



DeLorme Professional Newsletter - September 2008

DeLorme Offers Texas Oil & Gas GIS Data, Formatted for Use Within XMap Software

DeLorme recently announced the release of Railroad Commission of Texas Oil & Gas GIS datasets formatted for use within XMap software.

The Railroad Commission of Texas publishes up-to-date oil well, gas well, and pipeline location information for the entire Lone Star state. Through a special arrangement, DeLorme is offering this data in its proprietary XMap OpenSpace format, which can be imported directly in any version of XMap 5 or XMap 6. Each of the layers includes an extensive attribute set and is preconfigured with custom symbolization and queries to allow quick and easy access to the relevant information.



Also included with this offering is a dataset containing the Texas Land Survey boundaries, clearly delineated and labeled.

The oil and gas and land survey datasets are available in four bundles:

- Complete set of the Railroad Commission of Texas data for XMap which includes the Texas land survey, oil wells, gas wells, and pipeline data for the entire state
- Pipeline data only
- Oil and gas well data only
- Texas Land Survey boundaries only

Click [here](#) to see a full size screenshot. For more information, to download a free sample, and for pricing, visit www.xmap.com/texasdata



Click [here](#) to order

Where on Eartha?

Participants in the monthly Where on Eartha challenge can be divided into two groups: those who request that we make the contest easier and provide clues to the identity of the location in question, and those who complain bitterly when we drop even the slightest hint. For [August's challenge](#), I bowed to pressure from the former and as a result, received words of derision from the latter.

The first randomly selected entry to correctly name Lisbon, Portugal, as the location of the pushpin belongs to Brian Rounds from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. Brian will shortly receive a copy of XMap 6 Professional along with a USB GPS receiver.





Tab Tip

GIS Database Synchronization

Before we begin to look at the process of synchronizing a GIS database, it should be noted that this level of XMap technology is not going to be appropriate for all XMap users. There are several prerequisites that should be considered before continuing. Therefore, let's start by asking a few questions:

1. Do you maintain or do you plan to maintain a database of GIS data?
2. Do you have a field-based workforce or technicians at a remote location who routinely need access to this data?
3. Do you periodically update your data and, if so, is it important that your field workers are provided with these updates?
4. Would you benefit from an automated process whereby notes and observations collected by your field workers are automatically sent to you as redline layers?

If you answered "No" to any of the questions then it is unlikely that you will have a need for XMap's synchronization tools. If you answered "Yes", then read on to learn how the data synchronization process within XMap GIS Enterprise will benefit your business.

The application of GIS technology to manage workflow, physical infrastructure, and business systems is a standard practice in today's business world. A challenge for the enterprise GIS is maximizing the return on investment in GIS through efficient data sharing. XMap 6 has been designed to effectively meet this challenge. Automated database synchronization ensures that your mobile field force is provided with up-to-date GIS data while simultaneously communicating field collected observations or GIS layer updates to the central GIS database. XMap synchronization is initiated by the field worker using a simple button click in the Professional version of XMap and requires no knowledge of GIS data management or data importing. Best of all, XMap 6 is designed to minimize the set-up and maintenance burden on your IT department.

This month our journey takes us to a... Sorry, no clues this time. If you think you know the capital city represented by the pushpin and the name of the country over which it presides, send your response in an email to contest@delorme.com before October 17, 2008, and you could be the next XMap winner.

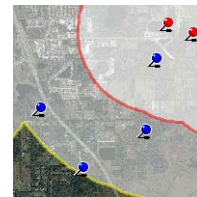
XMap at Work

Want to learn more about the application of XMap GIS technology in your line of work? Why not visit our XMap industry pages where you can read about the ways in which XMap's spatial tools can be used to help make your workflow more efficient. These pages also offer a variety of screenshots and captured maps demonstrating XMap in action.



Click [here](#) to read about the use of XMap in the energy field including oil and gas exploration and collection as

well as alternative energy management.



