longer period (2005-2008). The IAG Communication and Outreach Branch is continuing to improve the service, especially for the IAG individual members

Latest developments on the IAG website

During the last few months, some new developments have been made on the IAG website (<http://www.iag-aig.org>). First of all the contact database of the IAG members has been stored in a MySQL database, which can be queried by the members. The contact database contains all the personal information of the members which are listed on the IAG Membership Application Form excluding the payment details.

Since the e-mail address of each member is stored in the database, the possibility to log in to a restricted area of the website has been established. The username is always the e-mail address, and the first password is issued by the system automatically. Both the e-mail address (username) and the password can be modified by the user after logging in. If any of these login data is modified, the Member receives an automatic e-mail notification from the system.

After logging in to the IAG Member Area, one can use the following functions:

- Check own personal details
- Change own personal details
- Change password
- Find a Colleague (by Membership ID, by Name, by Institute, by Country)
- Access the Members' Area on the IAG website

Using the IAG website, each member may update her/his personal data. Hence the members are responsible for keeping the contact database always up-to-date. The members may choose which personal information should be public and which should be kept private. In the queries only those details will be displayed, which are set to be public. However the full name, title and the home country is always displayed.

Each member may define her/his fields of interest. In the future the queries will include a query using field of interest, too. With this option one can easily find people with the same field of interest even in other countries easily.

The system is totally flexible, new fields can be added easily by the IAG COB. If You have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following e-mail address:

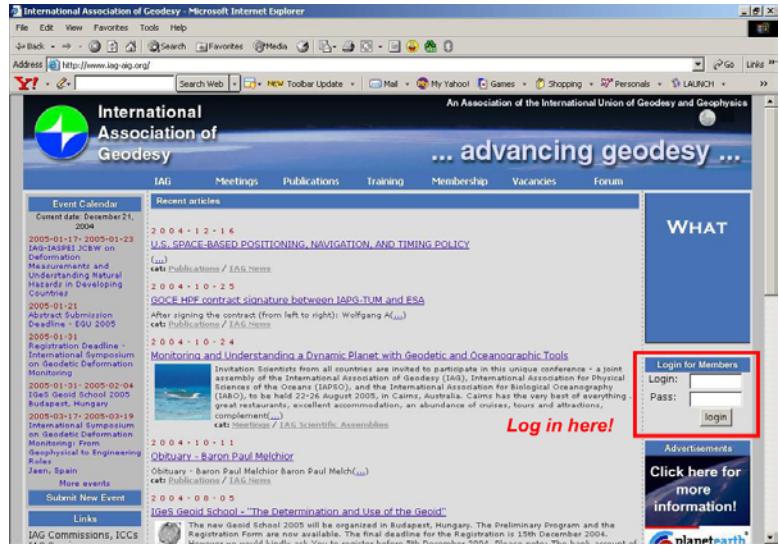
iagcob@iag-aig.org

Using the "Find a Colleague" option on the side menus, one can run various queries. One may query the database using Member ID, Name, Institution, Country. The option of selecting people using their field of interest is coming up soon.

The matching persons are listed in the popup window on the left hand side of the screen. The personal details can be displayed in the window on the middle of the screen by clicking on the names.

There's also a restricted area in the IAG website, which can be visited by the members only. After loggin in, one can visit these pages.

Any written materials are welcome to this part of the IAG website.



Future plans

Currently the database contains some 200 records, we also plan to upload the personal details found in the IAG Directory, too. To avoid redundancy, all of the personal details of the members and other people will be stored in the same database. All of the people who are in the database will be allowed to maintain her/his own personal information, however only IAG members will be able to use the query functions and visit the restricted pages of the IAG website.

IAG Forum

We would also like to draw Your attention to the IAG Forum, which is available in the menu system. Currently only a few topics have been opened on the Forum. However this function could provide a good background for open scientific or other discussions, too. Anyone, who visits the IAG website may register herself/himself and open new discussion topics on the Forum.

Please note that any comments and suggestions are welcomed, as we would like to enhance the service provided by the IAG COB.

SZabolcs Rózsa
IAG WEBMASTER

New GPS Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) Policy

United States GPS Industry Council Welcomes New White House GPS Policy

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15, 2004 -- The United States GPS Industry Council (USGIC) welcomes the announcement of the new Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) Policy signed by President Bush. The policy sets forth a forward-looking framework for the management of GPS and its augmentations. As the second Presidential statement in less than a decade, the PNT policy demonstrates U.S. foresight in shaping the global environment to meet the dynamic needs of GPS users worldwide.

