

Media Release

23 July 2010

For immediate release

Merger forms east-coast market leader in Geographical Information Solutions

GeoSolutions Australia and Mipela GIS announce merger to form new company – *Mipela GeoSolutions*

The merger today of two private companies – GeoSolutions Australia and Mipela GIS – has created a new market leader in geographical information solutions on the eastern seaboard.

Based in Brisbane, Mipela GeoSolutions will have a core staff of 40, servicing a national and international client base of over 90 companies and government bodies across Australia, Papua New Guinea and Southeast Asia.

Combining Mipela's oil and gas pipeline industry experience with GeoSolutions Australia's skills in government and water infrastructure, the new unified company will be equipped to offer both products and niche service expertise across a broader range of private sector and government applications.

According to Mipela GeoSolutions Managing Director Hayden McDonald, the new firm will be a one-stop-shop offering greater research and development, systems, technical capability, software network and marketing resources to better serve its growing client base.

"The merger will also accelerate the introduction of new and improved product and service offerings for our clients," he said.

"We see a world of opportunity in 'connecting people with information' and are delighted to welcome both GeoSolutions Australia and Mipela GIS staff and clients to our new company, and look forward to continuing our relationship with them in the years ahead."

The pairing will not only expand the range of location-based information solutions deliverable from a single shop front, but also foster innovation and growth into new areas thanks to the business strengths and specialisations of each of the merging entities.

GeoSolutions Australia is a leader in delivering whole-of-project solutions including spatial business solutions, geographical information systems, data management, field mobilisation and project management to government and corporate clients in the energy, government and infrastructure sectors.

Mipela (literally "my people" in pigeon English) has been providing GIS software products and services to pipeline investigators, constructors and operators since 1997, specialising in 'fit for purpose' solutions for clients in the resources and utility sector.

Director Michael Krome said the biggest advantage of the merger was the resulting strengthening of Mipela GeoSolutions' service capability, as well as the organic growth possible in the future.

He said this would benefit GeoSolutions' clients by giving them access to Mipela's proven and innovative *X-Info* range of web based software products, and the specialised service to support it.

"This merger is consistent with the strategies of both companies to broaden and strengthen our service capabilities, as well enabling us to offer a new product and service range to our existing clients," Michael said.

"Both companies work in non-competing market sectors, so by bringing the two companies together, we will strengthen and diversify both without reducing competition in any of those markets," he said.

The Board of Directors of Mipela GeoSolutions will consist of Mipela GIS Director Hayden McDonald and GeoSolutions Australia Director Michael Krome, with Hayden acting as Managing Director.

The new company will be officially launched at the Australian Pipeline Industry Association (APIA) Conference in Darwin on 13 and 14 September.

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*****FURTHER INFO ABOUT GEOSOLUTIONS AUSTRALIA AND MIPELA GIS ON NEXT PAGE*****

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Backgrounder

About GeoSolutions Australia

GeoSolutions Australia is a Professional Services company that has built an enviable reputation over the last three years of *"delivering information through innovation"* with clients in the Government, Mining and Infrastructure sectors.

GeoSolutions Australia is a leader in providing whole of project solutions including Spatial Business Solutions, Geographic Information Systems, Data Management, Field Mobilisation and Project Management.

From its head office in Brisbane, Queensland, GeoSolutions Australia services clients throughout Australia.

About Mipela GIS

Mipela GIS is an Information Management company that has been 'connecting people with information' since 1997. They provide a range of software offerings through the X-Info family of products along with Professional Services specialising in the Resource & Utility sector.

From its head office in Brisbane, they service a national and international client base of 100 companies across Australia, Papua New Guinea and a number of other countries in Southeast Asia.

Mipela GIS is a registered endorsed supplier to Queensland Government and has lodged a current AusIndustry Innovation R&D Program for the development of its software products.

The company has also been recognized with the following recent major awards including a Finalist "Business & Professional Services" section of the Australian Government DEEWR 2009-10 National Work-Life Balance Awards highlighting their commitment to creating flexible workplaces that consider the needs of their employees; the Australian Pipeline Industry Association 2009 National Safety Award for the implementation of the X-Info Dial Before You Dig Automated Response System software at the APA Group as "a unique innovation or initiative addressing a safety issue".

Mipela GeoSolutions

This merger is consistent with the strategies of both companies to broaden and strengthen their service capabilities as well as offering a new product range to GeoSolutions Australia clients. Both companies work in non competing market sectors, hence bringing the two companies together will strengthen and diversify both entities.

The board of Directors of Mipela GeoSolutions will consist of Hayden McDonald and Michael Krome, with Hayden acting as Managing Director.

Client Benefits

Clients of Mipela GeoSolutions can expect the same great service that they have come to expect from each of these companies and, going forward, a unified company that can offer more products and services to fulfil their location-based information requirements.

The combined company will have greater financial, technical, research and development, network and marketing resources to better serve our growing client base and will accelerate the introduction of new and improved product and services sets for those clients.

Being GIS Vendor independent, and with the diversity of in-house skills, Mipela GeoSolutions will be able to continue to provide a structured solution, considering client requirements and timely delivery, for their team or project.

Since Mipela GIS and GeoSolutions Australia are not actual competitors in any of the existing market sectors, the merger will not reduce competition in any of those markets.

Visit <http://www.geosolutions.com.au/> for more details.

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