



World Geospatial Industry Council

HORIZONS NEWSLETTER

January 2026

WGIC UPDATES

Global Industry Leaders To Join Horizons 2026



On June 2, 2026, Horizons will arrive in London, bringing together global leaders from across the geospatial industry and beyond for a day of conversations on strategy, policy, innovation, and collaboration.

We're pleased to announce the first confirmed speakers for Horizons 2026: Ryan Ciesielski, Global Head of Geospatial at National Grid; Geeth de Mel, Strategy Co-Lead for Climate and Sustainability at IBM; and Ed Parsons, Fractional Executive and Digital Geographer. Many more industry voices will join the program in the months ahead.

Save the date: June 2, 2026, at 8 Bishopsgate, London.

Registration will open soon. Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) for early access and updates as we move closer to Horizons 2026.

MEMBER CASE STUDY

Jio Achieves Excellence In AirFiber Deployment Across India With ArcGIS



Reliance Jio, a pan-India telecom operator, deployed a national-scale 3D GIS system built on Esri's ArcGIS platform to support the rollout of its AirFiber services across India. The geospatial foundation enabled building-level feasibility analysis, precise network planning, and rapid deployment at scale.

[Read the full case study here](#)

WGIC continues to accept case studies from its member companies. Tell us about the customer challenges, your approach to solve them, technology and its implementation, and key results to showcase the impact and value of geospatial innovation.

[Submit your case study](#)

HORIZONS PODCAST VIDEOS

Lean Methodologies Enabled Cape Town To Improve Fairness And Equity



Chris Tanner, Market Director for Africa at Woolpert and a WGIC Project Funding and Sustainability Committee member, speaks with Matthew Ferguson, Manager of Valuation Surveys and Data Quality at the City of Cape Town, about how combining geospatial insights with financial data can strengthen sustainable funding models and more responsive local governance. The episode highlights how near real-time geospatial insights improve data quality, revenue collection, and resilient, people-centric city planning in Cape Town.

[Watch here](#)

EVENTS & OUTREACH

WGIC To Lead Key Industry Conversations At Geo Week 2026



WGIC will be actively participating in [Geo Week](#) 2026 in Denver, contributing to key conversations on geospatial innovation, AI-driven workflows, and workforce development through a series of WGIC-led sessions and roundtables.

WGIC will also convene its Members Meeting followed by a Board Meeting on February 16. Members planning to attend are kindly asked to [RSVP](#). We look forward to connecting with members, partners, and the broader geospatial community during the week.

WGIC Executive Committee Strategic Planning Meeting In Amsterdam



At the beginning of the new year, WGIC officers and senior executives convened in Amsterdam for an Executive Committee strategic planning meeting, setting the direction for 2026 and aligning the priorities. Hosted by WGIC member TomTom, the meeting brought

together WGIC officers - Zubran Solaiman (President), Matthew Pennells (Treasurer), Marius Swanepoel (Secretary General), along with Aaron Addison (Executive Director) and Helen Gilmartin (Associate Director).

The meeting featured a productive and forward-looking discussion on collaboration, innovation, and the role of geospatial technologies in addressing global challenges. We sincerely thank TomTom for hosting and appreciate the continued engagement and support of all WGIC members as we look toward the year ahead.

[WGIC Leadership Visits Fugro Offices](#)



At the beginning of the year, Aaron Addison, WGIC Executive Director, and Helen Gilmartin, WGIC Associate Director, visited Fugro's offices and met with Leonard Sands, the Global Director Land at Fugro, and Pooja Mahapatra, Head of Product – Climate & Nature at Fugro.

As a valued WGIC member company, Fugro continues to play an important role in advancing dialogue and collaboration across the geospatial industry. We sincerely thank Leonard and Pooja for their time, warm welcome, and the productive conversation, as well as for exploring opportunities to strengthen engagement and partnership going forward.

[INTERGEO TV Interview With Aaron Addison](#)



This conversation between Aaron Addison, WGIC Executive Director, and INTERGEO TV's Denise Wenzel reflects on priorities that continue to shape the geospatial industry today.

Aaron discusses turning data into meaningful decisions, as well as the importance of trust, ethics, and interoperability. The conversation also highlights the growing need for workforce development and upskilling as technology continues to evolve.

[Watch the full interview.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Geo Week | February 16-18, 2026](#)

[WGIC Members & Board Meeting | February 16, 2026](#)

[Esri Ireland Conference | April 29, 2026](#)

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