Update on RIEDP Products and Standards
(Reuse and Interoperation of Environmental Data and Processes)

Update to ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 24 / WG 8
3 August 2020 (updated post presentation)
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# Topics

- RIEDP Vision and Goal
- Background and Problems Addressed by RIEDP
- RIEDP Concepts and Standards
- RIEDP and SEDRIS – Similarities and Differences
- Conclusion
- Backup – Requirements, Database Creation Process, Future Trends
Vision:
*With minimal changes or effort, use popular GIS and simulation source data formats to share and exchange simulation data products*

Goal:
*Standardize the rules, methods, and semantics for sharing data from key stages of the simulation database generation process, while leveraging (those) existing source data formats commonly used in GIS and simulation applications*
Background and Problems Addressed by RIEDP

**Challenges**

- Environmental data products are widely used in stand-alone or networked M&S applications, including visualization, training, analysis, rehearsal, testing (using traditional, VR, or AR visualizations)
- The process of building simulation environmental data products (or databases) requires various types of source data, including (but not limited to) data in popular GIS formats
- Variations and different parameters used in the databases building process can significantly impact the interoperability of the simulation systems that use these databases
- Semantics of the content in these formats are not always uniform or standardized

**RIEDP solution**

- RIEDP provides a standardized terrain data generation process model that can be used as a reference, and identifies the stages from which data can be shared
- RIEDP defines standard rules, methods, and semantics for sharing the content using data formats that are common/popular today
Main Concepts Associated with Terrain/Environmental Data Generation

- Elevation Imagery
- Main Concepts Associated with Terrain/Environmental Data Generation
- Generation
- RIEDP Presentation
- Repository
- Catalog
- Features
- 3D Models
- Feature Templates
- Textures
- Special Areas
- Reference Tables
- RIEDP Presentation
- Spatial Reference Frame
- DB
- Metadata
- Catalog
- Layers
- Tiling
- Metadata
- Other Raster Features Imagery Elevation
- Attribution
- Metadata
Key Topics and Problems in Database Sharing

When reusing data from a partner, you need to know

- How the database was built → Tasks performed or not
- How the database is represented → Conceptual Model
- How the database is spatially referenced → Spatial Reference Model
- How the database is structured → Physical data model
- How the database is organized on the media → Files/Folders/Hierarchies
- How well the database conforms to Standards → Compliance & Profiles
- Information about the data product → Metadata

No existing solution fully satisfies ALL of these requirements
RIEDP Concepts and Standards

RIEDP effort has:

- Identified/selected an initial set of common source formats
- Developed a Reference Process Model (RPM)
- Developed rules, methods, and semantics for expressing and sharing the data, which includes:
  - A Reference Abstract Data Model (RADM)
  - Innovative metadata storage methods
  - Rules for data organization
  - Set of Profiles for sharing application-specific data products
  - Definition of environmental/terrain objects and their characteristics, including material characteristics for different sensor models and different fidelities
  - Process-related attributes to support data sharing
Within SISO’s RIEDP Product Development Group, the work is embodied in two standardization products:

- **Product 1 – RIEDP Data Model Foundations** with two coupled parts:
  - Reference Process Model (RPM)
    - High Level model of the database generation process
  - Reference Abstract Data Model (RADM)
    - Database concepts and principles for Tiles, Layers, Library, Spatial Reference, Relationships, Metadata, …
    - RADM leverages the SEDRIS DRM concepts and uses the SRM

- **Product 2 – RIEDP Detailed Features description**:
  - Identification for geo-specific object instances and templates (features, 3D objects, textures) within the Library, and the linkage between instances and templates
  - Dictionary for feature and attribute semantics, and mapping with existing dictionaries
  - Specifies list of features, attributes, attribution rules (feature-attribute relations), range values, … (EDCS used)
RIEDP Reference Process Model (RPM)

Process Flow

- Typical Generation Process for a Database
RIEDP Reference Abstract Data Model (RADM)
Main Components (conceptual)

- **Repository**
- **Catalog**
- **DB**
- **Metadata**
- **Spatial Reference Frame**
- **Tiling**
- **Layers**
  - Other Raster
  - Features
  - Imagery
  - Elevation
- **Library**
  - 3D Models
  - Feature Templates
  - Textures
  - Special Areas
  - Reference Tables
- **RIEDP Presentation**
The data formats required for RIEDP-compliant data exchange:

- **GeoTIFF** (revision 1.0 October 1995), for Terrain *Elevation* data.
- **Shapefile** (ESRI technical description White Paper July 1998), for instances, and possibly for classes of *Terrain Features* and *Vector data*.
- **GeoTIFF** (revision 1.0 October 1995) or JPEG 2000 (ISO/IEC 15444 – Part 1) for Terrain *Imagery data*, as well as other raster-based data.
- **OpenFlight** (version 16.0 or higher), for 3D models, both natural and man-made, placed on the terrain or dynamically included in the environment.
- **PNG** (ISO/IEC 15948:2004), **SGI RGB** or **SGI RGBA**, image formats for texture maps, used in portraying *object surfaces* and some *terrain surfaces*.

