



Landscan

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A news update for Land Information New Zealand clients

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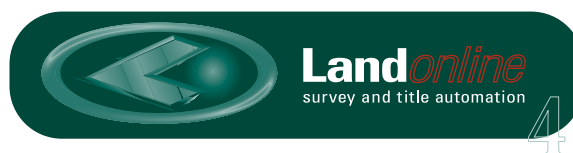
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CONTINENTAL SHELF PROJECT FORGES ON

One of this country's most exciting mapping projects for decades has been proceeding apace over recent months. But New Zealanders could be forgiven for not having noticed – all of the action has been taking place well over the horizon and several kilometres below the ocean surface.

At a glance

- The continental shelf mapping project is still in its data collection phase.
- The French hydrographic survey vessel **L'Atalante** was commissioned earlier this year for multi-beam survey work on the Resolution Ridge.
- The NIWA vessel **Tangaroa** has also been carrying out low fold seismic and bathymetry work in southern and western zones, and collecting geological samples from undersea mountains.
- Deep seismic survey work is about to go out to tender and should be completed by March 2001.

The \$44 million project to map New Zealand's continental shelf is being managed by Land Information New Zealand. The completed map will be used to support New Zealand's continental shelf submission to the United Nations – due for tabling in 2006.

Project leader Jerome Sheppard says the work is charting literally unknown territory. Even the weather conditions are a bit

of an unknown quantity for survey vessels working in the open ocean outside usual shipping lanes.

The project falls into three broad phases: data collection, data analysis and preparation of New Zealand's submission to the United Nations.

French vessel commissioned

Jerome says the project is still in the data collection phase, but that work is proceeding well. Earlier this year the French hydrographic survey vessel **L'Atalante** was commissioned as a "vessel of opportunity" as it returned from some work being done for the Australian government around Macquarie Island, which is located below Stewart Island.

"Having **L'Atalante** available was really a Godsend," Jerome says. "Because the vessel was already in the area we saved the usual mobilisation costs. Additionally the vessel and crew were ideally suited to the type of surveying we required."

L'Atalante carried out a multi-beam survey on the Resolution Ridge in water depths of anything up to 5,500 metres. Jerome says the vessel then carried out a few "twists and turns" on the homeward journey to its base in Noumea, to collect some key additional survey data en route.

"We had our own client representatives on board during the surveys to ensure the survey was carried out to the required

standard. Because deep water multi-beam surveying is specialised and uses relatively new technology we had to 'borrow' an expert from the Canadian Hydrographic Service to act as one of our client reps."

Tangaroa kept busy

The NIWA vessel **Tangaroa** has also been kept busy on survey work in two areas, on the edge of the Campbell Plateau and the Lord Howe Rise/Gilbert Seamount area, west of New Zealand. Jerome says the vessel has been used for low fold seismic/bathymetry work and dredging rock samples from various sites on the ocean floor.

"These rock samples are used to help validate the connection of areas being sampled with the main geological structure of the New Zealand continental shelf," he says.

The NIWA crew struck some rough weather, but managed to complete its work. "All we can do is avoid the autumn and spring equinoxes when the weather is usually less favourable. Beyond that the weather is a bit of a lottery," says Jerome.

Deep seismic surveys due for tender

The next step in the data collection phase is putting the deep seismic survey work out to tender. The tender documents are due to go out by the end of June and the work completed by March next year.

Jerome says most interest is likely to come from oil exploration companies based in Singapore or Western Australia. "The work will be different from what even these specialists are used to. We're interested in data up to 30 kilometres below the seabed. Usually they're only targeting a few kilometres below the ocean floor for the oil industry."



The French hydrographic survey vessel **L'Atalante** was ideally suited to surveying requirements of the continental shelf project.

Compared with the surveys done so far, the deep seismic vessels are very expensive to run. It can cost up to \$1.5 million just to get a vessel mobilised and in position before they fire the first shot from the big seismic air-guns used to map the structures of the deep ocean floor.

Jerome says the tender process will include a requirement for an environmental impact report on the proposed work.

