ESdat

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Your Data. Organized, Analyzed, Reported. **Faster**




ESdat**NEWS** Q3 2011

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In this Issue

and more . . .

Managing your **geological data**

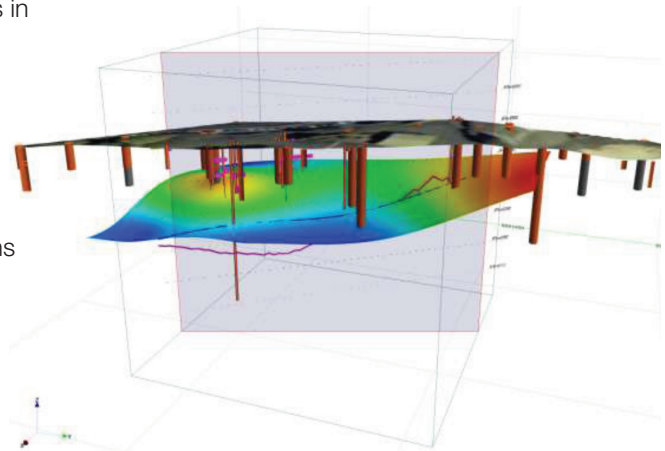
While it would be safe to say that all ESdat users use ESdat to manage their time-series and investigation monitoring data, use of ESdat as a centralized database for your geological data is much more "two speed", those who do exclusively, and those who don't at all.

Show me all bores that hit basement

If you wanted to produce a series of borelogs or other output for all bores in your project that have intercepted basement, would that be possible?

If your data is in ESdat you can easily filter for all locations that intercept a specific geologic unit, and export all data for those locations to your bore logging package (gINT or WinLog), or other software (ie accompanying MapInfo Discover image).

Alternatively, you could filter by any other geologic unit, by bore depth, drilling company, or aquifer test result.



handy hints

LNAPL density corrections

Do you need to plot LNAPL corrected water levels? Are you aware that ESdat can calculate the corrected water level for you?

ESdat has a "NAPL" output under "Water Levels". ESdat will output the water depth, the NAPL thickness, the corrected water level and the relative density used in the correction.

By default ESdat uses a relative density value of 0.76, however this can be modified in the "Site Properties" table to get a single value across the site. You can even have a different value in each Well (Piezometer) by entering a Chem Result with a ChemCode of "LNAPL_Rel_Density". **See the help file for further information.**

Result ranges

Do you sometimes find that ESdat will output results in the Chemistry Output Table export as a range (ie 1– 3)?

		BTEX				
		Benzene	Toluene	Ethylbenzene	Xylene (o)	Xylene Total
		µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L
EQL		0.5	1	0.5	0.5	1
95th Percentile				0.89		
USEPA PRG Tap Water		0.35	720	1300		210
LocCode	Sampled_Date					
BH01	11-Nov-09	<0.5	<1	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5
	06-Jan-10	-	-	-	-	-
	28-Jan-10	-	-	1 - 3	-	-

There are two reasons this can occur:

1. **There may be two samples collected at BH01 on 28-Jan-10.** This can be resolved by including additional sample details in the table (ie Sample Type if one is a duplicate). Alternatively including Field ID may ensure each sample is reported independently (if the Field ID values are different.) Including SampleCode will always differentiate them as it is impossible for two samples to have the same SampleCode.
2. **There may be two results for Ethylbenzene delivered for the one sample, and the results are grouped by "Chem_Group".** This can be resolved by grouping the results by either Method Type or Method Name, which will be unique for each of the different results.

Setting up new projects

For population of new ESdat databases (Access or SQL Server) the most effective way reported by users is the use of an ESdat Interchange File (EDIF).

You can take an existing project and export the reference or required data to an EDIF. Then when you start a new project you can import that EDIF to immediately have the environmental standards, combined compounds or other startup data that you require on a recurring basis.

You can create a whole selection of EDIFs for different kinds of projects.

Depth based guidelines

Some local soil guidelines (Canadian CCME, proposed Australian NEPM) require different trigger values be applied to different depth ranges or soil types.

As ESdat facilitates filtering by any parameter prior to output table generation it is a simple matter to filter for all data above or below a particular depth and produce specific chemistry output exceedance tables or maps for each specified interval. Similarly it is simple to filter by different soil types, whether you define these by different areas of the site, or on the basis of the sampling matrix.

