

GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGIES BEYOND INFORMATION AGE

Dr Thilantha Lakmal Dammalage

Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Geomatics, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka,
Belihuloya, 70140, Sri Lanka

Geospatial technology is a term used to describe the range of modern tools contributing to the geographic mapping and analysis of the Earth and human societies. At present, the advancement of geospatial technology is increasing at a mind-blowing pace by creating innovative opportunities in many fields. Traditionally, Governmental agencies, private corporations and consulting firms have been using the Geospatial technology as geographic information systems (GIS), the global positioning system (GPS), satellite-based and airborne remote sensing and computer simulations to acquire, manipulate and store geographic information for analysis and decision-making. However, the spread of geospatial technologies to the general public, and the geo-enabling of everything offer application benefits beyond Information age. We are

approaching a new era of living, production, and work, where geospatial location becomes an integral dimension of any data, allowing connected information and decisions to be viewed through a hand held smart devise. Bolstered by innovative developments and growing user awareness of its potential, geospatial technology has become an essential element of major contemporary technology developments, notably including the Internet of Things, Big Data, Health, Augmented Reality, and Smart Cities. This talk will summarize the capabilities, challenges and state of the art applications of key developments in geospatial technologies that have allowed more widespread use of digital geographic information by the professionals and general public.