

The Digital Map



Map Serial Number
Map Serial Number



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The Answer

The answer to the piracy problem
in digital vector datasets



The Digital Map Ltd. is proud to offer MapSN, its leading edge technology in Digital Rights Management Systems applied to digital vector cartography. MapSN has been designed in order to fulfill the following goals:

- provide means to track an illegal copy of a vector map back to the source
- go unnoticed through valid transformation, like transform a file from DXF to SHP and back
- be able to survive minor editions and deletions
- preserve attributes and geometry of the dataset
- independent of file format.



How MapSN How MapSN works?

The MapSN System is based on **Steganography**, the science about hiding an important message within another. In this application, the first message is the serial number, while the second is the map itself.

The serial number is unique for each customer, and is so included that it will survive within the file despite modifications to it. If an illegal copy is found, and provided we have access to it, we would be able to recover the serial number and thus

identify the source of the chain of pirates.

Further actions would be in the legal arena, either in court or in private settlements.

MapSN is provided as a web service under two flavours; in the first, the owner of the map request to our site a valid key to activate a software which will run in his own machine. The activated software will produce a unique watermarked version of the input file, to be delivered to the final customer. The MapSN system will not need to gain access to the original file; only information pertaining to the transaction will be stored in our server.

In the second, the file should be sent to our server, and it will provide back the processed file. In both cases, the owner must supply information about his customer, date of sale, file to be watermarked, etc. all of which will be kept in our servers for later purposes. In any case the final customer needs not to have contact with MapSN in any moment.

After sale support includes to provide testimony about the serial number inserted in an illegal file upon request. It is offered up to five years after the last registered transaction.

Pricing Pricing



Map SN is charged as a small percentage of the sale price of the dataset. There are no initial, neither maintenance costs for having access to MapSN, so charges are indeed paid directly by the final customer.

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