The Spanish Gazetteer Model: A tool for exchange of toponymic data

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** Prepared by el Grupo de Trabajo de Infraestructura de Datos Espaciales de España (Consejo Superior Geográfico) y el Instituto Geográfico Nacional.
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SUMMARY

The Instituto Geográfico Nacional (IGN) explain in this paper the Spanish Gazetteer Model, carried out by the Working Group on Spatial Data Infrastructure of Spain (in Spanish: IDEE), of the Geographical High Board (Consejo Superior Geográfico), as a proposal of data structure designed for storage and management of geographical names, in order to get a common model of gazetteer in Spain, to make easier the data exchange among different gazetteers. This model will make possible the interpretation of information, the decentralized management and the update of a future distributed gazetteer and the implementation of searching services of geographical names (Gazetteer Service), inside the gazetteers integrated in the IDEE.

The Instituto Geográfico Nacional and other cartographic and toponymic bodies of Autonomous Regions are adopting it as a model for theirs respective geographical gazetteers and toponymic data bases that will be included in the Spatial Data Infrastructure of Spain at an early date.

The current version of the Spanish Gazetteer Model is the 1.2 (October 2006) and it is available in the web site of IDEE: http://www.idee.es/show.do?to=pideep_pidee.ES