The new policy updates the foundation laid by the 1996 Presidential Decision Directive (PDD) on GPS. It maintains an unambiguous U.S. commitment to the essential principles of open access, free of direct user fees, for civilian users worldwide. The PNT policy recognizes the importance of protecting the radio spectrum from interference, in which GPS and other satellite navigation services operate. This U.S. policy addresses interaction with other countries' PNT services, including Russia's Glonass and Europe's Galileo systems. In addition, the U.S. Government commits to continued technological improvements, such as GPS Modernization.

"Today information technologies arrive at a rapid rate. Sustaining growth long-term is the real challenge. This directive demonstrates that a stable policy-making process exists and is one that can handle future challenges," said Charles R. Trimble, USGIC Chairman. "GPS continues to be a model success story as a result of careful policy decisions such as this announcement by the President today. The real significance is that users worldwide can be confident that GPS will continue to grow and evolve to meet their needs as a global information utility."

"This is an exciting period for the GPS industry," said Mike Swiek, USGIC Executive Director. "PNT applications are becoming incorporated into the fabric of our daily lives. With the addition of new GPS capabilities, and the eventual emergence of new PNT systems from Europe and Japan, it is clear that manufacturers and users will have a staggering choice of positioning solutions. It is reassuring that the U.S. Government is taking clear steps to stay ahead of the curve in managing this vital resource."

Established in 1991, the United States GPS Industry Council (USGIC) is the leading organization worldwide representing the interests of the satellite navigation industry. The USGIC is a collaborative model of industry, government, and users working together to make GPS and satellite navigation a global technology success, and a key component in the global information technology infrastructure. Council members include GPS satellite manufacturers, military and commercial GPS receiver manufacturers, GPS user associations, and educational institutions. Through its strong relations with similar GPS councils overseas, USGIC serves as a technical information resource to US policy makers, as well as government agencies and legislative offices worldwide.

The following are comments from Mike Swiek, Executive Director, US GPS Industry Council

Subject: Media Reaction to PNT Policy Statement

We have been receiving some media inquiries concerning the PNT policy statement, which, unfortunately, seem to be focusing on the issue of under which conditions the President would disrupt GPS service, particularly over the US homeland. We feel that this misses the larger and more beneficial points of the policy statement, and have been responding along the following lines:

Concerning the portions of the Presidential policy statement dealing with circumstances under which GPS could be denied to users:

1) This is really "old news" as the US Government has always, and prudently so, reserved the right to deny GPS in areas of conflict to protect US and allied forces in theaters of conflict. This is usually accomplished through localized jamming, is not a system-wide denial, and is accomplished with a consideration to producing minimal disruption to legitimate users in adjacent areas.

2) The US has also, always reserved the right to deny GPS during times of national emergency, but any decision to do so is only possible at the highest levels of government, and can be taken only by the national command authorities. The US authorities fully realize how essential GPS is to national and global infrastructures, and any such decision would not be made lightly. To show how serious and unusual an action this may be, GPS has never been "turned off", and even continued to operate during the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Instead, we view the real significance of the new policy statement to be that it is a forward looking document that demonstrates that the US authorities who own and manage GPS are taking steps to ensure that GPS remains a reliable global utility for legitimate civilian users even as the global environment for satellite navigation continues to evolve. It is a very constructive step. I have attached a copy of our news release on this event.

F. Michael Swiek
Executive Director
United States GPS Industry Council

Contrary to erroneous reporting by some parts of the media, there is no plan or provision in the policy to shutdown the GPS network <<http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/1213/web-gps-12-16-04.asp>>. Hopefully, the information provided above will be helpful in getting the facts straight on important provisions of the new policy while dispelling the misinformation or misinterpretations.

LARRY HOTHEN

Meeting Announcements

IAG Sponsored Meetings

The 2004 International Symposium on GPS/GNSS (GNSS 2004)

6-8 December 2004, Sydney, Australia
Internet: www.gnss2004.org.

IAG-IASPEI Joint Capacity Building Workshop

17-23 January 2005, Miramare-Trieste, Italy
The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), will organize a Workshop on Deformation Measurements and Understanding Natural Hazards in Developing Countries. The Workshop will be co-sponsored by IAG, IASPEI and IUGG. Please visit <http://agenda.ictp.trieste.it/smr.php?1642> for more information.

International IGES Geoid School

31 January- 5 February 2005, Budapest, Hungary

The next International IGeS School on "The Determination and Use of the Geoid" will be at Budapest, Hungary. The preliminary program and related information is available at <http://www.iag-aig.org>.

