ASPRS Announces Certification of the First GIS/LIS Technologist

Justin Carasick is the first GIS/LIS Technologist to complete the requirements for certification under the recently introduced American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) certification program for technologists. Carasick specializes in GIS mapping, training, and programming. He is an ESRI authorized ArcGIS trainer and a Navy contractor. He performs master plan files, sets up maps for digitizing, topological overlays, conversion of various maps and data into a GIS, and data attribution. He has worked with NAVAC Southern Command – Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, South Carolina, and Pensacola Naval Air Station. He has also assisted numerous county appraisers’ offices in Florida as a GIS Analyst and Programmer. Carasick has provided GIS training for the Gainesville, Florida Police, Fire & Rescue and Public Works Departments. He holds a BA in Geography from the University of Florida.

In October, 2003, ASPRS announced final approval of the new ASPRS certification program for technologists — specifically geared to drafting technicians, inspectors, photographers, laboratory technicians, stereoscopic instrument or plotter operators, computations technicians, field survey assistants, interpretation technicians, image analysts, data processors, and digitizers. This certification was instituted to give those working at the technologist level an opportunity to be recognized by ASPRS for their respective contributions.

The technologist level is defined as work that is primarily of a technical nature, often demanding a high degree of skill, done under the direction of a professional who is responsible for its outcome. Such work is pre-professional when performed by a professional trainee who, having completed courses of specialized intellectual instruction and study, is seeking to attain professional status.

The following categories of ASPRS technologist certification are now being offered:

**Certified Photogrammetric Technologist (ASPRS)**
A technician who performs or supervises technical photogrammetric tasks to extract spatial data from photographic or digital imagery.

**Certified Remote Sensing Technologist (ASPRS)**
A technician who performs or supervises tasks to interpret, manipulate, extract, process and convert remotely sensed data from photographic or digital imagery.

**Certified GIS/LIS Technologist (ASPRS)**
A technician who integrates a variety of spatial data sets into a GIS format designed for graphic output or analysis.

For more information on the ASPRS certification program, contact certification@asprs.org or visit the ASPRS web site:

**Certification, general information**

**Certification Guidelines**

**Application for Certified Technologist**
In May 2004, the ASPRS Board of Directors approved the adoption of the “ASPRS Lidar Guidelines – Vertical Accuracy Reporting for Lidar Data V1.0.” Created by the ASPRS Lidar Committee’s Working Group on lidar guidelines and standards, this is the first in a series of guidelines to be published by ASPRS covering the emerging technology of lidar and its use in the mapping sciences.

As part of the Lidar Committee’s Working Group efforts, the ASPRS guidelines were harmonized with the relevant sections of the Guidelines for Digital Elevation Data (Version 1.0) released by the National Digital Elevation Program (NDEP).

The following is a letter ASPRS President Dr. Russell G. Congalton received from NDEP Steering Committee Chairperson Richard Pearsall commending ASPRS on those Guidelines.

The work on these Guidelines by members of ASPRS is a great example of how the Society contributes to the field of geospatial information as a whole.