IGS INTERNATIONAL GNSS SERVICE

Policy Proposal: Data Use, Contributions, and Sharing Guidelines

Why we need a clear policy supporting governance, outreach, and engagement in both public and private sectors

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Background

- Recently, the CB has received several messages, of similar overall nature but varying detail, asking about IGS data usage for commercial purposes, how institutions and industry may contribute to the IGS, and use of IGS logos/branding on websites
  - Until now, these requests have been handled at an individual level
- Organization of guidelines, both policy and technical, needs improvement
  - The CB believes it is necessary to have some clearly accessible and easily findable guidelines on this matter, and that it is healthy to have a clear policy and identify potential gray areas that have not been addressed; this is also in alignment with similar organizations such as GEO
- In practice, many people seem to know “generally” what the IGS stance is with respect to data use and contributions, but there is a lack of clear overarching policy with which to separate “gray areas” into black and white.
- As GNSS technological development and applications grows at unprecedented rates, it will be beneficial for the IGS to have a clear overarching policy to reference when faced with future questions and/or opportunities.

The needs

- Organization of current data use, sharing, and contribution practices into a clear, impartial policy that forms parameters for consistent and transparent guidance to contributors and users
- A strong foundation that organizes and facilitates connection to [existing] specific information and guidance. For example:
  - Contribute a ground station,
  - Become an analysis center
  - Contribute a data product
  - Propose hosting a data center,
  - How to use and download IGS branding materials (logo, etc.)
- Alignment with stakeholder/similar organization data use policies/sharing principles For example:
  - Group on Earth Observations
  - ISC World Data System

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Example: Public sector colleague (GFZ) transitioning to private sector, wishing to contribute to IGS, and asking for guidance

On Wed, 13 Feb 2019 14:43:10 +0100
"Zhiguo Deng" <deng@gfz-potsdam.de> wrote:
>
>
> Dear Oliver,
>
>
> Thank you for the email and your wish.
>
>
> I know it is not easy to make a decision now. My
>purpose in delivering multi-GNSS products under my
>company is from 3 reasons:
> 1) I want to do a contribution to IGS since I like IGS
>very much.
> 2) My product can be validated by IGS for
>quality-control, and we can get feedback for further
>update/improvement.
> 3) If it is possible, my company name has IGS logo as a
>partner for marketing. :-)
>

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Proposed Next Steps: Form a Policy Development Committee

- Identify all **current** (valid) IGS (as well as IAG/GGOS) **policies**, areas in need of clarification, and begin a conversation as to how to **develop a tool** to guide and serve the community
- Examine and evaluate **examples** from **GEO** (Data Sharing and Data Management Principles) and **ICSU WDS** (Data Sharing Principles) to guide an initial discovery and drafting phase
- Draft an **IGS Data Use, Contributions, and Sharing (DUCkS) Policy** (similar to the Privacy Policy) that will be presented for approval by the Governing Board at the May 2020 (Vienna) or August 2020 (Boulder Workshop) meeting.

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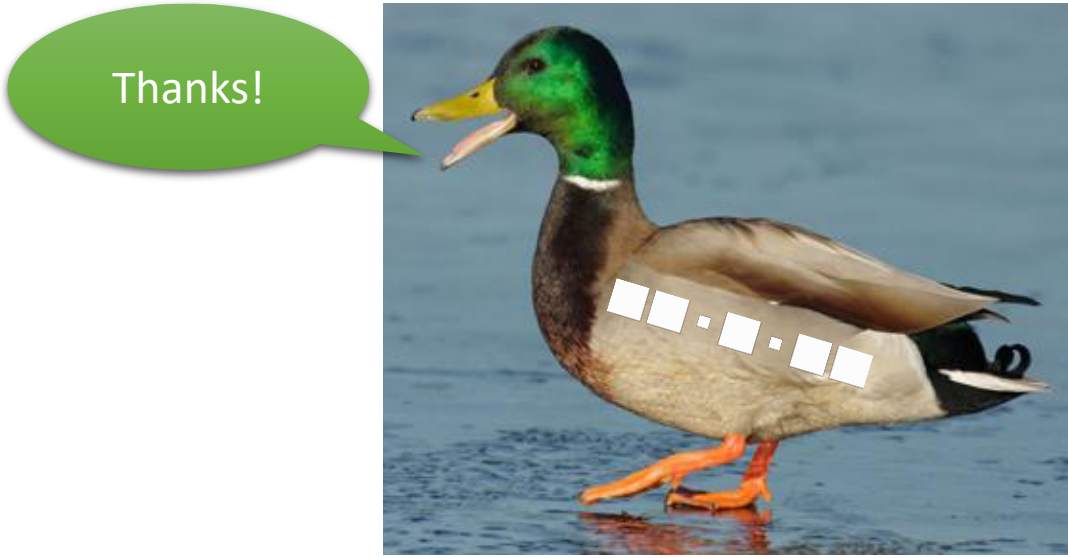
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