



Letter of intent for the participation in the „GIS Forum Danube“

History:

The „GIS Forum Danube“ was founded in 1997 as a trilateral working group by the waterway directorates from Germany, Austria and Slovakia. As common goals these members defined the development of an intensive exchange of geographical data and a close cooperation in the field of waterway management along the Danube waterway. Since 1999 the group has been supported by the Danube Commission and had been asked to handle topics related to River Information Services (RIS). At this time the name of this trilateral working group was changed into „GIS Forum Danube“. In the following Hungary joined the meetings in 2000, Croatia in 2002 and Romania as well as the Ukraine in 2003.

Nowadays European states grow together and the European Union is extending towards the East. Therefore it is of utmost importance that inland navigation along the Danube waterway can rely on internationally compatible systems. Following this purpose the European Union has agreed on inviting European countries to implement pan-European River Information Services (RIS) by the end of 2005 at the conference of ministers of transport in Rotterdam (September 2001). By following these demands the „GIS Forum Danube“ also guarantees the implementation of vital basic conditions along the European Corridor VII in line with the White Book of the European Commission (Brussels 12/09/2001).

Participating companies/administrations:

The country Germany is represented by the following company/administration:

Wasser- und Schifffahrtsdirektion Süd, WSD Süd (Water- and shipping authority south)

Name of company/administration

Short description (max. 200 words):

The Water- and Shipping Authority South, located in Würzburg, is a subdivision of the Ministry of transport building and housing. The WSD is responsible for the waterways Main, Main-Danube Canal and Danube. The main tasks are

- Infrastructure and maintenance
- Shipping affairs
- RIS
- Legal affairs
- Administration of real estate for the waterways
- Producing of maps and hydrography

The WSD Süd has 4 operational departments (water- and shipping offices), 1 building department and 2 special departments.



Fachstelle für Geoinformationen Süd, FGS (Department for geo-information south)

Name of company/administration

Short description (max. 200 words):

The Department for geo-information south, located in Regensburg, is a special department of the WSD South. It is responsible for

- Producing maps of the waterways Main, Main-Danube-Canal and Danube
- Special surveying tasks, like laser scanning
- Administration of georelated basic data
- Special tasks concerning with River Information Services

Participating persons:

Following persons are nominated as members of the Steering Committee:

Ludwig Steinhuber	Water-and shipping authority south	
Name	Company/administration	Function

Wieland Haupt	Department for geo-information	
Name	Company/administration	Function

According to the rules stated within the "Memorandum - GIS Forum Danube" (Vienna, January 27th, 2004) the representatives are willing to participate in the GIS Forum and accept the commonly passed rules for the co-operation. The participants will participate in the common meetings and are willing to stick to the commonly recommended agreements and rules.

Würzburg, 26.05.04

Place, Date





Name, function

Würzburg, 26.05.04

Place, Date



Name, function