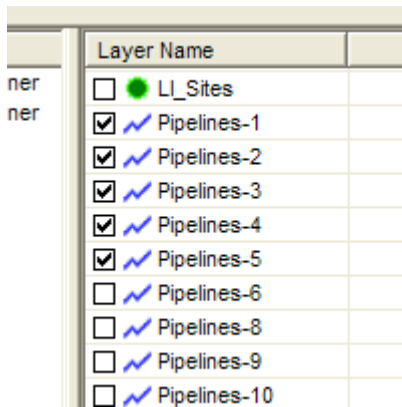
Click [here](#) to learn more about XMap for natural resource and land management.



Click [here](#) to read about other applications for XMap including public safety, government, and transportation



All XMap 6 GIS editions include a locally installed version of SQL Server. With XMap 6 GIS Enterprise, XMap's most advanced product version, GIS and IT administrators can set up and manage the deployment of GIS databases in compliance with typical IT protocols, providing efficient data flow to your mobile work force.



The database synchronization set-up process involves a few simple steps:

1. Using Database Manager which is installed with XMap GIS Enterprise, the GIS manager or IT administrator creates a list of users who will have access to the database in which the required layers are stored. Because XMap 6 supports Windows Groups, this procedure can be performed for a large workforce in matter of minutes.
2. The specific layers required by each user or group are tagged or checked.
3. A Subscription file is then created and distributed to each worker for whom access to the database has been established.
4. The field worker double-clicks this file to initiate the synchronization process. This procedure needs to be performed only once.

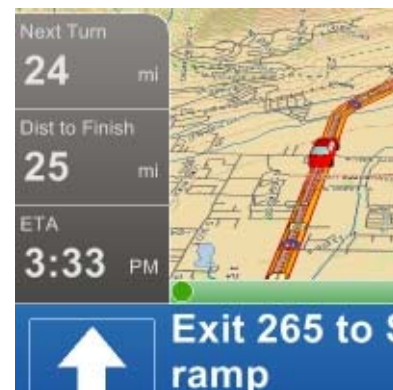
Typically the recipient of the synchronized data will be using XMap Professional. This field-optimized GIS viewer does not offer tools for editing, so no changes can be made to either the geometry or attributes of a synchronized GIS layer. However XMap Professional does provide the means to perform such tasks as running queries, switching classifications, and selecting objects to reveal the relevant attribute data. Even more important, the synchronized data is copied into a database in the local instance of SQL server providing access to the data without the need for a continuous network connection.

Did You Know?

Did you know that XMap 6 includes an optimized interface for in-vehicle GPS navigation with your laptop computer? Called NavMode, this screen view displays a variety of trip related information in an easy-to-read format and renders the map from an oblique perspective so you can easily see your next turn.

NavMode was first introduced in DeLorme's Street Atlas USA software and has since been incorporated into all versions of XMap 6. When driving, a quick glance down at your computer screen will provide continually updated information on the distance to your next turn and to your destination, the current GPS status, your heading and speed, as well as detailed information on the upcoming turn. Large on-screen buttons allow the map view to be zoomed in or out and to be switched between a 2-D and 3-D view.

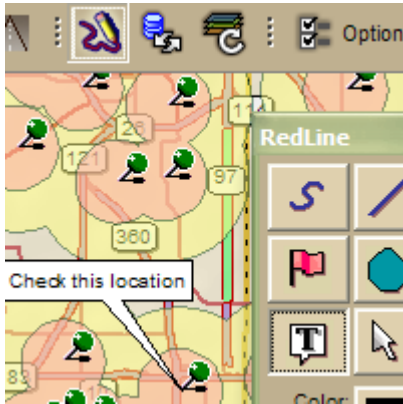
In-vehicle GPS navigation has been at the core of DeLorme's mapping software products for almost two decades. Incorporated into XMap, this functionality allows you to efficiently find your way to your destination while concurrently accessing and managing your GIS data.



Click [here](#) for a full screen view of NavMode.



