

About Booz Allen

Booz Allen Hamilton is a leading provider of management and technology consulting services to the US government in defense, intelligence, and civil markets, and to major corporations, institutions, and not-for-profit organizations. Booz Allen is headquartered in McLean, Virginia, employs more than 25,000 people, and had revenue of \$5.59 billion for the 12 months ended March 31, 2011. (NYSE: BAH)

For more information contact

Justin Sherin

Principal

sherin_justin@bah.com

757-893-6120

www.boozallen.com

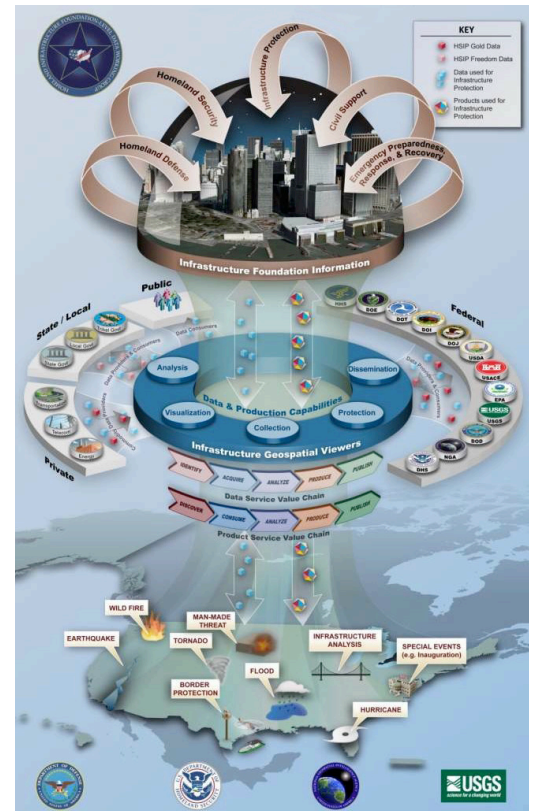
Government Partnerships to Get Common Operational Geospatial Data to the Users

by Justin Sherin, Principal, Booz Allen Hamilton

The Homeland Infrastructure Foundation Level Data (HIFLD) Working Group has grown from 13 initial members to over 4,300 contributing partners, representing the 14 Executive Departments, 94 Agencies, 50 States and over 700 private sector organizations since 2002. It has enabled the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) and U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) to provide enhanced support to over 147,000 Federal, State and Local first responders by coordinating the acquisition and dissemination of baseline geospatially enabled infrastructure data known as Homeland Security Infrastructure Program (HSIP) at reduced cost to the government. Common operational data enables shared situation awareness. HSIP is used to create geospatial products for planning, training, impact assessment and shared situational awareness at the Federal, State and Local level in support of National Level Exercises, National Special Security Events and National Responses, such as Hurricane Irene. During Hurricane Irene, geospatial situation awareness and risk assessment products were created from HSIP for use by decision makers and emergency responders at all levels of government. The products visualized the potential impact to the east coast, evacuation routes, the actual impact on infrastructure and personnel from flooding and status of recovery operations.

The National HIFLD and HIFLD to the Regions have established critical partnerships across the Federal, State, Local and private sector officials to increase the use of common geographic infrastructure data for the protection, response, recovery, and restoration of infrastructure assets impacted by natural or man-made disasters (depicted above). These partnerships have led to resource efficiencies as programs, tools, data and products are now leveraged across government organizations working in the same mission space. The HIFLD to the Regions staff located around the country provide the coordination of data gathering from the best available sources for HSIP, continuous improvement and dissemination of the HSIP data and sharing of best practices across government. Their efforts have saved the government many millions of dollars by eliminating duplicative commercial data buys across the government.

The HIFLD leaders from DoD, DHS, NGA and USGS continue to work together to improve getting geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) into the hands of the users as efficiently and effectively as possible. For additional information on the HIFLD and HSIP data, visit www.hifldwg.org.



Infrastructure Information Community Model

About the Author

Justin Sherin, Principal, at Booz Allen Hamilton serves as the Program Manager for several government programs and initiatives including the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs, Department of Homeland Security Office of Infrastructure Protection, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Office of Americas and the US Geological Survey National Geospatial Program Office for the Homeland Infrastructure Foundation Level Data (HIFLD) Working Group, HIFLD to the Regions and the Homeland Security Infrastructure Program (HSIP). In this role, Mr. Sherin focuses on data improvement and strengthening partnerships. Prior to joining Booz Allen, Mr. Sherin served over twenty-five years as a Naval Explosive Ordinance Officer with many demanding leadership and management assignments.

This article was previously published in the January 2012 issue of the IAEM Bulletin and is reprinted with permission of the International Association of Emergency Managers, www.iaem.com.