
CHARTER

Geospatial Intelligence Standards Working Group (GWG)

1 March 2005



GEOINT STANDARDS WORKING GROUP CHARTER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	PURPOSE.....	1
1.1	CHARTER.....	1
1.2	GWG.....	1
2.	SCOPE.....	2
3.	MISSION.....	2
4.	REFERENCES.....	2
5.	GWG ORGANIZATION.....	3
6.	FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.....	6
7.	PROCEDURES.....	6
	APPENDIX A - ACRONYMS.....	7
	APPENDIX B - MEMBERSHIP.....	8

GEOINT STANDARDS WORKING GROUP CHARTER

1. Purpose

1.1 Charter

This charter establishes the Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) Standards Working Group (GWG) as a working group under the DoD Executive Agent for Information Technology (IT) Standards Information Technology Standards Committee (ITSC) in accordance with the references listed in Section 4. GEOINT is defined as the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess, and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activities on the Earth in support of national security needs.

This charter defines the scope, mission, organization, function, responsibilities, and procedures of the GWG. This charter subsumes the mission and functions of the Imagery Standards Management Committee (ISMC), the Geospatial Standards Management Committee (GSMC), and their respective charters. The ISMC/GSMC were previously chartered under the ITSC to separately address aspects of GEOINT and no longer function as active committees. (See references 4.N. and 4.O.)

1.2 GWG

The GWG serves as a community-based forum to advocate for Information Technology (IT) standardization activities related to GEOINT. In this capacity, the GWG supports the Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) in carrying out GEOINT functional manager responsibilities for standards. The GWG performs two major roles: 1) as a technical working group (TWG) of the ITSC, with all the responsibilities of an ITSC member and, 2) as a coordinating body for the GEOINT community to address all aspects of GEOINT standards.

As a TWG of the ITSC, the GWG recommends adoption of standards to the Department of Defense (DoD) IT Standards Registry (DISR) to enable the discovery, access, integration, dissemination, exploitation and interoperability of GEOINT. The DISR is used as the registry of GEOINT standards, mandating those standards for use across the DoD community.

As a GEOINT standards coordinating body, the GWG acts as an advisory group to the NGA. Through the GWG, community consensus is formed to advance GEOINT standards that enable interoperability, meeting the requirements of community members. The GWG provides a standards-focused forum that will:

- Exchange information and discuss issues
- Propose DoD and Intelligence Community (IC) positions
- Identify emerging standards and provide advice on the need to develop new standards; coordinate the development of new standards or specifications when appropriate
- Serve as the subject matter expert within the DoD and the IC for GEOINT standards matters

GEOINT STANDARDS WORKING GROUP CHARTER

2. Scope

The GWG provides community leadership and management of GEOINT standardization activities for the National System for Geospatial-Intelligence (NSG). The NSG is defined as the integration of technology, policies, capabilities, and doctrine necessary to conduct geospatial intelligence in a multi-intelligence environment. It includes the DoD and non-DoD components of the IC, including, where appropriate, coalition and Federal civil agency partners.

The GWG is responsible for all activities assigned by the ITSC, including making recommendations for GEOINT standards to be placed into the DISR and for coordinated advice and policy recommendations on GEOINT standards issues related to the DISR.

In its coordinating and advisory role, GWG activities extend to all aspects of GEOINT standardization, including issues related to GEOINT standards identification, adoption, promulgation, implementation, compliance, and education.

The GWG focuses on GEOINT standards that enable interoperability in net- and data-centric environments and that are relevant to enabling technologies, data architectures, and software tools. GEOINT standards are those that enable the discovery, access, integration, dissemination, and exploitation of GEOINT and include, but are not limited to:

- Imagery content, format and compression
- Geographic feature encoding
- Geographic portrayal
- Metadata
- Intelligence reporting
- Advanced Geospatial Intelligence* (AGI)
- Information transfer

3. Mission

The GWG supports the ITSC in the configuration management of GEOINT standards within the DISR. Additionally, the GWG provides a standards-focused forum that the NSG community can use as a means to exchange and communicate issues regarding GEOINT standards requirements, development, implementation, and conformance. The GWG recommends GEOINT standards for data, systems, and their interfaces to ensure interoperability with DoD and non-DoD systems.