- In addition, XML (and associated XML schema) is used to provide those RIEDP-required data that is not supported through the above formats.

**NOTE:**

- RIEDP does NOT impose RIEDP-required Formats for use within a Data Producer’s internal Processes
RIEDP Data Organization

Physical Organisation on the Media

- Layers in Tiles or Region Folder
- Library
- Metadata
Tiling Example

- Area: S06W002 – S05E001
RIEDP Data Organization
Details of the Library

Library Example:
- Feature Templates
- Static 3D Models: 2
- Textures: 2
- Reference Tables: 6
Successful data exchange relies heavily on the appropriate use of metadata:

- Structured metadata
- Based on XML files for each component of the RADM
- According to rules captured in XML schemas
XML file for Elevation

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="true"?>
- <ElevationLayer Metadata xmlns:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="../Commc">
  - <WholeLayer>
    - <LayerMetadata>
      <Description>Description of the Layer</Description>
      <Provider>Provider of the Data</Provider>
      <License>License of the Data</License>
      <Security>Protected</Security>
      <Date>2017-04-22</Date>
      <Quality>Medium</Quality>
      <Resolution>0,5 m</Resolution>
      <Thumbnail file="Thumbnail.jpg"/>
    </LayerMetadata>
  - <TileExcept>
    - <ExceptTile1/Tile2/>
  - <ExceptTileMD/>
</WholeLayer>
```

Associated XML Schema

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<xs:schema xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" attributeFormDefault=""`
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```

RIEDP Presentation 3 August 2020
RIEDP Profiles

- RIEDP-compliant Data Products shall conform to one of the RIEDP Profiles
- A Profile specifies:
  - A stage in the RPM
  - Mandatory and Optional Data in accordance with the RADM

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<th>3-LOP</th>
<th>4-6BP</th>
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<th>6-FMP</th>
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RIEDP leverages/reuses existing Standards

Use resources from existing standards (SISO, ISO, NATO, OGC, IEEE)

- Specification of Geographical Information (OGC, IEEE)
- Specification of Entity Identification (SISO SWG Enumerations)
- Specification of Position and Orientation Data (ISO/IEC SEDRIS/SRM)
- Identification of Objects / Features and their Attributes (ISO/IEC SEDRIS/EDCS)
- Definition of a Representation Model of the Environment (ISO/IEC SEDRIS/DRM)
- Specification of Metadata (ISO 19115, DCMI, DDMS, FGDC, EDS)
- Alliance M&S Standards Profile (NATO MSG)

Complement this foundation for M&S applications (RIEDP focus)

- Make use of “de-facto” standards from the Military and GIS communities
- Consider also video-game industry “de-facto” standards
- Develop additional elements to address M&S-specific needs
Summary

RIEDP provides what is needed to share Environmental data:

- A Reference Process Model
- A Reference Abstract Data Model
- A Spatial Reference Frame
- A List of Formats from the GIS and M&S worlds
- A Semantic through attributes and attribution rules (product #2)
- An Organization on the Media
- A Metadata structure
- A set of Profiles
RIEDP and SEDRIS – Similarities and Differences

Commonalities
- Open Standard for Exchange of Environmental Data

Main specificities

- SEDRIS is designed to address all types of environmental data
- SEDRIS is not designed to describe the database generation process
- SEDRIS defines a binary format (STF)
- SEDRIS provides APIs and Tools

**RIEDP and SEDRIS are complementary efforts**

- RIEDP focuses on a subset and application-specific data
- RIEDP is designed to specifically address the database generation process
- RIEDP relies on existing COTS formats
- Use of RIEDP relies on existing COTS Software & Tools

- RIEDP uses SEDRIS concepts, capabilities, and standards
  - RIEDP Reference Abstract Data Model (RADM)
  - Reference Frame
  - Attribution
  - Influenced by and similar to SEDRIS DRM
  - SRM is used for position and orientation
  - EDCS will be used (candidate) (Product # 2)
# RIEDP and SEDRIS – Similarities and Differences (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept / Capability</th>
<th>RIEDP</th>
<th>SEDRIS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DB Generation Process</td>
<td>High level, but comprehensive</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Model</td>
<td>Abstract at Concept Level; At Data Level dictated by formats</td>
<td>Explicit at Concept and Data Levels</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supported Format(s)</td>
