

GPS Field Surveys

Introduction

GPS field surveys provide critically important information for the planning, roll-out and maintenance of basic infrastructure and services such as health facilities, education facilities, roads, electricity, water, sanitation and communication. Location Based Services (LBS) applications require detailed accurate base maps and associated attribute information. The required attribute information is usually obtained through GPS field surveys.

Our track record

Since GPS technology became commercially available GeoSpace has been a leading GPS field survey solution provider. We have gained extensive experience from a wide range of projects. Some of our more significant achievements over the last 20+ years include:

- South Africa: ESKOM power line surveys and audits
- Lesotho: Electricity Corporation meter survey and audit
- South Africa: ESKOM HELP database survey on community infrastructure and services
- Namibia: National Planning Commission NAMPLAN Survey (2001)
- Stats SA: 1997 Project Eagle Survey, 2001 EA Demarcation Survey, 2005-2007 Dwelling Frame Pilot and Dwelling Frame Survey
- South Africa: Post Office Address Survey
- South Africa: Bushbuckridge Local Municipality Address and Population Survey

Our approach

Tailor-made applications: We recognise the fact that different clients have different data needs and requirements. Hence we develop tailor-made data capturing applications that meet the exact requirements and specifications of our clients. We use GPS together with GIS and field computers to provide a seamless flow of data from the field to the office. This eliminates office data capturing errors and it improves field data collection through more elegant and precise data capturing techniques. We have dedicated GPS field teams but

we also provide training and technical support in cases where clients prefer to use their own field teams.

Community involvement: The success of all fieldwork exercises is dependent on the co-operation of local communities. This involves obtaining support for a project from the traditional leaders. At GeoSpace we recruit people from within the communities where we work to assist our dedicated workforce with fieldwork. This results in community involvement and excellent co-operation because the community benefits directly from the survey. The quality of the survey is usually also better because the local recruits obviously have valuable local knowledge. Furthermore this approach also eliminates the usual communication difficulties. Depending on the project we also promote the idea of the local community taking ownership of the data and the maintenance thereof (after the survey). Where relevant and possible we provide them with the tools and knowledge to use and maintain the data.

Uncompromised quality

At GeoSpace, we strive to incorporate different levels of base map and attribute information in the data capturing exercise. We often do aerial photography of the area of interest. This helps us to plan and manage the data collection more efficiently. It also enables us to do proper quality control ensuring high standards of data quality and integrity. Our GPS fieldwork team consists of skilled GPS operators supervised by registered land surveyors. Our dedicated field teams are usually also complemented by local fieldworkers recruited from within the communities that we work. This contributes to the quality of the data collected because of the resultant better communication and community co-operation.

Conclusion

We have been delivering large scale GPS survey projects for more than two decades. We are proud of our achievements and invite you to discuss your GPS field survey needs with us.

For more information on GeoSpace's GPS Field Survey solutions please contact Hennie Loots.



Over two decades of success in more than 15 countries

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