

Geographic Information Technology Training Alliance (GITTA) presents:

Into the GIS market

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1. Into the GIS market

Introduction



Mobile mapping for navigation support (GPS receiver included)

In this lesson, we want to give an overview of the many different GIS applications and software vendors on the Swiss market. Although there already exists a survey of the GIS market for the German speaking part of Europe, which is available from www.gis-report.de, we want to give our own for two reasons. First, this report is mainly for Germany and second, the information provided is written by the companies themselves and therefore not independent and self-critical. Of course, software is not the only important issue, when looking at the GIS market. If you are interested in other aspects such as the Swiss National Spatial Data Infrastructure, please have a look at www.e-geo.ch and www.kogis.ch.

Learning Objectives

- Get an impression of what are the most common GIS products and learn about their strengths and weaknesses.
- Know who are the key players in the Swiss GIS market.

1.1. GIS software on the market

Introduction

This unit gives an overview of the most widely used GIS software packages in Swiss academia and private companies. The GIS software is categorised according to the "*GIS Report*" (Bill et al.) into Professional, Desktop, CAD and Internet GIS with an additional section of open source and freeware GIS. For every category, you will find a table giving an overview for each category, including product name, manufacturer, marketshare in D.A.CH. and the supported data type and operating systems. For the most common products, detailed [technical information](#) is available including a short description of the product, its common field of use, the kind of data the program is designed to process, compatible databases and more. This information comes not only from product specifications found on the producer's website or info brochure, but also from GITTA network researchers' experience with the listed products. This should make this information more reliable and independent. The idea is to help you to find the product, that is suited for your needs and also to show you what other products there are on the market. Browse the table or use CTRL+F to find a certain product and investigate which software product you can choose for a certain application. Investigate the different software categories and try to find out, what their differences are and why there are so many products fulfilling the different user needs.

1.1.1. Software list

Professional GIS

** Marketshare D.A.CH. 2003*

CAD GIS

** Marketshare D.A.CH. 2003*

Desktop GIS

** Marketshare D.A.CH. 2003*

Internet GIS

Open GIS / Free GIS

1.1.2. Technical Info

Technical Information: Professional GIS

Technical Information: CAD GIS

Technical Information: Desktop GIS

Technical Information: Open GIS / Free GIS

1.2. GIS software suppliers

Introduction

In this unit, you will find a list with information about well known companies distributing GIS software in Switzerland. These companies do also offer additional services such as consulting and training. Since it is hard to keep this information up-to-date, we advise the reader to follow the provided links to the respective company's web server and look for the newest information on products and support. Our information is intended to provide only basic information of who is on the Swiss market and how to contact them.

For more information on the software, consult the [software overview](#) and technical info tables.

All information provided taken from the "GIS Report 2004" (Buhmann et al. 2004).

1.2.1. Contact information



Company: AED SICAD AG

Software: SICAD/open, SICAD InternetSuite, SICAD/SD, SICAD-RBS, SICAD-PLOT, AED-GIS, GeoServer and @GIS-Komponenten

Other distributed products: SICAD extensions for ArcGIS, LM/ArcFM/Kommunal on ArcGIS

Services: Project management, consulting, training, system integration, migration, application development

Digital data: —



Company: Autodesk

Software: AutoCAD, Autodesk product line

Other distributed products: Volo viewer, OnSite Viewer, DWF tools

Services: -

Digital data: —



Company: c-plan AG

Software: TOPOBASE/TOPODAT

Other distributed products: ATLAS DGM, CADRaster, Strassenbau, SAP-Kopplung

Services: training, coaching

Digital data: —



Company: ESRI Geoinformatik AG

Software: ArcGIS, ArcView, ArcInfo, ArcPad, ArcSDE, ArcIMS, ArcGIS Server, ArcGIS Engine, MapObjects

Distribution of data from many data providers such as ArcWeb Services, GfK Geomarketing, Infas Geodaten, Tele Atlas, GeoPost, AZ Bertelsmann, DDS, GfK, Infas, MicroGIS, Tele Atlas

Services: Application Application development, implementation, services, consulting, training, support

Digital data: ArcWeb Services, ESRI Data & Maps



Company: GE Network Solutions

Software: Smallworld Core Spatial Technology, Smallworld Fachschalen, Smallworld Internet Application Server

Services: Consulting, implementation, training, service, support



Digital data: —

Company: Intergraph (Schweiz) AG

Software: GeoMedia, IntelliWhere, Dynamo

Services: Training, service, support

Digital data: —



Company: Leica Geosystems AG

Software: Infocam, Interlis Studio, ERDAS IMAGINE

Other distributed products: GPS, Tachymeter, GIS-GPS

Services: Training, support

Digital data: —



Company: GfK Geomarketing

Software: RegioGraph, DISTRICT, MapKit

Other distributed products: demographic and economical data

Services: Consulting, training, coaching

Digital data: Archive of maps, specially of Europe in common GIS formats

1.3. Summary

In this lesson, an overview of the current GIS software in the categories Professional GIS, Desktop, CAD and Internet GIS, as well as open source / freeware GIS has been given. Besides manufacturers and marketshares, an overview of technical information like supported data formats, databases and operation systems is given along with short descriptions on the typical area of use. Additionally, software distributors for the Swiss market are also listed.

1.4. Recommended Reading

- **BUHMANN, E., WIESEL, J.** (2004). *GIS Report* [online]. B. Harzer Verlag, Karlsruhe. Available from: <http://www-bbg.hrz.hs-anhalt.de/gis/> [Accessed 16 January 2005].
Exhaustive, unfortunately infrequently updated overview of GIS software and add-ons including technical informatioe etc. German.

1.5. Bibliography

- **BILL, R., ET AL.**. *Geoinformatik Service Uni Rostock* [online]. Available from: <http://www.geoinformatik.uni-rostock.de/produkte.asp> [Accessed 20 March 2005].
- **BUHMANN, E., WIESEL, J.** (2004). *GIS Report* [online]. B. Harzer Verlag, Karlsruhe. Available from: <http://www-bbg.hrz.hs-anhalt.de/gis/> [Accessed 16 January 2005].