

Josh Lieberman Receives OGC Award

At the September meeting of the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) in Boulder, Colorado (USA), Josh Lieberman received the OGC's twelveth annual Kenneth D. Gardels Award. This Award, a gold medallion, is awarded to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to advancing OGC's vision of geospatial information fully integrated into the world's information systems.

Josh Lieberman is a senior manager in the Geospatial Analytics team within the Federal Analytic and Forensic Technology group of Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP. He first became active in OGC Technical Committee and Interoperability Program activities more than a decade ago and he has been a participant as well as an IP architect in numerous OGC pilot projects, interoperability experiments and testbeds. He has served most recently as an architect in the GEOSS (Global Earth Observation System of Systems) Architecture Implementation Pilot (AIP).

As a founder and co-chair of the OGC Geosemantics Domain Working Group (DWG), Josh has worked effectively to promote the importance of geospatial semantics within the OGC membership as well as throughout the larger Semantic Web Community. As a result of his leadership, this working group has made a significant contribution to the creation of a framework for practical geosemantic applications in the context of OGC Web services and other specifications. Josh also currently co-chairs the Technical Committee REST Subcommittee, and was elected by the membership to serve on the OGC Architecture Board.

The Gardels Award is given annually in memory of Kenneth Gardels, a founding director of OGC and OGC's former director of academic programmes. Mr. Gardels coined the term "Open GIS," and devoted his life to the humane and democratic uses of geographic information systems. He died in 1999.