



### Rapid Integration Toolkit (RIT)<sup>®</sup>

### Success Story

for Web GIS and Web Facilities Management sites.

## City of Sheboygan – Great Lake City Application

In Wisconsin, on the western shores of Lake Michigan, midway between Milwaukee and Green Bay, lies the City of Sheboygan. This harbor town celebrated 150 years in 2003, and is home to over 50,000 residents. The City limits contain approximately 15 square miles with 664 acres dedicated parkland and almost 200 miles of road. The City of Sheboygan's engineering staff has relied upon Taylor Technologies' guidance since 1993.

TTI has worked with the City as they evolved from the early days of base mapping with Autodesk Map<sup>™</sup> to their current GIS solution. Their present GIS solution is built with Autodesk MapGuide and the implementation of TTI's Rapid Integration Toolkit<sup>®</sup>.

Tom Horness, the Senior Civil CAD Technician for Sheboygan values their relationship with TTI. He states, "*The City design and mapping capabilities have grown a great deal as a result of choosing Taylor Technologies as our Autodesk Solution Provider. Whether it was for software, training, support, or just to bounce an idea off the wall, Taylor Technologies friendly staff has always given us prompt, professional service. Being part of a small municipal government, and feeling the budget crunch, Taylor Technologies' relationship went the extra mile and assisted us in applying for a grant to help our GIS system continue to grow.*"

Tom and the City of Sheboygan have experienced the advantage of staying with Autodesk and their Mapping/GIS solutions. Neighboring Communities, that have chosen 'other' solutions, call upon Tom and their Autodesk experience. This background has given the City of Sheboygan a solid foundation to continue building a GIS distribution system that is the envy of the State.

Tom is and continues to be an advocate for TTI and Autodesk GIS solutions. In his words, "*I want to show everyone how Autodesk products can do just as much, just as fast, without the high price, without the specialized consultants.*"





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### Plymouth County – Midwest County Application

Located in Northwest Iowa, Plymouth County is home to the 'The Ice Cream Capital of the World'. The county seat Le Mars, was officially designated as such in 1994. Citizens of Plymouth County are not only proud of their ice cream, but are proud of the quality of life in their Midwestern communities. Taylor Technologies is honored to be chosen as Plymouth County's GIS solutions provider.

With only Autodesk<sup>®</sup> Map<sup>™</sup>, Plymouth County was able to create and maintain effective maps. However, they were limited by the amount of GIS data they could attach and distribute. Shawn Olson, the only GIS staffer in Plymouth County says, "*Our original mapping project was completed using AutoCAD software, and we were looking for a way to make the maps available for both county employees and the general public to view.*"

TTI's Rapid Integration Toolkit<sup>®</sup> with Autodesk<sup>®</sup> MapGuide was the next logical step to effectively distribute the Map and GIS data throughout the County's agencies. Shawn states, "*The people at Taylor Technologies looked at what we had, listened to what we wanted, and created an easy-to-use map file format that still delivers most of the capabilities of the original AutoCAD files.*" He says after a successful implementation of the new system, "*Employees in some offices use the maps daily, and the public has been very enthusiastic.*"

As a result of implementing RIT, secure access to critical data is now available to any department via a simple web browser. The RIT interface is intuitive allowing even novice users to easily build queries and reports. Plymouth County felt strongly about bringing this solution in-house rather than paying a monthly contract fee to a commercial hosting company. RIT allowed them to do that, with Shawn spending about only 15 minutes per week running a batch process to maintain all of their GIS data.



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### Florence County – Rural County Application

Considered the Wild Rivers County of the Northwoods in Wisconsin, visitors and residents enjoy camping, hunting, fishing and all the other wilderness experiences year round in this unspoiled area. With 259 clean lakes and 165 miles of beautiful rivers, interspersed among nearly 254,000 acres of northern forestlands make Florence County seem like the Wisconsin of a generation ago. They boast the second-lowest population of any county in the state, with 80% of the county wooded and almost half of its real estate in public ownership. In spite of its stature, one cannot underestimate the need for an effective GIS system, and Florence County depended upon Taylor Technologies to implement the solution.

Despite the rural make up of the county, they had been actively gathering geographic data for decades. Their first major grant in 1994 resulted in a budget of \$70K. The Bay Lake Regional Planning Commission provided base maps by digitizing/editing 7.5 quads. By the late 1990's parcel mapping was nearly completed. Voting districts, map layer structure, zoning, farmland preservation, and land use maps are some of the data layers that have been collected since the first grant.

The next logical step for the county was to provide web based access and functionality to these maps and GIS data. Integrating Taylor Technologies' web-based solution Rapid Integration Toolkit<sup>®</sup> allowed them to efficiently manage, maintain, and monitor their GIS information.

According to Rich Wolosyn, Florence County Zoning Administrator, "*The implementation of Autodesk<sup>®</sup> MapGuide and TTI's Rapid Integration Toolkit has reduced the time of projects by 80 percent. Small hand maps were used to develop a Public Hearing notification to the adjoining property owners. Now we use MapGuide to locate the property in question, and use RIT to query the adjoining property owners mailing information to a mail merge.*" Rich concludes, "*The MapGuide/RIT program is a quick and easy way to make land use evaluations and notification.*"

