

Dear Delegate



I am writing to thank you for participating in CC The Exchange event and for helping to make it such a success.

I am delighted that over 80 delegates from 40 countries were represented at the event and that the conference provided an excellent networking opportunity to explore trends and challenges in both business and technology.

One of the highlights of the conference for me, as I am sure it was for you, was that HRH The Earl of Wessex was able to open our conference and meet so many of you. In his opening speech he said:

'This conference is about meeting the challenges you face today as map makers in this high tech, increasingly fast-paced world. The world may seem to be smaller in terms of communications but there's nothing like sitting down face to face.'

I understand from many of your comments and feedback that CC The Exchange provided an excellent opportunity to share ideas and develop new working relationships and friendships.

I do hope that you are able to build on these new relationships and continue to exchange information. One of the ways you can do that is by visiting the NMO (National Mapping Organisations) network:

www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/nmonetwork. The website includes an interactive forum that is dedicated to NMOs.

You simply need to register to access the area and you can then share news and views with your counterparts across the world.

I am delighted to include a copy of the Conference photograph in this mailing; I hope it provides you with a memento of your time at CC The Exchange. The Conference CD, which includes copies of the presentations, notes and photographs taken at the event, is also enclosed. The presentations, a full conference report and a very interesting article by Trevor Shaw, Director of Survey and Mapping, National Land Agency in Jamaica, can all be viewed on the NMO network.

I believe that CC The Exchange provided much food for thought and also gave us the opportunity to take real action. In the final plenary session, the issue of what support can be provided to NMOs in developing countries was discussed.

We agreed that ownership of the issue was crucial and to move the debate surrounding sustainability and funding forward it would be raised by GSDI and at the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Sciences, which encompasses international organisations such as FIG, ISCGM, IHO, ISPRS, all of whom have strong links with NMOs.

I look forward to hearing about progress from the representatives of these groups and reporting back to you in six months' time.

CC The Exchange has been a valuable addition to the Cambridge Conference series and I very much look forward to welcoming you to the next Cambridge Conference, 15–20 July 2007.

With very best wishes

Vanessa Lawrence
Director General and Chief Executive Ordnance Survey

