

# NEWS



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## MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

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Michael A. Nutter, Mayor  
Douglas I. Oliver, Press Secretary

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**For Immediate Release**

### **CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HONORED AT ESRI'S 2008 USER CONFERENCE WITH PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

*Philadelphia, August 14, 2008* – The City of Philadelphia won the prestigious President's Award at ESRI's (formerly Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc.) 2008 User Conference held this past weekend in Redlands, California. The City received the honor for its leadership and innovation in developing GIS (Geographic Information Systems) that improve numerous government functions and city services, while making a positive impact on the environment and society.

Mayor Michael Nutter said, "The City of Philadelphia's Division of Technology has worked hard to introduce innovative applications that create efficiencies for our employees, and ultimately lead to improved public safety, education, economic development, community health, and services for our citizens."

Jim Query, Director of Enterprise GIS for the City of Philadelphia's Division of Technology, accepted the award from ESRI President Jack Dangermond in front of 15,000 attendees.

"We're honored to be recognized with such a prestigious award, and thankful to ESRI for helping to make our program such a success in Philadelphia," said Query.

"The work of the City of Philadelphia is truly remarkable," said ESRI President Jack Dangermond. "They have a long history of innovation. They've shown how government agencies can operate in an efficient, flexible, and customer-focused environment."

Since 1990, the City of Philadelphia has been a leader in applying GIS to government operations. The City built a spatial data warehouse in 2000 and developed enterprise geospatial web services in 2001. More recently, the City created a land records system that links property-specific data among departments using a common address model. Other City of Philadelphia departments have also utilized GIS, including Philadelphia International Airport, the Philadelphia Police, and the Streets Department to maintain an efficient work system that manages information, asset and project management. Several new cutting-edge enterprise GIS applications are underway, including PhillyStat, which is part of Mayor Nutter's new approach to government accountability and transparency in City government.

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