



# World Geospatial Industry Council

## HORIZONS NEWSLETTER

March 2026

### WGIC UPDATES

#### Influential Speaker Lineup at Horizons 2026

**HORIZONS**  
World Geospatial Industry Event

**New Perspectives, New Horizons: Meet Our 2026 Experts**

June 2, 2026  
8 Bishopsgate, London, UK

**REGISTER NOW!**

wgic-horizons.live

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|--|---|---|---|
| <br><b>Ryan Ciesielski</b><br>Global Head of Geospatial, National Grid | <br><b>Vida Williams</b><br>Geospatial Capability Lead, Jacobs                  | <br><b>Michael Flynn</b><br>Global Infrastructure Leader, Deloitte                | <br><b>Olive Powell</b><br>Head of Geography & Geospatial, UK Office for National Statistics      |
| <br><b>Denise McKenzie</b><br>Managing Partner, PLACE Trust            | <br><b>Geeth de Mel</b><br>Strategy Co-Lead for Climate and Sustainability, IBM | <br><b>Ed Parsons</b><br>Fractional Executive - Digital Geographer, edparsons.com | <br><b>Phil Cooper</b><br>Global Technical Business Development - Geospatial, Amazon Web Services |

The Horizons 2026 speaker lineup continues to grow, bringing together voices from across geospatial, infrastructure, sustainability, and digital transformation. Join us on June 2 in London for a day of discussion, insight, and connection around the trends shaping the future of the industry.

[Register Now!](#)

**Save the date** **WGIC Annual General Meeting (AGM)**  
June 1, 2026  
The Surveyors' House, RICS Westminster, London, UK

#### WGIC Podcasts And Interviews Now On Spotify

World Geospatial Industry Council **HORIZONS**

**FOLLOW & LISTEN NOW**

WGICouncil.org

The latest WGIC Horizons podcast episodes and Member Spotlight interviews are now available on Spotify, with episodes being added every week. Tune in for conversations with industry leaders, know more about WGIC member companies, and perspectives shaping the future of the geospatial industry and beyond. Follow us on Spotify and start listening.

[Listen now](#)

### PARTNER EVENT

**GEO BUSINESS** **THE GEOSPATIAL EVENT**  
ExCeL LONDON • UK  
3 – 4 JUNE 2026

**REGISTER NOW**

### WGIC BLOGS

#### Geospatial Is Fuelling New Ways Of Collaboration And Holistic Problem-solving: Jack Dangermond

**Jack Dangermond**  
Chair - Patron Board, WGIC

Recounting a transformative memory from his student days, Jack Dangermond, WGIC Patron Board Chair and President, Esri, reveals how the iconic "Earthrise" moment laid the groundwork for the modern systems-of-systems now enabling global collaboration and holistic problem-solving.

[Read the full blog](#)

#### From Data to Decisions: Why Trust Will Define the Next Era of Geospatial AI



AI is moving fast in geospatial, but real value will depend on something deeper: trust. In this new blog, we look at why trusted data, explainable workflows, strong governance, and focused use cases will define the next era of geospatial AI.

The blog draws on key discussions from WGIC's Geo Week 2026 roundtable, From Data to Decisions: Geospatial Workflows in the Age of Automation and AI. Read the full blog

[Read the full blog.](#)

#### Guide AI Evolution With Integrity And Purpose: Alain De Taeye

**Alain De Taeye**  
Vice Chair - Patron Board, WGIC

AI is here to stay, and not becoming AI-native could exclude companies and organisations from future growth and success, says Alain de Taeye, Vice Chair of Patron Board, WGIC and Member of Management Board, TomTom.

Alain sees AI as a major accelerator—not a replacement—for human expertise and advocates for combining advanced algorithms with domain knowledge to deliver solutions that are

both innovative and reliable.

[Read the full blog.](#)

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## Horizons 2026: A Preview With Aaron Addison



In conversation with Rami Tamimi, geospatial content creator and founder of The Survey School, Aaron Addison, Executive Director of WGIC, shared what to expect from Horizons 2026.

Taking place on June 2 at 8 Bishopsgate in London, the one-day executive-focused event will highlight how geospatial is being used beyond the geospatial sector through real end-user cases and fresh industry perspectives.

[Watch the full video](#)  
[Register for Horizons 2026](#)

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

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

[Horizons 2026 | June 2, 2026](#)

[Geo Business | June 3, 2026](#)

[UCGIS Symposium | June 15, 2026](#)

[Innovate4Cities | June 21, 2026](#)

[AWWA ACE | June 21, 2026](#)

[EO Summit | June 22, 2026](#)

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