

Maine Institute for Spatial Technologies (MIST)

Promoting Maine Research and Education for Industry and Government Needs

Mission: To create a unique facility that coordinates research, workforce development, industry partnerships, academic initiatives, and collaborations across the seven campuses of the University of Maine System (UMS) within the realm of science, engineering, and technologies related to spatial information.

Benefits to the State of Maine:

- MIST will operate as a central broker to coordinate geospatial related activities in Maine (research, industry, and academics)
- MIST will capitalize on UMS's spatial expertise to create an expanded geospatial business environment in Maine.
- MIST will provide a student pipeline for job-ready training and new entrepreneurship
- MIST will establish a public outreach campaign that highlights UMS's spatial programs, initiatives, and research outcomes as well as their significance to the state.

Benefits to UMS:

- MIST aligns with the One University initiative.
- Create a research, development, and commercialization lab in southern Maine (VEMI South)
- Develop a new Center of Academic Excellence in Geospatial Sciences education that includes all UMS campuses
- Acquire accreditation for the Geospatial Intelligence Certificate for any eligible students across the UMS campuses
- Establish new system-wide undergraduate, graduate, and distance learning opportunities in Spatial Technologies
- Develop summer short courses that are responsive to government, industry, and educational spatial technology needs
- Offer qualified geospatial faculty on all campuses an opportunity to serve on the graduate faculty and offer system-wide distance courses

Benefits to Industry:

- Form a Spatial Technologies Industry Council to foster training, teaching, and research collaborations.
- Establish a user testing facility with industry partners to support new software development and to provide testing services for emerging technologies.
- Promote new SBIR/STTR opportunities between UMS campuses and Maine corporate partners
- Develop system-wide clearinghouse for corporate challenges for capstone and graduate projects and host annual student capstone day to present results and new innovations
- Develop plan for supporting industry internships with Maine's geospatial technology companies

U.S. Geospatial Fact Sheet:

- The U.S. Dept. Of Labor has labelled Geospatial Technology as a high growth Industry in 2016. Siting that “geospatial technology is so widespread and diverse, the market is growing at an annual rate of almost 35 percent, with the commercial subsection of the market expanding at the rate of 100 percent each year. (Geospatial Information & Technology Association)”
https://www.doleta.gov/brg/indprof/geospatial_profile.cfm
- It is estimated that the Geospatial Technology sector will have a 35% job growth in the next 4 years; one of the fastest growing markets in the country. The industry will reach 100 billion in annual sales in the next 5 years.
<https://www.geospatialworld.net/the-crux-of-us-geospatial-industry-8-facts-for-you>
- The Geospatial market will reach \$1.6 trillion in revenue and \$1.4 trillion in cost savings throughout the U.S. economy.
<https://www.bcg.com/documents/file109372.pdf>
- September 27, 2016 – The White House announced the U.S. Department of Energy new initiative to enhance the real-time monitoring and predictive capabilities in geospatial data and analysis.

Private Companies Focusing on GIS Technologies in Maine

List does not include the much broader domain of companies, institutions, agencies and organizations heavily investing in spatial and location technology capabilities.

Blue Marble Geographics	http://www.bluemarblegeo.com/index.php
CAI Technologies	http://www.cai-tech.com/
CES, Inc	http://www.ces-maine.com/
ESRI	http://www.esri.com/ - key development group in Portland
Garmin	http://www.garmin.com/en-US - bought Delorme in Freeport
James W. Sewall Company	http://www.sewall.com/
Kappa Mapping	http://www.kappamap.com/
Corson GIS Solutions	http://corsongis.com/
GZA	http://gza.com/
NBT Solutions	http://www.nbtsolutions.com/
On Target Utility Services	http://www.ontargetservices.com/
PenBay Solutions	http://penbaysolutions.com/
Quantum	https://quantumspatial.com/
Sebago Technics	https://sebago-technics.com/
SGC Engineering	http://sgceng.com/
Spatial Alternatives	http://www.spatialalternatives.com/
Stantec	http://www.stantec.com/
Tetra Tech	http://www.tetrattech.com/
TJDA	http://www.tjda.net/index.php
Wright-Pierce	http://www.wright-pierce.com/
Woolpert	http://woolpert.com/