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General Dynamics, ESRI Team to Create Geographic Network Services Capability

Company to demonstrate service-based architecture approach at annual ESRI User Conference in San Diego July 7-11

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (23rd Annual ESRI User's Conference) – General Dynamics Decision Systems, a business unit of General Dynamics (NYSE: GD), will demonstrate the combined use of ESRI's ArcGIS geographic information system (GIS) software and an established service-based architecture technology at the ESRI Users Conference July 7-11 in San Diego. The service-based geographic network services prototype enables the use of geographic data on a range of systems from servers and workstations to handheld computers, personal digital assistants and other visualization products.

The prototype system to be demonstrated incorporates ESRI's software with General Dynamics' proven visualization products to deliver user-specific map-based data without the need to download software or reconfigure the visualization device.

“Our service-based architecture approach allows target and unmanned aerial vehicle data from existing military systems like the U.S. Army Common Ground Station to be imported and displayed using visualization products such as ArcMap™, Map-Objects Java Edition™, JMTK and others,” said General Dynamics Decision Systems principal systems/software engineer Gordon Bader. “This new ability allows applications to be used in innovative ways, providing new capabilities that can grow with time and imagination.”

Geographic Information Systems using service-based architecture technology have the ability to provide geographic information over a secure network adding operational efficiency and

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capabilities that until now would have required reconfiguration and software writing. The technology provides interoperability with existing systems and eliminates costs typically associated with non-network based solutions.

“By integrating General Dynamics’ service-based architecture with ESRI’s GIS solution, we’ve made geographic services discoverable over a network to authorized users independent of device or platform,” said Jim Hammond, a General Dynamics Decision Systems program manager. “This joint technology has revolutionary applications in defense and homeland security as well as commercial settings.”

General Dynamics will demonstrate this technology at the ESRI User Conference in Booth 327 at the exhibit pavilion in the San Diego Convention Center. Additionally, Bader will present a white paper on the Airborne Stand-Off Radar (ASTOR) program’s use of ESRI’s ArcGIS Desktop System at 10:30 a.m. on July 10. ASTOR is a United Kingdom Ministry of Defence airborne radar surveillance system that provides day, night and all-weather imagery of the ground over a large area.

General Dynamics Decision Systems, based in Scottsdale, Ariz., is a leader in products and systems for information assurance, communications and situational awareness for defense and industrial customers in the U.S. and abroad. In addition to the Scottsdale headquarters, General Dynamics Decision Systems has facilities in Huntsville, Ala., Orlando, Fla., and Columbia, Md., as well as other locations close to customer centers of operation.

General Dynamics, headquartered in Falls Church, Va., employs approximately 57,000 people worldwide and anticipates 2003 revenues of \$15 billion. The company has leading market positions in land and amphibious combat systems, mission-critical information systems and technologies, shipbuilding and marine systems, and business aviation. More information about the company can be found at www.generaldynamics.com.