<td>Popular GIS and sim formats (e.g., Shapefile, OpenFlight, GeoTIFF)</td>
<td>SEDRIS Transmittal Format (STF)</td>
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<td>Volumetric Data (e.g., weather, ocean, space, CAT scan, etc.)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3D Volumes, + Time, + Multiple Attributes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polymorphic Representations</td>
<td>Link from features to 3D models</td>
<td>Multiple forms of representation of same object, all fully related and integrated</td>
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<td>Topology</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Both for Features and Geometry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Organization / Hierarchy</td>
<td>Limited to fixed theme and hierarchy</td>
<td>Any combinations of 13 types: by theme, by time, by space partition, by LOD, by state, by classification, …</td>
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<td>3D Models, Feature Templates, Textures, Reference Tables</td>
<td>Symbol, Sound/Audio, Color Table, Image, 3D Model, Data Table, Property Set Table</td>
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<td>Profiles</td>
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RIEDP Presentation 3 August 2020
Take away

- **RIEDP**
  - Takes **benefit of the lessons learnt** from all initiatives
  - Reuses and relies on **existing standards** (such as SEDRIS ISO/IEC standards and PNG ISO/IEC standard), as well as popular **formats used in the community**
  - Represents the **best common denominator** by providing a Reference Process Model (RPM), a formal Reference Abstract Data Model (RADM), relying on use of **existing Formats**, specifying **unique Profiles**, and focusing on **metadata and attribution semantics**
  - **Does not impose internal solutions** on producers
  - Provides a **common data sharing approach** that relies on a formal abstract data model (RADM), along with specific metadata and attribution (Product #2)
  - This allows the **best sharing** of data, **independently from target applications** implementation, with a current scope addressing static terrain and visual system data
Take away (cont.)

- RIEDP Product 1, Data Model Foundations, was published in 2018.
- RIEDP Product 2, Detailed Feature Description, is under development and expected to be published in 2021, with following key topics being worked:
  - List of Features (and themes)
  - List of Attributes (including enumerants, applicable units, scale)
  - Feature-Attribute relationships
  - Attributions related to Material, Light, and Sensor characteristics for different user levels
  - Attributions related to database generation process
Conclusion

- Thank you for your attention!

- Any questions?

- Backup slides contain additional information on requirements, data generation process, and future trends
Environmental Data Requirements
Modeling and Simulation Requirements

Modeling and Simulation a very heterogeneous world

- Various Communities
  - Engineers & Military End-Users
  - Industry & MoDs

- Various Requirements
  - From Analysis to Training and Mission Rehearsal

- Large Range of Simulation Tools
  - L, V, C, and Combinations via Distributed Simulation
  - Based on Models from the Real World Phenomena
  - Networking with Information Systems

Standardized Representation(s) of the Environment must reflect and support this diversity
Environment Requirements for an Aircraft Simulator
Requirements / Large Areas

NATO “Missionland”
2000x2000 km
Requirements / Fidelity

Not to mention different internal models in different simulation systems ...
Building the Simulator Database

- Database Requirements
- Source Data
- Database Creation
- Target Databases
  - Visual DB
  - Radar DB
  - IR DB
  - Other Sensors
  - CGF DB
  - Maps
  - Others

- Find the data
- Not Easy
- Clean the data
- Correlate the data
- Create missing data
- Format the data
- Intensify the data
- Specialize the data

RIEDP Presentation
Additional issues for Distributed Simulation
Reuse – Correlation – Interoperability ...

Duplication of efforts
Duplication of Cost
Time to market

Requirements

Sim A - Provider 1

Sim B - Provider 2

Sim C – Provider 3

Consistency ?
Schedule ?

M&S Interoperability is even more critical in the International Arena with Multiple Providers and Multiple M&S Solutions

RIEDP Presentation
M&S Interoperability

What it is Not

- The same Product and associated Solutions for everyone
  - Does not work, certainly not in the international arena
  - Puts innovation at risk
  - What product to choose? Single solution sufficient?

What it is

- Consistency in Modelling, associated Data and Semantics at Component Level