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SUPPLIER APPOINTED FOR PAPER RECORD



Recall's Wellington document storage facility.



Gillian Hendren

At a glance

- Records management company Recall has been awarded the contract to manage and store LINZ core paper records from regional offices.
- Their work will begin as imaging records for **Landonline** is completed.
- A specialist is now being hired to assist with the indexing of LINZ core paper records.

Records management company Recall has been appointed as supplier for the storage and management of Land Information New Zealand's regional office core paper records. The Auckland-based company has facilities in Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington and Christchurch.

Recall meets LINZ document storage and management standards, which are aligned with National Archive standards.

A ministerial decision still has to be made about the future management of paper records kept at branch offices after these offices close.

Project Manager CPR Implementation, Gillian Hendren, says timing of the core paper records project is linked closely with **Landonline**. "Once imaging of records for **Landonline** is complete, our suppliers will move the imaged title and survey records to storage," she explains.

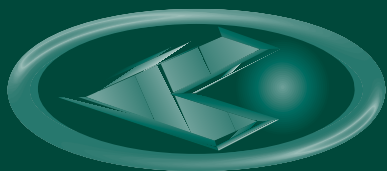
"Other paper records – not imaged for **Landonline** – will be kept on or off site depending on the level of usage and access requirements."

The next big task for the core paper records team is the indexing of the information in a way that will enable easy access to the records. Although considerable work has already been done to classify the types and location of paper documents (field books, mortgage documents etc) held by LINZ, the indexing will look deeper.

"We are in the process of hiring a specialist to help us classify and index the information," Gillian says. "The specialist will be working with LINZ staff experienced in dealing with customer enquiries. This will ensure the categories and keywords we use will be appropriate for the job."

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Landonline
survey and title automation

The Landonline conversion programme is picking up speed, as contractor EDS tackles the enormous task of converting almost seven million paper records to digital format.

Conversion project picking up speed

There are already more than 100 people working on the titles conversion project, with more joining all the time. Ultimately, there will be more than 200 people employed at EDS's Upper Hutt factory on the titles and survey conversion projects once they reach full speed. EDS will convert three million titles and two million instruments during the project.

Preparations for conversion have been very challenging for both LINZ and EDS. EDS has had to develop a custom-built computer system to store the converted data so that it can be loaded into **Landonline**. This application, the Data Entry for Land Titles Application (DELTA), has mirrored the way **Landonline** operates. After some initial technical hurdles, EDS is producing priority titles for processing in Dunedin, and is catching up with the backlog of other titles from the scanning operation in Dunedin.

EDS Conversion Manager, Dave Spaziani, says it has been a big task getting people with no titles experience to the point where they can interpret titles accurately to enter them into the database.

"We give new data entry operators two weeks training in titles interpretation and how to use DELTA, before we either buddy them up with an experienced operator or start them practising on titles to get used to the production environment."

"We grade the titles on how complex they are and start people off on the easy ones. When they have the hang of them, we move them onto more difficult work."

"We emphasise the responsibility we have and ask our people to take the same care they would expect if it was their title being converted."

Data entry is a two-step process. First, a data entry operator captures the data off a title using a split screen, which shows the image at the top, with the panels that have to be filled in at the bottom. Another data entry operator repeats this process, and DELTA compares the two versions. If it doesn't find any variations, the title is sent directly to a LINZ quality assurance (QA) person, who takes a 20% sample and compares the digital version of the title with the image of the original. However, if the system finds any variations between the two, the title will be corrected, normally by an EDS quality control (QC) person, before it passes onto QA for the final check.

Rick Quirk, who heads the LINZ QA team, says they are checking every title where a variation has been picked up.

"At this stage, we're still doing 100% QA on the titles that have been corrected. We're being quite careful, because we want to make sure that it is correct. EDS are still coming to grips with conversion, and we want to make sure that every title that goes through is correct."

"It's early days yet and we won't drop this level of checking until the rejection rate goes down. It's dropped a lot and we are checking 20% of the titles that passed the first check. Eventually, we'll be checking only 20% of all titles, but we have a way to go until then."

