



PRESS RELEASE

Award for Excellence and Innovation in INSPIRE 2013 to Planetek Italia

Florence, Italy, June 27th 2013. During the INSPIRE Conference 2013 Planetek Italia has been assigned the AWARD for Academic Excellence and Innovation in INSPIRE related to the Small & Medium Enterprises (SME's) for the innovative activities in the field of INSPIRE and SDI development.

This AWARD, promoted by the Technical Committee "Geographic information" of the European Committee for Standardization, CEN/TC 287, has been assigned for innovative parts of the developments made by Planetek Italia and lat/lon in the frame of the "Development of the technical components of the INSPIRE Geoportal at European Level" for the Joint Resource Center (JRC) - Institute for Environment and Sustainability.

In particular the introduction of the concept of "anticipative counting" of potential results into the domain of spatial data infrastructures and the implementation of this feature on interface level through extensions of existing OGC protocols and INSPIRE standards have been awarded. The work has been described and submitted to the CEN/TC 287 in the paper "Anticipative CSW-Counting enhances the Discovery UI (Jens Stutte and Lyn Goltz)¹

In a Catalogue Search UI, the concept of "anticipative counting" of potential results for a search option helps the user to avoid time-consuming void-searches. It has been transposed from general-purpose use on the Discovery of the INSPIRE Geoportal and then integrated as new functionality into the portal's CSW metadata cache. In order to raise the re-use potential for the INSPIRE community and beyond, it has been decided to define an extension to the standard OGC CSW GetRecords request, rather than a proprietary ad-hoc interface. This implementation can be seen as a first shot on the way to become a recommendation of INSPIRE or even standardization through the OGC.

The Association of Geographic Information Laboratories in Europe (AGILE) run the evaluation process and assigned two awards: one (1) for the best academic work and one (1) for the most innovative SME. The AWARD is sponsored and supported by SPARX SYSTEMS Pty Ltd, by smeSpire and by GiStandards Ltd. The two successful candidates received a prize of €2500.

The existence of this award is the confirmation, that SMEs play a key-role for SDI innovation by filling the gap between established concepts and products for SDIs and the increasing demand for a more user-centric approach. The C.E.O. of Planetek Italia, Giovanni Sylos Labini, declares: "SMEs can keep up to this challenge through own innovation and through the adoption and extension of open standards like those set out by OGC and INSPIRE. These standards live not only through their adoption, but also the contributions of many SMEs. We are putting strong efforts into this challenge, and the assigned award confirms and honours us."

About Planetek Italia

Planetek Italia S.r.l. is a leading Geospatial Solutions provider focused on exploiting the value of geodata through viable, desirable and feasible solutions for storage, processing and delivery.

Planetek italia is an Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) Associate Member and is involved with the INSPIRE initiative as a Spatial Data Interest Community (SDIC), founder of the Italian INSPIRE Forum, founder member of AIPAS, Italian Small and Medium Aerospace Enterprises Association and member of EARSC, European Association of Remote Sensing Companies.

¹ Available here: <http://bit.ly/1as6DjT>



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