After double-clicking the subscription file as noted above, three new buttons will be displayed in the toolbar in XMap Professional:



- The Synchronize button establishes a connection to the administrator's database and initiates the transfer of data that has been updated or added since the last synchronization.
- The Redline button opens a pallet of annotation tools that can be used by the field worker to draw lines, polygons, text, and other objects on the map. This annotation layer is transferred to the data administrator when the Synchronize button is next clicked.
- The Add Synchronized Layers button provides a simple way to restore the relevant layers to the GIS Workspace in the event that they were inadvertently removed or if the previous XMap session was terminated without the current project being saved.

One of the most challenging aspects of GIS data administration is providing remote access to updated data. XMap GIS Enterprise has been designed to effectively address this issue with its efficient data distribution capability. With a single click of the Synchronize button, field workers can simultaneously download updated GIS layers while uploading field-collected data in a redline layer.

We Want to Meet You!

Visit us at these upcoming events:

[Maine Municipal Association – Annual Convention](#)

Augusta, ME
October 8-9, 2008

[Texas GIS Forum](#)

Austin, TX
October 27-31, 2008

[Maine Rural Water Association](#)

Freeport, ME
December 9-10, 2008

Stop by the DeLorme booth and enter to win a drawing for a DeLorme product.



SPECIAL OFFER

Buy an Earthmate Blue Logger GPS today for under \$100 - 33% of the regular price



Actual size
1.75" x 3.25" x 0.75"

The Earthmate Blue Logger is arguably the most versatile GPS receiver that DeLorme has ever produced. This remarkable device can wirelessly transmit a GPS signal to virtually any Bluetooth enabled computer or PDA, turning your laptop, Palm, or Windows Mobile device into a portable navigation tool.

The pocket-sized Blue Logger is also a powerful standalone data collector. Simply turn it on and, as soon as it picks up a GPS fix, it will begin to record its location, speed, and more, at a distance or time interval that is established using the included Blue Logger Manager software. The collected data is downloaded wirelessly in one of a number of formats and can be easily imported, displayed, and managed in XMap.

The Blue Logger GPS has been used in a wide variety of applications including:

- Monitoring fleet movements
- Creating trail and road networks
- Managing highway maintenance crews
- Mapping forest stands
- Recording vehicle location and speed.

For more information or to order your Blue Logger GPS, click [here](#).

XMap Q&A

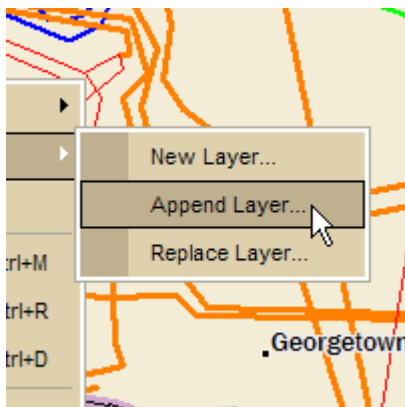
I am currently using the 5.2 version of XMap GIS Editor, should I upgrade to XMap 6?

Over recent weeks, DeLorme professional sales staff has been asked this question more than any other. While most



of the significant enhancements in [XMap 6](#) have been made to the Enterprise edition, specifically to the data access and distribution tools, there are numerous updates to the core mapping functionality that offer enough reason to upgrade. These include:

- The option to append or replace data when importing. This allows you to maintain the structure of a GIS layer (for example, classification schemes, symbolization, and queries) while adding new objects or replacing objects from an external data source
- Improved handling of large layers
- Multi-point image registration, which was previously available in only the Enterprise edition of XMap
- More efficient file and data management with the DeLorme Docs folder moved to My Documents
- Phone data for use in XMap's Phone tab is now included at no additional cost
- NavMode for improved in-vehicle GPS navigation
- And much more



The release of XMap 6 constitutes a new approach to the ongoing evolution of DeLorme's professional software. The XMap development team is committed to providing quarterly updates to XMap 6 that will be free of charge for all XMap 6 users. In effect, if you decide to upgrade to the current

release version of XMap 6, you will receive each new edition of the software with significant functional improvements up until the release of XMap 7.