The approach at this stage is 'get it right now and save problems later on'. However, LINZ's attention to quality has resulted in EDS's throughput being less than it originally planned. EDS has increased its conversion rate and is now likely to finish the Dunedin office by late September.

Survey conversion pilot

EDS is also responsible for the survey conversion project, although it has sub-contracted much of the work to Terralink. During this project, the bearings and distances of the boundaries of 1.4 million parcels (approximately 75% of all surveyed parcels) will be captured into **Landonline**.

The Digital Cadastral Database (DCDB) is being used for the initial population of the automated survey and title system. The boundary dimensions and topology (relationships) will be entered from plans and put through a quality assurance process to check that they are correctly captured.

This will generate survey-accurate digital cadastre co-ordinates for parcel boundaries for defined urban, peri-urban and intensive rural areas throughout New Zealand.

EDS has run an extensive pilot for this project in Upper Hutt, capturing 4,000 parcels from the Otago land district. This has been a difficult exercise for EDS, particularly getting its capture application working properly. However, with the help of several LINZ experts, the conversion project proper is due to start in early June.



LINZ survey experts Lindsay Skinner and Anselm Haanen.

New searching fees for Landonline

Landonline introduced several new search products to those already available from a LINZ office. These are products that have been created during the conversion project, and include such things as electronic titles generated from the data stored in **Landonline**, and images of titles and plans that have been scanned.

Regulations that took effect in June allow LINZ to charge for these new products created by **Landonline**. At this stage they only apply in the Dunedin land district, but will apply throughout the country as **Landonline** is rolled out nationally.

The new regulations have made many other changes to the Land Transfer Regulations 1966 as a result of **Landonline** including changes to forms, the paper used for forms, the presentation of documents and credit arrangements for payment of fees. Details are available in the July edition of *Torrens Talk* and on the **Landonline** web site: www.linz.govt.nz/services/landonline/fact_sheets/.

NOTE: Lodgement fees have not changed under the new regulations.

Landonline title search fees

Landonline title search products	Description	Fee
A search copy of a computer register, showing current information	Current title data, such as current owners and interests (does not include title plan)	\$5
A search copy of a computer register, showing current and historical information	Current title data, plus historical title data (eg. owners and discharged interests recorded since title was converted) and image of original scanned title where available	\$6
Guaranteed search note	Current title data, title plan/diagram, pending transaction, in accordance with section 172A of the Land Transfer Act 1952	\$14
Title search	A search copy of a computer register showing current information plus title plan/diagram	\$7
A search copy of a title plan or diagram	Image of title plan or title diagram	\$8 per print (in LINZ office) \$4 per 'view' (copy of image sent by fax or email to on-line user)
A search copy of an instrument	Image of an instrument	\$2
A search copy of a supporting document	Image of supporting document	\$2
Pending transaction and/or pending instrument	Pending transaction data (similar to Cat 1 Land Titles Journal Search)	No fee

Landonline survey search fees

Landonline search product	Description	Fee
Spatial view	Print of spatial view in a LINZ office (similar to SDI print)	\$10 for A3 or A4 print
Searching spatial survey data on-line	Time-based charge for customer using Landonline in their office	\$2 per 5 minutes
Survey plan print	Image of survey plan printed in LINZ office (flat charge for plan, regardless of number of sheets)	\$8 per printed set
Survey plan view	Emailed or faxed copy of plan image (flat charge for plan, regardless of number of sheets)	\$4 per 'view'
Other	Includes traverse sheets, field notes, survey reports. Also available by email or fax	\$3 for first page, 20c per additional page (all A4)

HIGH COUNTRY LEASE WORK MOVES SOUTH

The LINZ Crown Property Management team in Christchurch has taken over responsibility for high country leases.

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At a glance

- There has been a change in the way LINZ administers Crown Pastoral Land.
- Day-to-day management of pastoral leases and tenure review will be carried out through the Crown Property Management team in Christchurch.
- The Commissioner of Crown Lands will be responsible for policy and standards.

