



Best Freeance GIS Web Site Awards For 2006

Dayton, OH, January 9, 2007 - Last month, GIS and Information Technology Departments across the United States participated in the 3rd annual Freeance Applications Awards Contest. From the numerous, web-based GIS Freeance applications submitted, the following entries received Best Application Awards. Freeance Applications listed below were built in-house using existing databases and ESRI map server resources.

Escambia County Florida was awarded for having the Most Customized Interfaces. Escambia County has built 12 different applications since purchasing Freeance just last summer. Of these 12 different Freeance applications each of the five County Commissioners has their own customized site. Two of the specific applications entered were a facilities management site and the other a flood mapping application. The facilities management application allows users to enter the web site through a login, create new locations of facilities or update existing locations with the Freeance markup tools. These markup features are exported into a data file that is incorporated into the main GIS database. Hyperlinks to enterprise databases and other applications are also included. The flood mapping application is a digital flood insurance rate map-downloading site that includes custom Java scripts to facilitate downloads of FIRM Flood panels allowing the public to access PDF flood maps directly, reducing workload on the GIS office personnel.

Orange County Sanitary District, CA is a winner for the Best Multiple Utilities Application submission. Orange County Sanitary GIS personnel submitted three different Web applications using three different Freeance templates. All three applications show a different look-and-feel for a digital sewer atlas application. In-house personnel made use of database searches with automatic pick list generation and map scheme tabs that allowed end users to turn off and on groups of layers with a one-button selection.

University of West Florida, Hass Center for Business Research and Development won the award for Best Economic Development Application. The Freeance application is a GIS land records based application for end users to calculate potential financial incentives for developing in different economic enterprise zones. Once a user identifies a parcel in the application, it will display if a parcel is in an economic development zone and interact with an incentives calculator to show potential financial incentives for redevelopment areas.

Otsego County, New York won an award for Best Use of Multiple Freeance Templates. The County submitted multiple applications, each based on a different Freeance template. Applications included a land records based system that hooked up directly to real property State of New York ORPS software, V4. The County utilized Freeance's many-to-one database linking to show multiple sales listings and exemptions. A traffic accident mapping site utilizing the Freeance public information kiosk shows the locations of hospital and ambulance units. Each accident with an injury is shown with the type of safety equipment used and the hospital to which they were transported. A board of election site to help voters find their polling station, voting district and their representatives within that district. A flood mapping application showing flood maps, damage points, road closures and other data related to the significant East Coast floods of last summer.

Marion County, Florida is an award winner for Best Assessor/Appraiser Freeance Application. Built with over 80 GIS layers the application has been a big success with both public and professional land record users. The application was a huge asset for the County during the summer tax notice mailings. Property owners had the ability to see sales that occurred around their property, which educated them on increases in property values during the new tax roll.



The City of Albany, New York is runner up with a Public Safety Application. The City's Police Department IT group created an internal application where police and fire department personnel can see GIS layers integrated with arrest records, 911 addressing, building permits and parolee records. Future plans are to move this application to mobile data terminals in police cars.

The City of Chula Vista, California was a runner-up award winner for two new Freeance applications. The first application is a public access site that allows users to bring up survey control reports in PDF format. This application allows survey staff at the city to redirect many inquiries to this online resource, freeing up staff for other tasks. The second application is a public access site that helps compliance with the City ordinance that prohibits a registered sex offender from residing within 500 feet of a school or park. Citizens subject to this ordinance can use the web site to quickly determine if residence restrictions apply to them. Previously, citizens had to get this information directly from police staff, acquiring a relatively time-consuming procedure.

The City of Euless, Texas was a runner-up award winner with two new Freeance applications. The first application is a land records site that saves time for both the public and city employees when searching for scanned plat documents. The second Web mapping application created by the City's IT staff is a water, sanitary, storm application that allows both internal users and the public to retrieve plan and profile engineering drawings of the city's utility lines.

Installed throughout the United States, Freeance is the low cost, no programming, rapid development GIS Web application builder. Freeance server software costs \$7,250 and allows unlimited numbers of applications and end-users. Freeance 4.2 is compatible with ESRI ArcIMS 9.2 and earlier versions. www.Freeance.com

About TDC Group Inc.

TDC Group is a GIS software development company located in Dayton, Ohio, serving customers since 1989 throughout the United States.

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