4. References

- A. Section 2223 of title 10, United States Code
- B. DoD Directive 4630.5, "Interoperability and Supportability of Information Technology (IT) and National Security Systems (NSS)," January 11, 2002

* AGI is also known as Imagery Derived Measurement and Signature Intelligence (MASINT)

GEOINT STANDARDS WORKING GROUP CHARTER

- C. DoD Instruction 4630. “Procedures for Interoperability and Supportability of Information Technology (IT) and National Security Systems (NSS”),” May 2, 2002
- D. DoD Instruction 4120.24, “Defense Standardization Program (DSP),” June 18, 1998
- E. Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-119, February 10, 1998
- F. DoD Directive 5105.60 – National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), October 11, 1996
- G. Division E of the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 (Chapter 25 of title 40, United States Code), as amended
- H. DoD 4120.24-M, “Defense Standardization Program (DSP) Policies and Procedures,” 9 March 2000
- I. CJCSI 6212.01C, “Interoperability and Supportability of Information Technology and National Security Systems,” 20 November 2003
- J. DoD Directive 5101.7, Executive Agent for Information Technology Standards, May 21, 2004
- K. NGA, Strategic Overview for the NCGIS, July 2004
- L. NGA Geospatial Transition Plan Implementation Report, May 2004
- M. DISA, Standard Operating Procedures for the Information Technology Standards Committee, Information Technology Standards Working Groups, and Technical Working Groups, 26 October 2004
- N. Charter Geospatial Standards Management Committee (GSMC), 1 October 1994
- O. Imagery Standards Management Committee (ISMC) Charter, 15 December 1994
- P. NGA, Program Management Overview for the NCGIS, July 2004
- Q. NGA, Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) Basic Doctrine, GEOINT Publication 1, June 2004

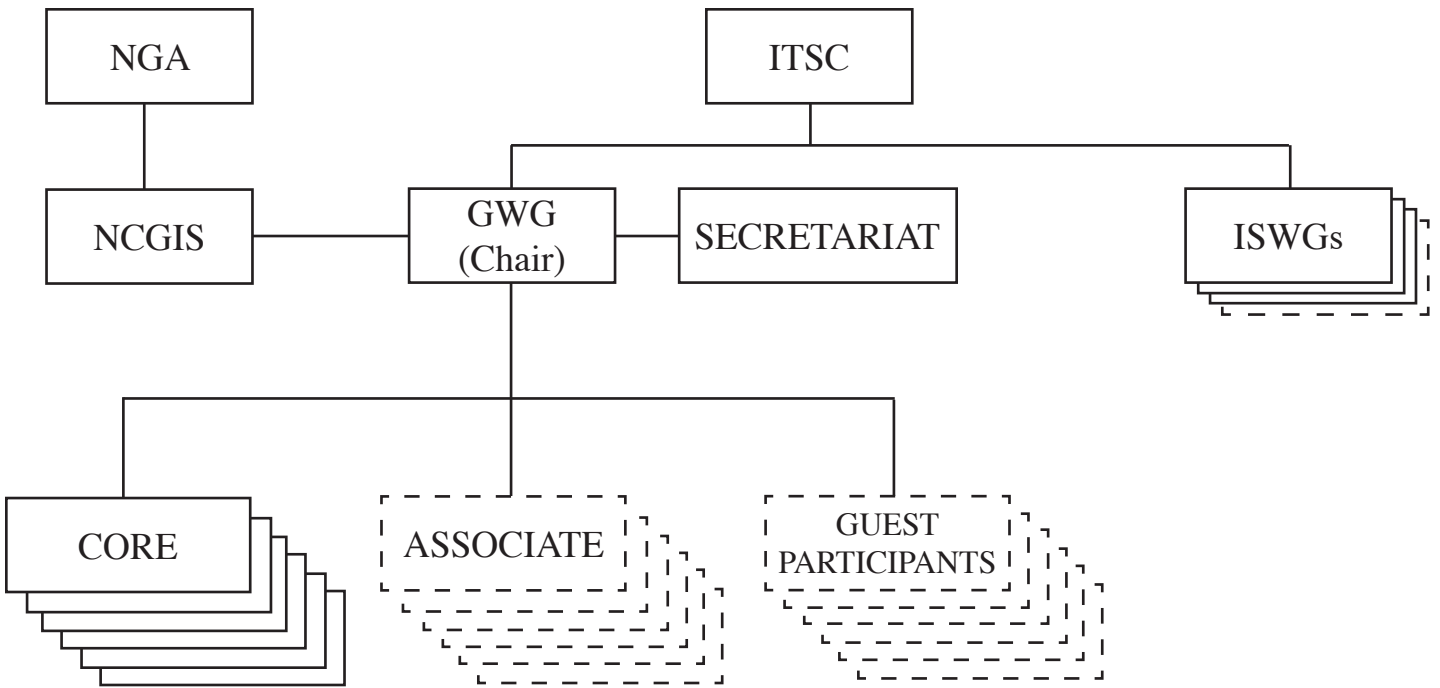
5. GWG Organization

The GWG is organized to support the ITSC and GEOINT standards community effectively and efficiently. The GWG organization consists of a chairperson, secretariat, members, and guest participants. (See Figure 1.0) The GWG consists of the following:

GEOINT STANDARDS WORKING GROUP CHARTER

- A. Chair: The Director, NGA/National Center for Geospatial Intelligence Standards (NCGIS), or an alternate designated by the Director, will chair the GWG.
- B. Secretariat: The NCGIS will provide or arrange for the Secretariat and administrative support for the GWG.
- C. Members: Membership consists of two categories: Core and Associate. (See Appendix B, Sections 2 and 3) Core Members have primary authority and responsibility toward gathering consensus in the GWG. Core Members are listed in Appendix B, Section 2. Associate Members serve as subject matter experts to the GWG.
- D. Guest Participants: The GWG Chair or core members may invite individuals or teams as Guests for technical presentations as deemed appropriate by the GWG Chair. (See Appendix B, Section 4.)

