Case Study

City of Tulsa

Oklahoma, USA

Key Facts

Industry: Government

Problem: Enabling the regular exchange of data from a variety of GIS/CAD applications

Solutions: FME®

Results: Improved data sharing results in greater collaboration and significant cost/time savings

The Organization

At the heart of "Green Country" is Tulsa, the second largest city in Oklahoma, USA. As a committed leader that strives to keep Tulsa an ever-increasing desirable community in which to live, work, and play, the City of Tulsa Public Works Department works to provide exceptional quality water, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, and transportation services to the citizens of Tulsa. The Engineering Design group designs for the construction and the maintenance of citywide systems to be the best-managed municipal government.

The Challenge

In a municipal region the size of Tulsa, a wide variety of GIS/CAD applications are available for data processing and management. As a result, applications are often selected based on the level of usefulness to the end-user. However, the Engineering Design group continually aims to give consultants and other departments of the City the freedom to choose which GIS/CAD applications they will use. The philosophy that the City's Engineering group adopted, and continues to follow, is the challenge: "If you give us your data, we can use it" – regardless of the file type or software solution. As such, the City of Tulsa (the City) needs to regularly exchange data from one system or format to another.

The Solution

By using Safe Software's FME® Oracle Edition, the City has maintained its general philosophy of open systems and data translation. FME became central to the success of maintaining this approach, primarily due to its success in solving interoperability issues between a large number of systems and format types.

FME was the solution that would work well with a number of file types, including MicroStation v7 and v8, many flavors of AutoCAD, ArcView Shapefiles, E00, ArcInfo Coverages, MapInfo TAB and MIF, Oracle Object Data, GeoMedia Access Warehouses, TIGER data, and various Civil Design formats.

The Engineering Design group stored created data in the Oracle Spatial Object format. From this format, FME could translate to any of the supported file formats and, at the same time, transform to a different coordinate system/projection.

Benefits

Since the City started using FME for translation of many different formats for distribution to its users:

- Data sharing and distribution have exponentially increased for the City's end-users;
- Many doors have been opened for project collaboration; and,
- Consulting costs and work hours spent massaging data have been reduced, resulting in time and cost savings for everyone.

What They're Saying

"FME's functionality and usefulness has become contagious. Now that everyone has seen first-hand what it can do, we have to buy more seats. But that's OK. Because it is easy to use, giving access to more people has reduced how much time we spend on data translations. It's almost too good."

Learn More

To find out how FME can help address your data interoperability challenge, or to download a free evaluation copy of FME, visit **www.safe.com.**

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