The five-member team, led by Murray Mackenzie, will manage tenure reviews for Crown Pastoral Leases under the Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998. Reviews for 86 leases are currently in their early stages, and this process will be sped up by the issue of additional contracts.

Tenure reviews often result in part of the property being passed over to the Conservation Estate, with the land that can be sustainably farmed being freeholded to the lessee.

In addition to the 86 reviews under the Crown Pastoral Land Act a number had been started under the Land Act 1948, which predates the Crown Pastoral Land Act. These are now in the final stages of implementation and the only work remaining is the completion of surveying of the final reviews and land conveyancing. A Dunedin law firm has been contracted to complete the outstanding reviews.

The LINZ Crown Property Management team will retain its decision-making role for the statutory elements of pastoral



Crown Property Management team members Mike Todd and Bob Lysaght on the job in Canterbury.

land. These cover things like lease renewals, rent reviews, discretionary action consents and resource consents. This day-to-day management of Crown pastoral land is also contracted out by LINZ, and a two-year contract for this work begins on 30 June 2000.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands, Dave Gullen, through the Office of the Chief Crown Property Officer will continue to be responsible for developing policy, standards and specifications for land held under the Land Act 1948 and Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998. The Crown Pastoral Lands Standards can be found at www.linz.govt.nz under the Publications button.

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BRIDGE DEMOLITION MOVES CLOSER

Demolition of the derelict Riverton rail bridge in Southland has moved a little closer with the appointment of a project manager for the task: Hamilton-based Opus International Consultants Ltd.

Opus is now seeking a contractor to manage the demolition, with an expectation that tenders will be let by the end of July. Because of the complex nature of the job – the structure being part causeway, part wooden truss rail bridge and spanning a tidal river estuary – it is likely that different aspects of the job will be contracted to specialist subcontractors.

LINZ has overall responsibility for the removal of the bridge on behalf of the Crown and is managing the task through its Crown Property Management team in Hamilton.



Demolition of the Riverton Bridge will pose some logistical challenges.

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KEY ROLE FOR LINZ IN METADATA PROJECT

“E” is appended to many words these days and they all mean roughly the same thing.

At a glance

- The government has established an e-government unit to co-ordinate and lead an over-arching effort to implement the government’s e-government strategy.
- A government Metadata project is designed to enhance access to government information and services and increase efficiency.
- The project is being managed within LINZ.
- Metadata is a way of indexing or cataloguing electronic information and making it easier to find.
- New Zealand is already behind the efforts of some other governments in this field.
- It offers major benefits to information users and government agencies.

In the case of e-government, it’s the application of information technology to:

- delivery of services
- access to information
- communication and participation
- the public service being able to work more effectively and efficiently.

While e-government has been growing at an explosive rate in recent years, the growth has not been managed in any co-ordinated way. That’s set to change. The government has announced the establishment of an e-government

unit within the State Services Commission. The unit will co-ordinate and lead an over-arching effort to implement the government’s e-government strategy.

Land Information New Zealand is no stranger to e-government and has been practising it since long before the term was coined. The Digital Cadastral Database and Digital Topographic Database, for example, stretch back to the late 1980s. And today, the **Landonline** system to digitise access to survey and title information is at the leading edge of e-government’s delivery of services.

It is perhaps appropriate then, that LINZ should lead the set-up of what will be a major cornerstone of the government’s e-government strategy. It involves more additions to our e-lexicon: The Government Information Discovery Enhancement (GIDE) Metadata project.

This government-wide project is being managed within LINZ by Trudy Rankin.

So what, exactly, is metadata and why do we need it? A simple analogy, says Trudy, is the product information contained on a box of cereal or pill bottle.

“The label, or metadata, describes the contents and helps the buyer decide whether or not they want it,” she says.

Looking at metadata in terms of information, Trudy says it is a brief description of the information itself, making it easier to catalogue and find. “It can describe the what, when, where, who and how of information – for example, who created it, where it was collected, and who maintains

it. Metadata also includes information about the quality and fitness for use of data.”

