



Land Surveying Division

Sr Dr Conrad Tang LSD Council Chairman

Hong Kong Map Service 2.0

Practicing land surveyors in private practice, including myself, have seen continuous improvements in the quality of their services and products, which not only facilitate their work, but also enable the general public to gain easy access to geographical information. The Hong Kong Satellite Positioning Reference Station Network was launched in 2010. Following that came an automatic GPS computation service from the Geodetic Survey Section. GPS positioning is now a popular and efficient tool for every professional surveyor. Furthermore, the Lands Department's Survey and Mapping Office (SMO), supporting the government's open data policy, has, since 2011, posted geo-referenced public facility data, digital terrain models, 1:100,000 and 1:200,000 topographic maps of Hong Kong in geotiff format, etc, online for the general public's scrutiny. Having maintained a GIS database, the government's Geo-Spatial Information Hub, the SMO has publicised a wide spectrum of information in GeoInfo Map, MyMapHK, and VoiceMapHK, which contain powerful data that Hong Kongers can enjoy in addition to providing an excellent service.

Hong Kong has new 3D map products and free geodetic control data. It will soon have price-cutting maps and photogrammetric data. To give one example, the cost of a sheet of iB1000 data will fall from its current price of \$215 to \$54. Then there will be a level-jumping improvement to the mapping service, Hong Kong Map Service (HKMS) 2.0. This web-based service is available at <https://www.hkmapservice.gov.hk>. The SMO's service contact by phone is 2231-3187. Its e-mail contact is hkms_pub@landsd.gov.hk.

To land surveyors, the abovementioned developments represent a paradigm shift in their operations, as survey information searches have changed from paper to computer mode. The search function covers survey

data, aerial photos, cadastral survey records (including digital images of lot index plans and demarcation district sheets) using geo-referenced or lot addresses and is conveniently available in the average surveyor's office or mobile device 24 hours a day. But such data are not limited to land surveyors. Anyone with a computer or mobile device can access them, too. The product preview function is also available in HKMS 2.0. It helps promote more applications that use digital products, as well as supports a paperless environment. The HKIS applauds this monumental achievement and thanks its counterparts at the SMO.

The image shows a promotional graphic for the HKMS 2.0 website. At the top, there is a URL <http://www.hkmapservice.gov.hk> and a QR code. Below the URL is a map of Hong Kong with the text 'HONG KONG MAP SERVICE 2.0' and the Lands Department logo. The main part of the graphic is a vertical flowchart with four steps: 1. 搜尋 MAP SEARCH (Search), 2. 選擇 SELECT (Select), 3. 結帳 PAYMENT (Payment), and 4. 下載或郵寄產品 DELIVERY & DOWNLOAD (Delivery & Download). Each step is accompanied by an icon representing the action, such as a magnifying glass for search, a checkmark for select, a shopping cart for payment, and a download arrow for delivery.

CPD Events

Sr Eric Tang delivered a talk, “The Authority of the Land Boundary Evidence,” on 15 August. His land survey firm has handled over 10,000 boundary cases and he has personally handled over 100 cases as an expert witness in court. The audience was interested in hearing about his most prominent court cases and the evidence rules derived from them. Eric gave a detailed lecture on the historical background and legal settings of Hong Kong’s cadastral system, particularly on the rules of adopting extrinsic evidence. He referred to his successful expert witness case, HCMP 982/2013, in which the judge preferred his extrinsic evidence findings on the intention behind a subdivision, as shown in a 1956 aerial photo, to that of the other side using a registered plan as evidence. There was not enough time for Eric to share all of his knowledge with the audience, so he promised to discuss more case studies at his next CPD event scheduled for December.

strategy for a smart city. He introduced short and long term development initiatives on six aspects: the environment, mobility, people, living, government, and the economy. Then he explained how common spatial data infrastructure underpins smart city services.



The LSD’s Sr YC Chan and Dr Albert Wong of PricewaterhouseCoopers Consulting HK, Ltd shared their experiences with spatial data infrastructure and smart cities on 17 August. Dr Wong directed a consultancy project for the government that formulated a development

HKIS Souvenir

HKIS Car Badge

A premium quality HKIS Car Badge is available now for you to decorate your car. Featuring HKIS’ signature purple colour and shiny chrome, this nickel-plated car badge comes with two screws for easy installation.

Each retailed at HK\$180.

For enquiries and ordering, please contact our reception desk at 2526 3679 or visit https://hkis.org.hk/en/hkis_shop.php.