

Title: deegree in EuroGeoNames

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At the end of February this year the EC-funded EuroGeoNames (EGN) project has ended. The result is a working European web service for geographical names, the first stage of ongoing efforts to arrive at a European spatial data infrastructure. The EGN infrastructure consists of a number of Web Feature Services cooperating in offering the end user a single point of access to official geodata from many different European countries. The software of choice for building this infrastructure was the deegree WFS.

In this short presentation by Geodan, first there will be a quick demonstration of EuroGeoNames. This will be done by working the EGN Reference Application (a web application, so an Internet connection is necessary). This should give an idea of the kind of data that are dealt with in EGN and the information provided might be put to use. Next, an overview will be given of the design goals for the EGN that were formulated at the start of the project, and why this led to selecting deegree software as one of the basic building blocks.

Next, the EGN system architecture will be explained, focussing on the role that is played by deegree WFS therein. This is also the moment when the practical issues that were encountered in the phase of setting up the infrastructure will be presented, along with the solutions that were found and applied. Lastly, we will take a look at the future. Not only the future of EuroGeoNames, but pan-European (geo)data infrastructures in general. Within the European Community, various initiatives shape an important drive towards continental spatial data infrastructures. Naturally, Europe needs software to enable those infrastructures. What are the opportunities and challenges for deegree in this respect?