Ensuring your data has the correct soil depth specified is easy. If you include it on your COC it will be reported with the laboratory data in ESdat format. If you don't, but include the depth as part of the sample Field ID then ESdat will automatically extract the depth component, so long as one of the "recognized formats" is used. See the help file for details. Of course, if you are using PLog/LSpecs for electronic COC then it all happens automatically for you.

State groundwater database data **in ESdat**

Some users may not be aware that a free tool to import the Victorian Groundwater Management System into ESdat is available. Development of this tool was funded by the Mallee CMA who agreed it could be made available to others. See VIC_GMS_to_ESdat_Import.docx for details. An import (and export) tool for the Californian Geotracker database is also available.

In addition EScIS have recently completed an import for specific areas of the Queensland DERM GWDB into ESdat. An export for data to the Queensland Water Commission is also underway. These are not available as free tools, but please contact us if you have a similar need.

Further, an export tool to deliver data in the BoM (Bureau of Meteorology) xml based Water Transfer Data Format (WDTF) is available for purchase, or can be customiszed to specific requirements as part of an implementation plan.

News from the labs - **SGS Environmental**

SGS is the world's leading testing, verification and inspection company with a global presence and strategically located sites around the world.

SGS Environmental has been working with the team from ESdat over the past 3 years to ensure our clients data can be reported in a simple usable format.

The management of laboratory data is a critical aspect of the results that we deliver. ESdat has provided our clients with a format that has assisted in managing this process, and a system that allows them to manage and re-use their data.

AMD/ARD Services

Acid Mine and Acid Rock Drainage studies are becoming an ever-more prevalent part of mine site management, with existing and upcoming legislation set to increase the requirement to demonstrate short- and long-term environmental awareness. AMD and ARD services tested by SGS environmental include:

- Static testing: ABA, ABCC, ANC, NAPP, NAG, WRA, XRF, XRD
- Leach Testing: whether the testing is for Australian, Canadian or European compliance.
- Kinetic Testing: kinetic testing allows minesite operators to markedly increase the rate of breakdown of disturbed rock in a way that replicates the environment in which it is (or may be) located. The data is then used to model the likelihood and/or nature of acidic discharge from your site – and hence the problems you may face. In accordance with both internationally recognised methodologies (c.f. MEND Project) and local guidelines (e.g. AMIRA Project in parts of Australasia).

Air Services

SGS Environmental has recently expanded Air service, providing a complete Air Toxic sample collection and analysis service, with Stainless Steel sample tubes for method TO-17 as well as SUMMA canisters for method TO-15 with full clean and re-certification to provide clients with every option available.

More Information

SGS has offices conveniently located to most major mining and regional centres: See Australia, Canada, USA, or full listing.

Electronic Chain of Custody

There is still the opportunity to comment on the proposed data formats for exchange of lab analysis lists, sample containers, quote and other setup data, as well as exchange of lab sample receipt information. These proposed formats supplement the already existing electronic COC submission options, and are designed to increase efficiency and accuracy during laboratory sample receipt.

Please contact **support@ESdat.com** if you would like to have the opportunity to comment.

In the **pipeline**

Chemistry Lookup Profiles

While the ability to vary each compounds grouping, ordering and output units on a per project basis has always been straightforward in the Access implementations of ESdat, in the SQL Server versions it has been necessary to agree on a single corporate standard.

In response to some feedback we have received on this, work is currently underway to support multiple Chemistry Lookup Profiles, so that users can easily switch between different settings for their chemistry lookup. It will be possible for one person to be looking at a dataset with one set of chemistry grouping, units, ordering, and other options, and someone else to be looking at the same dataset with completely different settings.

Profiles will also apply to managing Environmental Standards to enable variations in ordering on output.

Browser interface

Various browser components have been developed for specific ESdat implementations in the past, including data input, reporting and change tracking. These have now been bought together and integrated into a single Web Interface for ESdat (requiring the SQL Server version). Work on product and marketing documentation and final testing is currently ongoing and should be available in the next few months.

New Implementation Manager starts

EScIS welcomes Michelle Lashmar to the position of Senior Environmental Data Management and Implementation Consultant.

Michelle brings a background in Environmental Science, IT and Communications to the position and will be providing support and training services to EScIS clients as well as managing new implementations of ESdat software.

