



City of Frisco, TX-Project SAFER

Congratulations to the City of Frisco, TX for receiving ESRI's 2010 President's Award for Project SAFER, an innovative GIS Emergency Response Platform

Project Background

The City of Frisco has developed a program called SAFER (Situational Awareness For Emergency Response) that relies on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as it's key component to provide the Fire Department, Police, and Emergency Responders en route to an emergency, immediate live access to detailed geospatial data. This includes access to all the GIS maps and data, more than 1,700 live video feeds, preplans, dispatch information, and automated vehicle locations.



The project was conceived in 2008 through a cooperative agreement between the City of Frisco IT/GIS, Police, Fire, and the Frisco Independent School District. A team was formed to standardize the school floor plans, obtain photographs, and incorporate school videos and Fire preplan data.

SAFER is deployed on mobile data computers in all vehicles using GeoLynx Mobile, on all dispatch stations using GeoLynx 9-1-1, and also in the emergency operations center using a custom ArcGIS 9.3.1 ArcServer web application developed by Frisco for situational awareness. Back office integration includes Microsoft SharePoint, ArcGIS, Pictometry, orthophotography, GeoLynx 9-1-1, and GeoLynx Mobile. GeoLynx Mobile integrates multiple databases, giving responders real-time information with access to aerial maps (both obliques and orthophotography), school surveillance cameras, school contact information, campus photos, floor plans, and Fire preplan information. This innovative tool makes it easier for first responders to visualize the scene of the incident and begin planning their response while en route. GeoLynx Mobile has improved the communication between the City of Frisco's Emergency Responders by presenting a common operating picture thereby saving time, lives, and property.

The goal of Project SAFER was to bring critical information about schools in the City to the hands of emergency responders using a GIS platform. All of this was accomplished over an 18-month period and involved integrating numerous existing databases and developing a seamless data access program. The next phase of the project will include commercial buildings.

About the City of Frisco, TX:

The City of Frisco, TX is approximately 25 miles north of Dallas. Frisco is currently the fastest growing US city and one of its biggest challenges has been managing the growth. Through the use of an integrated GIS effort, the City is designing their infrastructure and development to manage this growth.



City of Frisco, TX Fire personnel accessing GeoLynx Mobile in an Emergency Response Unit.