It works on various levels. Discovery level metadata allows a user to find the information they’re seeking. Record-keeping metadata on the other hand functions at a more specific level. It helps to identify, authenticate, describe and manage records.

The GIDE Metadata project will create a catalogue, or index to government-held information and services using discovery level metadata. While allowing multiple metadata standards, information entered through the GIDE system will have a higher chance of being discovered during internet searches. The system will also accommodate a range of information types.

Some government websites already use metadata of a sort by providing a series of gateways within the site to help guide users to what they’re looking for without being distracted by the huge candystore of information many now have available.

The growing mountain of electronic information in government websites is nonetheless making it harder for search engines to cope, Trudy says. Duplication and the lack of overall co-ordination between government information providers can also throw up barriers to access.

Trudy has looked at the efforts of other governments towards improving access to electronic information. Although New Zealanders are reportedly the second-most “wired” (to the internet) nation on earth, there is no room for complacency when it comes to accessing government information. Trudy found that in some cases we are behind the 8-ball. The Australians, for example, are well on the way to their goal of delivering all appropriate Commonwealth services via the internet by 2001.

There are a number of all-of-government initiatives for e-government being run by individual agencies and co-ordinated by the State Services Commission, as well as projects such as **Landonline** and the government legislation database. However, this country still has some catching up to do.

Now that the dividing line between the public and private sectors has become increasingly blurred, there are some issues to be worked through regarding ownership of information, payment for access and commercial sensitivities.

Nonetheless, the GIDE Metadata project offers real benefits to people who interact with government agencies and to the agencies themselves. Trudy says the system planning and implementation should be completed by the end of this

year, and a public user interface developed a couple of months later.

If we hark back to the metaphor of the information superhighway, Trudy says, the GIDE Metadata project will add some much needed road markings and direction signs.

Contact for further information:

NUTRITION INFORMATION			
	Per serve	Per 100g	% Good Standard Milk
Energy (kJ)	450	1500	817
Energy (Cal)	108	359	219
Protein (g)	2.3	7.6	8.1
Fat (g)	0.1	0.4	5.9
Carbohydrate			
- Total (g)	24	80	33
- Sugar (g)	2.8	9.3	6.0
Dietary Fibre (g)	0.9	3.1	0.9
Cholesterol (mg)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sodium (mg)	270	900	350
Potassium (mg)	41	138	327
Vitamin (mg)	0.55(25%)*	1.83	0.85
Riboflavin (mg)	0.42(25%)*	1.42	0.72
Niacin (mg)	2.5(25%)*	8.3	2.5
Folate (mg)**	100(50%)*	333	105
Iron (mg)	3.0(25%)*	10.0	3.9

* = Percentage of Recommended Dietary Intake (RDI)
 ** - 1 serve provides 25% of the folate RDI for women of childbearing age

INGREDIENTS: Corn, Raw Sugar, Salt, Malt Extract, Vitamins (Niacin, Thiamin, Riboflavin, Folate), Mineral (Iron)
 NO ARTIFICIAL FLAVOURINGS OR COLOURINGS

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HYDROGRAPHIC INFORMATION COPYRIGHT FEES ABOLISHED

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At a glance

- Copyright fees for hydrographic information are to be abolished.
- Users will still pay for the cost of dissemination.
- Wholesale prices for marine charts will not change.
- People wishing to reproduce hydrographic information/charts will not pay a copyright fee, but may need a licence from LINZ to do so.

As from September 2000, copyright fees for hydrographic information held by LINZ are to be abolished. This brings the pricing for access to hydrographic information into line with the regime for topographic information.

Users will still be liable for the cost of dissemination (mainly printing and distribution costs), so there will be no change to the current wholesale prices for charts. However, if there is a change to the way charts are reproduced or distributed in future, there may be a corresponding price change.

The Crown retains copyright over the data and printed charts. People wishing to reproduce marine charts will no longer be charged a copyright fee, but if their product is to be used for navigation they may still need a licence. Further information about licensing will be posted on the LINZ website at www.linz.govt.nz.

The abolition of copyright fees for both topographic and hydrographic information by LINZ is in line with policy on pricing for government-held information.

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