Michelle holds a Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in Environmental Pollution and Health and a Master of Science degree. As an Environmental Scientist, published author and IT/ database expert with over 10 years experience in environmental consulting and state Government projects, Michelle has an ideal skill-set to understand the requirements of our ESdat users and help organisations achieve their business goals with ESdat software .

For more information please contact **Michelle@EScIS.com.au, or on 02 8875 7948.**

Training **discounts**

Training in Perth in the week of 19 September is available for the reduced rate of $3,200+GST for the first 6 attendees. Please let us know asap if you are interested.

Vancouver and Calgary based training is available in the weeks of 17th and 24th October for the reduced rate of AUD$3,200 for the first 6 attendees.

Conference attendance and training, Canada

During October ESdat is to be presented at the RemTech conference in Banff, Canada as part of our regular rounds to visit existing users and market ESdat in Calgary, Vancouver and Toronto. This is our second year of attendance at this conference, and we look forward to seeing some familiar and new faces.

This is also an opportunity for users to obtain some in-house training for "local" mobilization rates if desired, and for new users to obtain personal demonstrations of the software either at the conference or in-house visits may be arranged.

Current ESdat users who would like to encourage their colleagues in these locations to assess the software are encouraged to contact their colleagues to inform them of this opportunity.

Tata Steel purchases ESdat in the UK

Tata Steel's Environmental Technology group in the UK recently assessed and implemented the complete ESdat, LSpecs, PLog Environmental suite of software for managing their extensive environmental data requirements, in conjunction with gINT for bore log production. Shaun McKenna, Environmental Engineer, Land Quality made the following statement.

"The decision to purchase the ESdat software including the LSpec Sample Planning Module and PLog is already generating a return on our initial investment through the efficient interrogation and reporting of geo-environmental data.

The technical support provided with the package was such that ESdat was operational and being actively used on projects after only two days of training.

This is all the more impressive as the majority of the active users have no prior data management expertise or experience. I look forward to further exploring and exploiting the full potential of this integrated software solution."

This implementation service was provided by Scott Deaton of Dataforensics, Georgia, USA, a Technology Partner.

Groundwater solutions take on UK reseller role

Groundwater Solutions is a relatively new group based in the UK, managed by Jamie Blackwell, a Chartered Geologist with 12 years hydrogeological experience, a MSc in Hydrogeology, and extensive knowledge of Hydrogeological and Environmental Software.

Jamie has held senior roles at Schlumberger Water Services and SLR Consulting, and is well aware of the issues faced by those in our industry still struggling with Excel or less user-friendly systems.

For more information about using ESdat in the UK you can contact Groundwater Solutions on **01743 231908** or **UKInfo@ESdat.net.**

ESdat skills **needed**

The following vacancies have been advertised for staff with skills in ESdat. Please contact the relevant organisation directly.

- Golder Associates, Melbourne, Assistant Environmental Data Manager
- PB, Perth, Environmental Scientist
- FM Plus, Perth, Hydrogeologists
- FM Plus, Perth, Environmental Scientists / Engineers
- ERM, Perth, Junior Consultant and Consultant roles - Contaminated Site Management
- ERM, Canberra, Environmental Scientist
- ERM, Sydney, Environmental Graphics /GIS Consultant
- ERM, Brisbane, Environmental Scientist - Contaminated Sites Management
- GHD, Hobart, Environmental Scientist
- ConstructEng Australia, Sydney, Junior Contaminated Sites Consultant

Please let us know if you have advertised a position where ESdat skills are desirable and would like it to be included.

Contributions **invited**

Are you an expert in a particular industry-related topic that you feel may be of interest to others?

Do you have an interesting case study that shows a use of ESdat.

Please let us know if you would like to make a contribution and receive recognition from your peers in the industry.

PLog saves time

"This is really both an excellent time saver and a great way to standardise the way we record lithology in the field… I personally used PLog and the tablet PC out on a drilling job last week. We installed 5 bores/wells down to 10m below surface. I had the bore logs printed and in my hand within 15 minutes of returning to the office. It was THAT simple and easy! On this project alone it has saved 4-5 hours." **Craig Ross, ERM**

In response to the question *"How much time do you save when producing borehole logs?"* James Coley at FMG Engineering responded *"More than 50%"*

see http://www.esdat.net/Purchase.aspx for pricing and purchase details

*PLog runs on a Windows Tablet PC or a PDA. Ruggedised PDAs are available from $550