**Figure 1.0
GWG Organization Chart**



GEOINT STANDARDS WORKING GROUP CHARTER

6. Functions and Responsibilities

The GWG is responsible for:

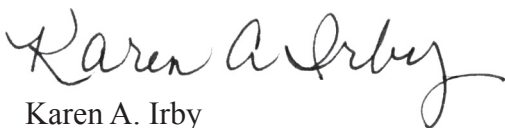
- 1) Coordinating population, deprecation, and content maintenance of the GEOINT standards within the DISR
- 2) Serving as the community forum for the coordination of all standardization activities and functions related to GEOINT

The GWG also supports and acts as advisor to the Director/NGA as functional-manager for GEOINT standards. It assists, as appropriate, the NCGIS in carrying out the GEOINT Standards Program. The GEOINT Standards Program and NCGIS program activities are outlined in the *Program Management Overview for the NCGIS, July 2004*.

7. Procedures

- A. The GWG meets a minimum of three times per year. The Chair or any Core Member may request additional meetings of the GWG if circumstances dictate. GWG meetings follow a published agenda prepared and distributed by the Chair. The Chair directs all meetings.
- B. Detailed procedures are documented in the GWG standard operating procedures, which are approved by GWG core members.
- C. The GWG shall at least annually review this charter, and GWG core members shall approve revisions, as necessary, to ensure adequate continuity and appropriateness.

Approved:



Karen A. Irby
Director
National Center for Geospatial Intelligence Standards
NGA

GEOINT STANDARDS WORKING GROUP CHARTER

Appendix A – Acronyms

ANSI	American National Standards Institute
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
DARPA	Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
DIA	Defense Intelligence Agency
DISA	Defense Information Systems Agency
DISR	DoD IT Standards Registry
DLA	Defense Logistics Agency
DoD	Department of Defense
DSP	Defense Standardization Program
FGDC	Federal Geographic Data Committee
GEOINT	Geospatial Intelligence
GSMC	Geospatial Standards Management Committee
GWG	Geospatial Intelligence Standards Working Group
IC	Intelligence Community
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ISMC	Imagery Standards Management Committee
ISWG	IT Standing Working Group
ITSC	Information Technology Standards Committee
METOC	Meteorological / Oceanographic; also Meteorology and Oceanography
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCGIS	National Center for Geospatial Intelligence Standards
NIMA	National Imagery and Mapping Agency
NGA	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
NRO	National Reconnaissance Office
NSA	National Security Agency
NSG	National System for Geospatial-Intelligence
OGC	Open Geospatial Consortium
SCOTS	Standards-based Commercial-Off-The-Shelf
USSOCOM	US Special Operations Command

GEOINT STANDARDS WORKING GROUP CHARTER

Appendix B – Membership

1. Chair: The GWG is chaired by the Director, NGA/NCGIS, who is responsible for overseeing the fair and open conduct of GWG business and representing the GWG to the IC ISWG and the ITSC.
2. Core Membership: Core members have primary authority and responsibility in the GWG. Core Members are representatives from the following organizations:
 - National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)
 - Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
 - National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)
 - National Security Agency (NSA)
 - US Army
 - US Navy
 - US Air Force
 - US Marine Corps
 - US Special Operations Command (USSOCOM)
 - Joint Staff J2/J6
 - Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC)
 - Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA)
 - Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)
 - Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)
3. Associate Membership: Associate members augment the core membership resources as representatives from other organizations to support agenda topics. Specific members are designated by the GWG Chair. These members fall into the following categories:
 - A. External Standards Forums: National and international standards development and promulgation bodies and consortia, for example, American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
 - B. Commercial Sector: The GWG will establish relationships, where appropriate, with commercial vendors and consortia in order to communicate GWG requirements and influence those communities to meet requirements through non-proprietary Standards-Based Commercial-Off-the-Shelf (SCOTs) solutions.
 - C. NATO Allies and Coalition Partners: This category of membership includes U.S. partners, such as the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia.

GEOINT STANDARDS WORKING GROUP CHARTER

4. Guests Participants: The GWG chair or core members may invite individuals or teams as Guests, as deemed appropriate by the GWG Chair.