



October 2010 Monthly Newsletter 2010 User/Support Conference – Results

Our 2010 conferences for End Users and GIS/Support Specialists, held on October 21 at Hess, centered on three big developments in **GOM³** and **GOMsmart**. The first is our support for the new ArcGIS 10 release. Second, we are beta testing a new updating technology that will afford **GOM³** users access to *daily* updates of *all* data sets, a frequency currently only available through **GOMsmart**. Finally, we elaborated on our 2011 plans to expand **GOM³** to include the entire onshore (US) Gulf Coast basin, which will be covered in a later newsletter.

ESRI regularly releases new versions of their software, but it has been nearly a decade since a new version carried such substantial changes and improvements. As **GOM³** runs on top of ArcGIS, the transition to 10 has mandated major changes in our software. Our official **GOM³** release for ArcGIS 10 will occur in December and can be obtained from us for testing. In 2011, we will start exploiting the new capabilities the version 10 release brings to our users. These include enhanced searches, vastly improved base map and cartographic capabilities, a fuller tool set, better handling of rasters, improvements in 3-D and other areas. Particularly exciting is the potential to exploit new technology for handling, analyzing and displaying time-aware data. We will convert this capability to a generic fourth dimension, radically increasing the analytic value of this new capability.



Our methods for updating data started with mailing monthly updates to clients and then progressed to monthly internet downloads. About 7 years ago, between these monthly updates, we began offering updates for about a dozen key variables over the web through our *What's New* (!) button on the **GOM³** toolbar. That way, when MMS (BOEMRE) released new data on any day of the month, it was available that same day. Last year, we completed our automation of the operations that access and process MMS data so that its servers are now checked *every hour*, 24/7. Each hour, if new data are released, processing immediately begins and the data are made available through **GOMsmart** and **GOM³**, granted that variable is carried on those services.

Data sets that require a transfer of shapefiles are currently only available by download or CD at the end of the month. Our new updating technology, however, will operate on our client's servers and connect nightly to ESA's server to download new data and update local instances of **GOM³**. Automatically, all the data are refreshed daily. Next year, we will extend our technology so even more frequent updates will be available. This guarantees that you will always be working with the absolute freshest data available.

You can view or download the presentations from the conferences here:

<http://www.earthsci.com/GOM3/FifthUserGISConference2010.htm>

Earth Science Associates: (562) 428-3181

GOM³ Calendar

NAPE Expo - Houston
February 16-18, 2011

Central Lease Sale
Expected March 2011

4300 Long Beach Boulevard Suite 310 Long Beach, CA 90807
www.earthsci.com www.gomsmart.com

