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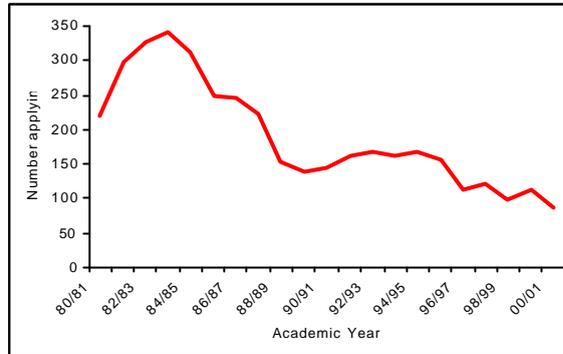
Introduction

- geomatics.org.uk
 - Motivation
 - An industry wide portal website
 - Much more than just a website
 - Teaching resources
 - Resource packs
 - Web development
 - Promotion
 - Is it working?
 - The future
 - Acknowledgements
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Motivation

- The reason is clear...
 - Annual UCAS applications to geomatics at Newcastle

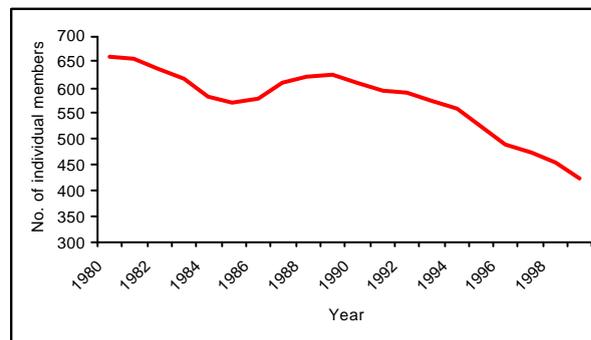


- Member of staff employed by the University of Newcastle from October 2001 in attempt to raise profile

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Further evidence

- Not just a problem for the education sector!
 - Membership of a geomatics related society

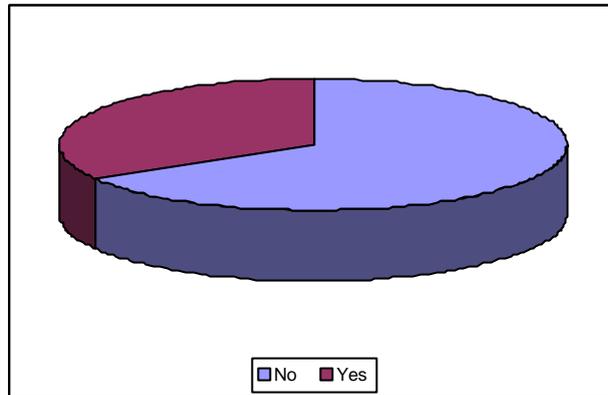


- Mergers are not a sustainable solution...

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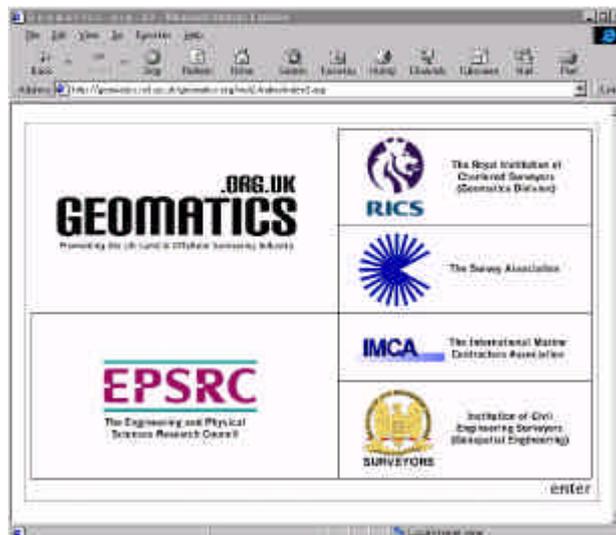
Why?

- We asked 100 geography teachers
 - Have you ever heard of geomatics?



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An industry-wide portal website



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Much more than just a website

- Initially setup by RICS Geomatics with funds from the RICS Educational Trust
- Newcastle initiative supported by offshore industry
- EPSRC Public Awareness Programme
 - Promoting aspects of contemporary geomatics science, engineering and technology in schools and colleges
- Award of £34k for 21 month project starting April 2002
 - A further £34k from the profession and industry
 - A further untold amount of "in kind" industrial support
 - Used to:
 - develop geomatics teaching resources
 - provide geomatics equipment resource packs
 - develop a website
 - promote geomatics



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Teaching resources

- Developed a case study of ongoing research
 - Coastal erosion monitoring
 - Cross disciplinary
 - Geography, mathematics, physics and ICT
- Developed further teaching resources
- Resources must be ready to pick up and use
 - Developed with an educational advisor and teachers
- First resource completed 18 months ago
 - "Paper GIS" task of locating a new supermarket



