



World Geospatial Industry Council

HORIZONS NEWSLETTER

August 2026

WGIC UPDATES

WGIC Heads to INTERGEO 2026



ENGAGE WITH WGIC AT INTERGEO 2026

**15**
September

Board & Members Meeting
9:00 - 12:00 PM (CEST) | Room B52

**16**
September

Data to Decisions
2:00–3:00 PM (CEST) | Main Stage

**17**
September

From Rules to Readiness
12:50–1:50 PM (CEST) | Application Dome

The WGIC team is heading to INTERGEO 2026 in Munich for three days of connection, conversation, and industry exchange.

From member meetings and networking opportunities to panel discussions on data, decisions, and organizational readiness, WGIC will contribute to timely conversations shaping the geospatial industry.

We look forward to connecting with members, partners, and industry colleagues in Munich.

[View the agenda](#)

Geospatial Policy Has Stopped Waiting for Us



GEOSPATIAL POLICY HAS STOPPED WAITING FOR US



In the last week of July, we published the WGIC Policy Scan Q3 2026 edition - the quarterly exercise in which our Policy Development & Advocacy Committee tracks policy, regulatory, standards and strategy developments relevant to the geospatial sector. The ink was barely dry, and several dates in its pages moved from watchlist to present-tense reality.

[Read the full blog for more insights](#)

HORIZONS PODCAST VIDEOS

Data Sovereignty Is An Overwhelmingly Complex Problem



**BUSINESSES SHIFT.
GEOPOLITICS CHANGE.
SOVEREIGNTY FOCUS
RETURNS.**

Kathy Martin, General Manager at MBS and WGIC Board Member, speaks with Ed Parsons, Digital Geographer, and Shannon Brlansky, MBS Geospatial Services Team Lead, about the growing importance of data sovereignty in the geospatial industry.

The episode explores the distinction between data sovereignty and data residency, changing attitudes toward open data, privacy and security concerns, access to Earth observation data, the influence of AI, and the challenge of developing shared standards. The speakers also discuss how geospatial professionals can contribute to stronger data governance and clearer public conversations about geography.

[Watch now](#)

EVENTS & OUTREACH

Aaron Addison Moderates Academia and Industry Panel at NSF I-GUIDE



WGIC Executive Director Aaron Addison moderated a panel discussion on pathways for partnerships between academia and the geospatial industry at the annual NSF I-GUIDE gathering in Chicago.

The discussion brought together perspectives from academia and industry, exploring how stronger collaboration can support research, innovation, and closer alignment between academic expertise and industry needs.

Panelists Angela Lee, Kumar Navulur, Elliott Kellner, Peter Herman, and Florence Hudson shared their expertise and perspectives and enriched the conversation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[INTERGEO | September 15-17, 2026](#)

[Alaska GeoSummit | September 21, 2026](#)

[R-CON 2026 | October 12-15, 2026](#)

[Subscribe to Horizons Podcast](#)

[Subscribe to Horizons Newsletter](#)



World Geospatial Industry Council

Fluwelen Burgwal 58, 2511 CJ, The Hague, The Netherlands

Contact

info@wgicouncil.org

[unsubscribe from this list.](#)

©World Geospatial Industry Council