- Allowing Components to work together at System & System-of-Systems Levels
- Fostering Multiple-Provider Solutions (e.g.: I/ITSEC/OBW Federations)

Interoperability relies on **Appropriate Standards**
Database Creation Process and associated Issues
Generation Processes vs Correlation and Reuse

RIEDP Presentation
3 August 2020
Data Transformation Process – Two main phases

Manual Work: 80%  20%
Computation Time: 20%  80%
Source Data - Geographic Formats

- **DTED**: Military terrain elevation data format, Mil-PRF-89020B
- **DFAD**: Military vector format, SUPP1C2/3C, Edition2, Nov 1988 (obsolete)
- **VMAP**: Military vector format, Mil-V-89033
- **SHAPEFILE**: de-facto standard created by ESRI,
- **GEOTIFF**: Public format for Geo-referenced imagery
- **GML**: Public format from Open Geospatial Consortium
- **KML**: created by Keyhole, Inc, acquired by Google in 2004, standard OGC KML

Application to simulation

- Used for Altimetry (DTED), Features (SHAPEFILE) (roads, rivers and building positions), Geo-referenced satellite imagery (GeoTiff).
- Contributing to consistency between Simulators target applications
  - Visual System, CGF, …
Source Data Imagery Formats

- **BMP**: developed by Microsoft & IBM
- **ECW**: developed by Earth Resource Mapper
- **JPEG**: created by a WG in partnership with ISO & CEI
- **JPEG 2000**: common standard from ISO & UIT-T, ref ISO/CEI 15444-1
- **RGB**: developed by Silicon Graphics Incorporated (SGI)
- **TIFF™**: developed by Adobe.

**Application to simulation**

- Texture for Terrain or objects
- Adding visual realism, without complex geometric models

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Source Data - 3D Models

- **OpenFlight™**: created by MPI., now Presagis, de-facto standard
- **COLLADA**: created by Sony CE (PS3) as an interchange format for 3D interactive application, now Khronos Group
- **VRML**: Virtual Reality Modeling Language, ref ISO/IEC 14772-1 & -2
- **X3D**: ISO/IEC standard, Computer graphics and image processing - Extensible 3D (X3D)

**Application to simulation**

- Formats from 3D modelers (3DS ™, Maya ™, Creator ™, ... )
- Dedicated to 3D Objects Modeling for Visual Systems

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Phase 1: Generation of the Intermediate Data

Layered Source Data
- Elevation
- Images
- Planimetry
- 3D Models

Intermediate Data
- Projection Conversions
- Format Conversions
- Tiling (mosaic)
- Harmonisation (between Tiles)
- Corrections of Source errors
- Alignment between Layers

- Material Classification
- Attribution Definition
- Assignment of 3D models to Classes
- Definition of Procedural Generation Rules for Features (Off-line or On-line)

- Attributions
- Creation of new models in Library

Geographical Added Value

Simulation Added Value

RIEDP Presentation 3 August 2020
Phase 2: Generation of Target DBs

- Creation of 3D Terrain
  - (Polygons, Levels of Detail, …)

- Texturing (projection of images on the 3D Terrain)

- Intensification of terrain with 3D elements
  - (Cultures, Buildings, Networks,..)

- Many Other things!

Intermediate Data

- (Tiled) Elevation
- (Tiled) Images
- Classification
- Planimetry & Attribution
- 3D Models

Runtime DB

- 3D Terrain
- Geospecific Textures
- 3D objects
Back to the Future

Major Trends in Geospatial Data

- Data in the Cloud
- Multi Source-Based (Crowd, UAV, …)
- Impact of Regulations: IPR, Security, Quality

Key aspects

- The Cloud must become clever in order:
  - To allow Data Collection from non-Expert as well as Expert Contributors
  - To deliver the Data according to Various Consumers’ individual needs
  - To take into account System of Systems Interoperability Requirements

- Consequence for M&S
  - M&S Requirements
  - Platform dependant
  - Leveraging Data & Tools from Geospatial and other COIs
Future Trends - Impact on M&S
Better Environmental Data Sources

Current M&S Requirements
- GIS Data as is: Elevation, Vectors, Imagery
- Additional information (Sensors, ...) from other Providers
- Do not address details such as: Curbs, Door Knobs,
- Access to data: Downloading from servers (FTP)

Future Requirements
- M&S oriented Data: Cleaned, Aligned, Multispectral, Customized,
- Interested in details: Curbs, Door Knobs, Multi spectral
- Address Regulations Issues (IT Security, IPR, ..)
- M&S Oriented Web Services: Consistent, in realtime (?)
M&S as a Service (MSaaS) for Environmental Data

- This is for mid-term Future
  - 10 years, may be less?

- This requires appropriate standards
  - DataModel, Interface, Metadata, …

RIEDP is paving the Way by establishing the Foundations allowing efficient sharing of Environmental Data