

Napier system wins innovation award

Napier City Council lead the field in information technology. The Council won the Information Technology Innovation Award at the recent ALGIM conference in Taupo.

The council's winning entry was a public Internet Information Portal. The system impressed the judges because it links to live information from the council's corporate systems. Information provided includes visitor, property, census and civil defence data.

The portal was developed by the council's GIS specialist Simon Nitz, with help from the council's corporate systems supplier, Napier Computer Systems Ltd (NCS). NCS's ability to provide local development support meant the winning entry was created for a capital cost of just \$2,000.

Simon Nitz also acts as a GIS consultant for numerous councils in New Zealand. In

Simon's experience, it is particularly easy to integrate NCS systems with GIS.

NCS systems use Internet browser software and are designed to allow the creation of links to other systems, so establishing integrated systems is easy.

Simon's winning entry has live linkages to the Council's NCS system for information on:

- Rating Information
- Property Values
- Building Consents
- Resource Consents
- Licences
- Swimming Pools
- Hazards
- Rating Information
- Service Requests

All the information available can be viewed by interested parties over the Internet. Detail extends to documents and plans held by the council relating to the property.

Access to all NCS systems is from the web browser on a PC. Users get the same interface in the office, on a laptop in the field or at home connected by the internet.

NCS systems also have SQL access to data which provides additional opportunities for data sharing with GIS and other systems.

Napier Computer Systems Ltd is a locally owned company with branches in Auckland, Napier and Christchurch. The company has a staff of 35 providing software development and support services to a range of customers including 35 per cent of the local authorities in New Zealand.

Systems available include financial, administration and specialist applications including Rating, Water, Animal and Parking Billing systems. ■

The Napier City Council Information portal can be found at www.gis.napier.govt.nz

sql xml ncs

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