



tensing
SPYDER WEB GIS



Reference case

Tensing SPY Mobile GIS and SPYder Web GIS at Cox Communications Inc.

Cox Communications Inc. (CCI) is one of the largest CATV companies in the USA supporting over 6 million customers for CATV with 21,000 employees. With GENS Smallworld as their current corporate GIS, CCI needed to find a cost effective manner to allow users access to the data both in the field and in the office without compromising performance. That solution was both Tensing SPY Mobile GIS (SPY) and Tensing SPYder Web GIS (SPYder). After a thorough investigation, CCI was then convinced of a successful solution. Furthermore, one of the most important reasons that CCI moved forward with Tensing SPYder was the fact that existing Magik applications written in Smallworld could be reused within Tensing SPYder thus reducing the amount of consulting work actually required to meet various user requirements. They already existed and there was no need to re-engineer applications. With respect to Tensing SPY, the biggest reasons for choosing this solution dealt directly with the ability to integrate with GENS Smallworld using both SSI and Gatekeeper supporting Data Marshalling and Incremental Updates.

Why did Cox Communications Inc. choose Tensing

Tensing SPY Mobile GIS and Tensing SPYder Web GIS are the products CCI is using to support the GENS Smallworld implementation for Mobile Field requirements.

Considering Tensing SPY Mobile GIS (SPY), CCI has revealed that:

- SPY is completely compatible and complimentary to GENS Smallworld environment supporting quick and fast bi-directional movement of all types of data;
- SPY has a standard set of tools already available to meet the majority of the requirements set by CCI;
- SPY is as part of Tensing SPY Development Studio and as such SPY can be integrated into existing applications;
- SPY supports the Data Capture Requirement such as Redlining and Data Attribute changes, with many routines automated;
- SPY supports the Planning Requirement, with many routines automated;
- SPY supports a simplified method of plotting and printing;
- SPY supports standard Searches and Traces, minimizing the need for complete new developments by enhancing these standard functions;
- SPY can be customized to suit the needs of the users and evolve as the user demands evolve;
- SPY supports a compression of data that does not compromise the integrity of the data;
- SPY supports a more simplified environment for field users. This inherently supports the use of Field hardware as opposed to being limited to full blown workstations.



Considering Tensing SPYder Web GIS (SPYder), CCI has revealed that:

- SPYder supports the native reading and display of GENS Smallworld data via the Internet;
- SPYder supports concurrent usage;
- SPYder supports larger map sizes;
- SPYder supports easy plotting requirements

Benefits of SPYder Web GIS and SPY Mobile GIS to Cox Communications Inc.

The benefits to CCI are deemed to be as follows:

- CCI will be able to meet or exceed its requirement for View and Data Capture in the field. The latter activity will even further limit any potential backlog that may be accumulated in its as-built data acquisition as well as ensure that this data be loaded into the corporate GIS system on a regular basis;
- CCI will be able to meet or exceed its requirement to provide data in the field on a regular basis. With the SSI (SPY Smallworld Interconnect) routine in place, CCI will be able to directly (without a middle data format) extract **all** of the data including Internal Worlds with connectivity through Internal Worlds, from the GENS Smallworld GIS on a user defined basis. This means that extraction can take place via a complete database or a polygon while a further definition identifies which layer of data or which attributes are extracted or not. Since SSI takes advantage of GENS Smallworld's Data Marshalling, extraction periods are by far the fastest in the industry while still maintaining the integrity of the corporate GIS database. This ensures that the implementation will compliment all of the IT systems previously mentioned;
- The total solution is clearly much more oriented towards a complete Mobile Field GIS solution than simply a view environment. In fact, it can even support the optional requirements of routing and forms data processing among the necessary requirements;
- CCI is not dependent upon Tensing to maintain or enhance this application. With the purchase of Tensing SPY Mobile GIS Development Studio and a standard development studio such as Visual Basic or Microsoft Visual Studio .Net, this is achievable. Thus CCI is not forced to Tensing at any time with respect to applications development and any future requirements that may be needed;
- CCI's investment in SPY not only solves the issues that need to be addressed today but it also solves the future requirement for a Mobile Field GIS solution to support activities such as locating, repair and maintenance and, of course, planning;
- CCI will be able to meet or exceed its requirement to integrate with other back office systems with SPYder;
- CCI is not dependent upon Tensing to maintain or enhance the SPYder Internet application.

Delivered products

- Tensing SPYder Web GIS (with PNI Module);
- Tensing SPY Mobile GIS;
- Tensing SPY Smallworld Interconnect (SSI).