

US National Grid (USNG) Implementation Discussion Points

Requirement. Insitute a policy that adopts the U.S. National Grid standard as an officially recognized way to describe locations. Immediate implications from the policy decision:

1. Integrate USNG into E9-1-1, Emergency Operations Centers, GIS technologies, and downstream public safety operations.
2. Encourage use by local government and public utilities.
3. Initiate outreach to GIS and commercial mapping communities.
4. Educate business community regarding the efficiencies to be gained with respect to commerce.

Four Pillars of USNG Implementation

1. **Education.** An education policy must be both developed and implemented which explains the benefits of the system and the *how to* for using it.
 - Get out the word through all forms of media. Public affairs and media for general public education. Enlist GPS vendors.
 - Web based training (e.g., target first responders and general public)
 - Integrate USNG into school curricula (e.g., Geoscience courses - ensure numerous practical applications are included in the curriculum).
 - University centers for information and to support users.
2. **USNG Gridded Maps.** Prepare appropriately “gridded” hardcopy and digital maps for end-users.
 - Implement on state/local government GIS web sites (e.g., The National Map, DC GIS, PALANTERRA).
 - Link downloadable gridded GeoPDF maps from various web sites (e.g., state, local, Miss Utility) to provide information such as Emergency Shelter Maps, State Visitor Highway Maps.
 - Display with library and other institutional wall maps.
 - Encourage commercial hardcopy map and map/imagery web site adoption. (Competition).
 - Place appropriately gridded street atlases in public safety and utility company vehicles either as the primary street map or as the back up to the digital display system.
3. **Geo-Address availability for both addresses and Points of Interest (POI)**
 - Integrate into map, atlas, and stand-alone indexes.
 - Use on business cards, letterhead, phone directories, and other address opportunities.
 - Adopt web applications for address databases similar to Washington, DC GIS.
<dcgis.dc.gov/mar_client_sample/>
4. **Location Identification Services.** Investigate utility of instituting the provisions of the Threshold Automobile GPS Initiative (TAGI).