New Version of ArcGIS Explorer

ESRI's free application for accessing online content and capabilities has been updated with new data support, increased performance, and better map display. ArcGIS Explorer 480, which has become available for download, enhances your ability to use the power of geoprocessing and geographic information system (GIS) technology to explore and analyse your world.

ArcGIS Explorer is a free, lightweight, downloadable application that you can use to access and fuse local data and imagery with a variety of 2D and 3D mapping services as well as geoprocessing services for spatial analysis.

The new version of ArcGIS Explorer offers

- New content-ArcGIS Explorer now supports connections to enterprise geodatabases and Geographically Encoded Objects for RSS feeds (GeoRSS) and allows you to import GPS eXchange Format (GPX) format data. ArcGIS Explorer default maps and layers have been updated including enhanced topographic map services and updated streets, boundaries, and places. ArcGIS Explorer also offers improved KML/KMZ support.

- More sharing-ArcGIS Explorer now provides direct e-mail capabilities, allowing users to easily share their maps, layers, and results with others.

- Improved presentation-ArcGIS Explorer offers more ways to control user interface elements such as auto-zoom to results and automatic display of saved or e-mailed pop-up windows. Also, ArcGIS Explorer can now be embedded in a Web page.

- Better dashboarding-Additions to dashboarding capabilities include a new HTML-driven Quick Content task and a streamlined home server setup.

- Increased performance-ArcGIS Explorer provides increased display performance for all layer types. Navigation speed has also been improved.

- More options for map display-ArcGIS Explorer 480 adds support for graticules and reference grids (U.S. National Grid [USNG], Military Grid Reference System [MGRS]). It also offers the ability to set raster background transparency, new options for point symbols and symbol size, improved pop-up window capabilities, and easier access to feature attributes.

- Developer support-ArcGIS Explorer Software Developer Kit (SDK) now supports Visual Studio 2008 and includes an updated object model to support new features and enhancements.

- Resource Center-New tasks, layers, and results are also available from the updated ArcGIS Explorer Resource Center. For example, you can download the Add Photo task directly from the Resource Center to add geotagged photos to ArcGIS Explorer.

- Platform support-ArcGIS Explorer now runs on Windows Vista, Service Pack 1, on specific graphics card/driver configurations.