Opening Session
8:00 am to 9:00 am
Florida Ballroom

Michael Jones
Chief Technologist
Google Earth, Google Maps, and Google
   Local Search

The Neighborhood Geospatial Agency

Innovation often arrives from unexpected directions, creating important opportunities for those who embrace change. This message is evidenced in the popularity of Google Earth among the newest class of geospatial analysts — everyday people in all walks of life. With a user base placing Google Earth within the ten most populous nations of the world, remote sensing and geospatial investigation have become household concepts. This mass appeal raises new questions in national security, privacy, business, and governance. Mr. Jones will address these topics and suggest ways that these innovations can best be used to serve the world.

Michael Jones is the Chief Technologist of Google's Earth, Maps, and Local Search efforts. He was formerly the CTO of Keyhole Corporation, CEO of Intrinsic Graphics, the Director of Advanced Graphics at Silicon Graphics, and a developer of scientific and interactive computer graphics software for many years. He is an avid traveller and an amateur photographer with a home-built 4 gigapixel camera made with parts from the U2/SR71 optical bay.

2008 ISPRS Congress
Prof. Chen Jun, ISPRS Congress Director will give a brief look at the planning for the 2008 ISPRS Congress to be held in Beijing, China.

ASPRS Awards
SAIC/Estes Memorial Teaching Award
Marvin Bauer

Robert N. Colwell Memorial Fellowship Award
Michael Falkowski

BAE Systems Award
Awardee name not available at press time

John C. Curlander
General Manager
Microsoft Boulder

The Virtual World Online — Mapping as a Web Service

The geospatial industry has rapidly found itself at the heart of an information revolution that is changing the way individuals, businesses and governments are gathering information about the world. The emergence of web-based mapping services—featuring high-resolution imagery and photorealistic, navigable 3D cities—is allowing individuals and organizations to visualize critical data relevant to their needs within the context of location. Through such services, users with no previous GIS experience, can now rapidly access geospatial data over the internet, gaining unprecedented insight into environments and situations. This talk will address this emerging trend and discuss the pros and cons of such a service with specific examples and demonstrations using Microsoft's Virtual Earth web service.

Dr. John C. Curlander is internationally recognized for his work in synthetic aperture radar (SAR) systems and data processing. His research efforts have led to many of the operational techniques currently used in today's SAR processors.

From 1980 to 1992, Curlander worked at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, where he became responsible for all SAR ground system activities. At JPL, Dr. Curlander directed the implementation of NASA's SAR ground data systems and led the systems engineering activities on a number of the spaceborne SAR programs.

In 1992, Curlander accepted the position of President and CEO of Vexcel Corporation in Boulder, Colorado. Since the May 2006 acquisition of Vexcel by Microsoft, Curlander has served as General Manager of what is now known as Microsoft Boulder. In this role, Curlander oversees the business unit to ensure best execution of the vision that Microsoft has for the group's role in the success of Virtual Earth and the continued success of current Vexcel business activities.

Exhibit Hall
10:00 am to 7:00 pm
Grand Ballroom & Foyer