International Symposium on Geodetic Deformation Monitoring - From Geophysical to Engineering Roles

17-19 March, 2005, Jaén (Spain)

The International Symposium on Geodetic Deformation Monitoring: From Geophysical to Geodetic Roles will be held at the University of Jaén (Spain) from 17th to 19th March 2005. The Symposium will be hosted by the Geodesy Research Group of the University of Jaén. For more information please visit the workshop web site at <http://www.ujaen.es/huesped/gdeforma/>.

International Workshop on "Deformation and Gravity Change: Indicators of Isostasy, Tectonics, Volcanism and Climate Change"

1-4 March 2005, Lanzarote, Canary Islands, Spain

The International Workshop on "Deformation and Gravity Change: Indicators of Isostasy, Tectonics, Volcanism and Climate Change" will be held at Casa de los Volcanes (a scientific and cultural meeting place) on Lanzarote, Canary Islands, Spain. Organizers are José Fernández (jose_fernandez@mat.ucm.es) and Detlef Wolf (dasca@gfz-potsdam.de).

Dynamic Planet 2005

"Monitoring and Understanding a Dynamic Planet with Geodetic and Oceanographic Tools"

A Joint Assembly of the IAG, IAPSO and IABO

22 - 26 August 2005, Cairns, Australia

Scientists from all countries are invited to participate in this unique conference – a joint assembly of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG), International Association for Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO), and the International Association for Biological Oceanography (IBO). For further information, please visit the Dynamic Planet website <http://www.dynamicplanet2005.com>.

7th conference on Optical 3-D Measurement Techniques

3-5 October 2005, Vienna, Austria

The 7th conference on "Optical 3-D Measurement Techniques" will be held from October 3-5, 2005 in Vienna, Austria and is co-sponsored by the ISPRS Commission V, the FIG Commission 5 and 6, and the IAG Sub-commission 4.2. The conference website is: <http://info.tuwien.ac.at/ingeo/optical3d/o3d.htm>. The first announcement in pdf format can be downloaded from the conference website at: <http://info.tuwien.ac.at/ingeo/optical3d/o3d1st.pdf>.

IAG Related Meetings

12th International Symposium on Deformation Measurement

12-15 September 2005, Qingdao ,China

You are cordially invited to the 12th International Symposium on Deformation Measurements organized by Commission 6 of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) to be held in Qingdao, China, 12-15 September 2005. Please visit the conference website for further information: <http://www.fig.net/isdm12>.

The 2nd International Specialized Forum GeoForm+

14-17 March 2005, Moscow, Russia

The major Geo event on Russian market. The forum unites four exhibitions: GeoMap - Geodesy, cartography, geoinformation and control systems, navigation; GeoTech - Technologies and equipment for exploring natural resources; GeoTunnel - Technologies and equipment for tunnel construction; GeoMineral - Industrial Minerals - mining, extracting, preparation, recycling. The conference website can be reached at the following address: <http://www.geoexpo.ru/defaulteng.stm>.

IAG Sister Societies' General Assemblies

FIG Working Week and GSDI-8 – "From Pharaohs to Geoinformatics"

16-21 April 2005, Cairo, Egypt

Read more about technical and social programme, pre-conference workshops etc. at <http://www.fig.net/cairo>. The event is organized together with GSDI-8. Please visit the web site also for pre-conference workshops like the "Virtual Academy and the Surveying/Geoinformatics Community" to be held April 16, 2005.

ICC2005 Conference

9-16 July 2005, A Coruña, Spain

The XXII International Cartographic Conference (ICC) is the most important event in the International Cartographic Association (ICA) calendar. Please visit <http://www.icc2005.org> for details.

Meeting Proceedings

IN GEO 2004 and FIG Regional Central and Eastern European Conference on Engineering Surveying

Bratislava, Slovakia, November 11-13, 2004

Proceedings of the conference are available online at: <http://www.fig.net/pub/bratislava/programme.htm>.

Fast Bibliography

The fast bibliography consists of a listing of papers relevant to Geodesy, that has been collected by the IAG Bibliographic Service (IBS) since previous issue of the fast bibliography (IAG Newsletter September 2004 and Journal of Geodesy 78/4-5). The IBS is based on the literary data bank GEOPHOKA, which is maintained by BKG (Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie) at the Branch Office Leipzig, Leipzig Zentrale technisch – wissenschaftliche Angelegenheiten, Bibliothek, Karl-Rothe Strasse 10-14, 0415 Leipzig, Germany. The IBS can be reached at the following Internet address: <http://www.leipzig.ifag.de>. The bibliographic services are furthermore reachable through the homepage of IAG: <http://www.iag-aig.org>.

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