

Customer

Scott Wilson Group plc offers engineering consultancy in the Railways, Buildings & Infrastructure, Environment & Natural Resources and Roads Sectors.

Challenge

Ordered by the 3 Counties Alliance Partnership of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, Scott Wilson had to carry out an asset data collection survey by plotting the location and attribute details of retaining walls within the highway boundary, then to interface and update the data into Derbyshire County Councils GIS software.

Solution

MobileMapper CX, a precise and weatherproof handheld GPS receiver has been selected for the survey work. The hardware has been completed by DigiTerra Explorer 5, a clever mobile GIS and data collection software in order to display map layers quickly and to record details in a simple way.

Results

Data collection and processing proved to be easier, more reliable and consistent by using the combination of MobileMapper CX and DigiTerra Explorer 5.

Scott Wilson Group plc (UK)

DigiTerra Explorer helps to plot retaining walls on highways

Scott Wilson Group offers global integrated design and consultancy for the built and natural environment, mainly in the Railways, Buildings & Infrastructure, Environment & Natural Resources and Roads Sectors. The Group, listed on the London Stock Exchange has a global network of 80 locations and employs over 6,000 members of staff with over 3,500 based in the UK.



The Challenge

Scott Wilson has received a mandate from the 3 Counties Alliance Partnership of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire to carry out an asset collection survey by uploading background maps of the peak district, plotting the location and attribute details of retaining walls within the highway boundary, then to interface and update the data into Derbyshire County Councils GIS software. To do this job, Scott Wilson had to select an appropriate precise and rugged handheld GPS receiver with a flexible and easy-to-use mobile GIS and data capture software. Having some bad experiences with other GPS devices in the past, main requirement was that the receiver should consistently pick up satellite signals in situations and locations where others have struggled. With regard to the software, user friendly structure and efficient protection against data loss were prerequisites.



Software used

DigiTerra Explorer 5 mobile GIS and data collection software

Hardware used

Magellan Mobile Mapper CX handheld GPS receiver

Consultant involved

Ormston Technology Ltd.

For more information

DigiTerra Information Services Ltd.

H-1025 Budapest
Csévi u. 6.

Hungary

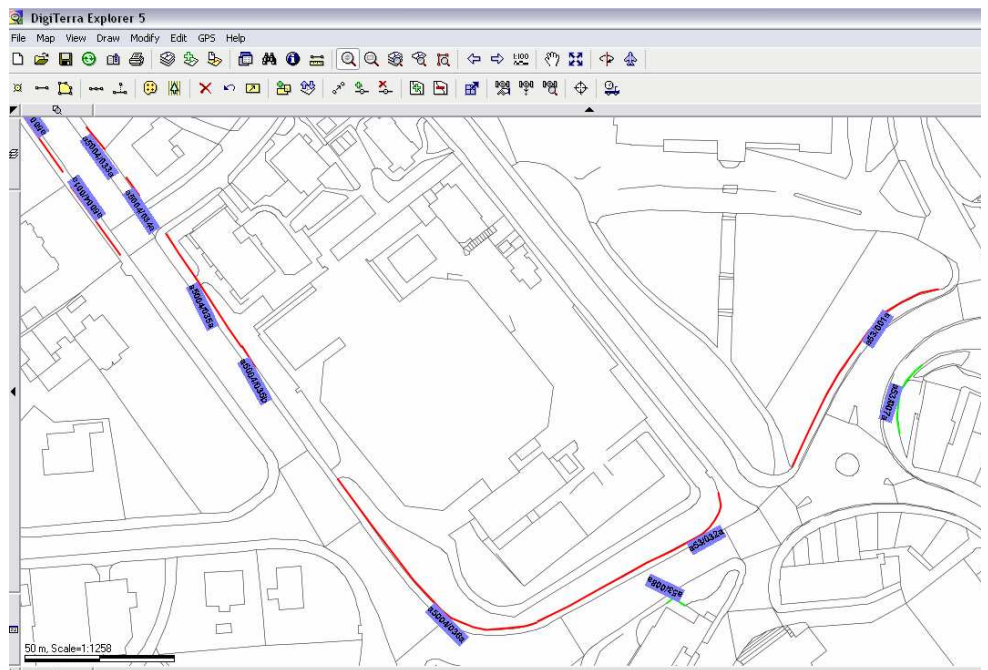
Phone: + 36 1 225 8173

E-mail: info@digiterra.hu

The Solution

Magellan Mobile Mapper CX with DigiTerra Explorer GIS software proved to be the right solution for Scott Wilson. Using the built in GPS receiver, surveyors were able to accurately find their correct location on the pre-loaded background maps. Retaining walls were identified as per the clients' requirements and then plotted using the DigiTerra Explorer Software. Attributes such as the retaining height as well as overall height, material, thickness and condition were recorded.

Downloading, checking and editing the data is just as quick and easy, with the use of a USB cable connected from the device to a computer, or by direct transfer from the SD-card and then running this data through the same DigiTerra Explorer Software on the PC, once upload is complete, as shown on the screen shot about the processed data:



The Results

DigiTerra Explorer Software running on Magellan Mobile Mapper CX GPS handheld device allowed for custom made data capture forms, to be created in a matter of minutes after a day's training session. Drop down menus could be created for logging attributes which helped to ensure consistency in the data collected, as well as to speed up the data collection process. Rob Marron, project manager at Scott Wilson says:

"DigiTerra Explorer proved to be an easy to understand, straightforward application. To enable easy identification and display on the map, each layer can have a different symbol and even points can be labeled. Unlike previously used GIS software programs, DigiTerra Explorer is extremely user friendly and gives the users confidence that data was being recorded accurately. The automatic creation of three back up files of collected data is another valuable feature which makes it virtually impossible to lose or corrupt data."

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