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Teaching resources



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Resource packs

- To further enhance teaching, teachers can loan specialist equipment, data and software
 - Equipment is easy to use and robust
 - Garmin handheld GPS receivers
 - Leica Geosystems engineering levels
 - Ordnance Survey mapping
 - Software and data owned by Newcastle (i.e. our copyright)
 - Teaching resources
 - Hardcopy
 - CD
 - Whatever else we can provide
 - e.g. Class sets of the BNSC remote sensing CDs
 - Aerial photography
 - Pictures
 - Text



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Resource packs



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Web development

- Project managed through a central website
 - Restrictions with regards web access in schools
 - Public access area incorporates:
 - Some teaching resources
 - Profiles and case studies
 - Discussion forum and links
 - Upcoming news
 - Members area
 - Two areas for:
 - Teachers
 - Supporters
 - Provides:
 - Further teaching resources / resource pack registration
 - Help, support and suggestions
 - Upcoming news



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Web development



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Promotion

- Of course it is all useless without telling people
 - Articles and advertising space in OS Mapping News
 - Attendance at educational conferences and exhibitions
 - INSET and PGCE training days across the country
 - Advertising on high profile educational websites
- Press releases
 - General
 - National Grid for Learning (www.ngfl.gov.uk)
 - Profession specific
 - Geomatics World
 - Supporters report



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Promotion



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Some thoughts from the EPSRC referees

- Anonymous comments...
 - “This is an outstanding idea”
 - “It should stimulate students and teachers to understand the range of interesting science associated with geomatics”
 - “It is one of the most thoroughly thought though applications seen by the referee in four years of the PPA awards”
 - “Excellent marketing strategy”
 - “The involvement of industry and the RICS to provide equipment and data is an important ingredient. These organisations have an interest in ensuring the success of the project”



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Is it working?

- Some practical examples of the kit in action:
 - Chase Terrace High School, Staffordshire
 - Creation of a ski slope GIS during annual fieldtrip to Les Gets in the French Alps
 - Gosforth High School, Newcastle
 - Sand dune profiles
 - Ardrossan Academy, Glasgow
 - Mapping bus routes to school by GPS
 - Greenford High School, Middlesex
 - River surveys
 - Scitech, Manchester
 - Mapping the school playground



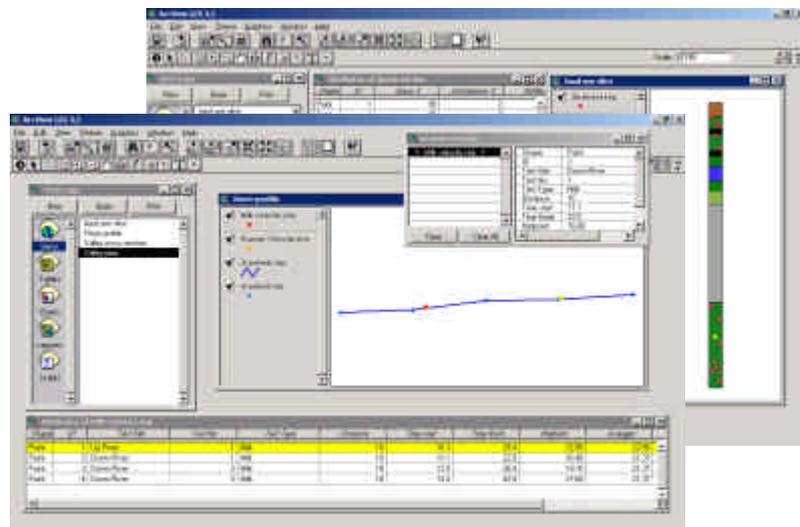
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Ski slope GIS



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Ski slope GIS



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Sand dune profiles



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Sand dune profiles



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Mapping bus routes to school



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River surveys



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Mapping the school playground



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Some thoughts from the Teachers

On borrowing equipment:

- “The students benefited greatly from this experience”
- “(We had) the best day’s fieldwork of the course. The students thoroughly enjoyed it, produced some good results and learnt a lot”
- “The pupils were amazed that we could borrow equipment that costly and as a result took much more care over them. One pupil is now thinking about a career in GIS!”

On INSET days:

- “A very enjoyable day with never a dull moment!”
- “Excellent hands-on training, very well organised. What a remarkably valuable service.”
- “Really useful and very enjoyable, head and shoulders above similar courses.”



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The future

- We still need input in the form of:
 - Links to good quality web sites
 - Quality images and articles
 - People profiles, project case studies, careers information
 - Learning and teaching materials
 - Network of “Points of Contact”, school visits
 - Equipment donations, funding
- Project life remaining: 4 months
 - Full-time staff now moved on
- New EPSRC bid submitted in September 2003
 - In collaboration with RICS, OS, TSA and Leica



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Thank you for your support

- Supporters (apologies to any missed):



Contact details

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