

Budapest District Land Office

Customer Success Story

Autodesk Geospatial Solutions
Autodesk® Topobase™
Autodesk Consulting
Oracle® Spatial

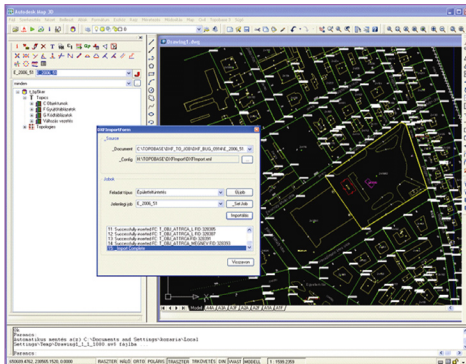


“Topobase is a good fit with our need to operate more efficiently and to be self-sufficient. Overall, we are editing and maintaining data 50% faster. Most importantly, we are saving time and money while keeping our important cadastral information accurate and secure for the people of Budapest.”

András Osskó
Deputy Director
Budapest District Land Office

Budapest Updates Maps Twice as Fast

Autodesk Topobase speeds city records and improves customer service



A map displayed in Autodesk Topobase along with the data import tool.

Project Summary

Charged with managing and maintaining all land registry information such as deeds, cadastral maps, and ownership records, the Budapest District Land Office (Land Office) plays a vital role in the economic life of one of Europe’s most beautiful cities. The residents and businesses of Budapest count on the Land Office to maintain accurate land and home information while providing fast access to official documents and maps when needed. When its cadastral technology became too old, the Land Office turned to Autodesk® Topobase™ for a new cadastral data management solution.

Using Autodesk Topobase software, the Budapest District Land Office is:

- Editing cadastral data twice as fast
- Serving customers 60 times faster
- Reducing costs of maintaining cadastral data for 2 million citizens
- Performing database system changes in-house – saving time and money

The Challenge

Budapest, Hungary, is a city of approximately two million people with more than 230,000 separate land parcels registered in the city. Additionally, there are 750,000 other types of properties, such as condominiums, for which the Land Office maintains data and legal registry information. Maintained

at a highly detailed scale, the Land Office makes accuracy of the official cadastral map of Budapest one of its top priorities. However, with so much information, it is a challenge to keep all data up-to-date.

Outdated Technology

Originally, the Land Office was supported by the national government through tax revenues. Today it supports itself on the fees for property sheets, office documents, and the sale of spatial data. With tight budgets, the Land Office tries to operate as efficiently as possible while ensuring that citizens get good value for their fees. Unfortunately, the Land Office’s GIS technology was not as efficient or cost effective as it needed to be.

The system required expensive specialized hardware to operate, and the Land Office would have preferred to use more standard—and less expensive—PC hardware. Support and maintenance costs for the aging system were much higher than systems on the market. Also, after the Land Office adopted cadastral mapping technology, Hungary adopted a different data standard for the nation, making it more difficult to share data with organizations outside Budapest. This inspired the agency to explore other technology options.

According to András Osskó, deputy director of the Land Office, “The inefficiencies in our old system hindered our ability to control costs and improve

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Deputy Director
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processes as our organization became self-sufficient. We recognized that it was time to consider moving to a new technology.”

The Solution

The Land Office explored cadastral and GIS options, selecting Autodesk Topobase software to combine its CAD and GIS data. “Topobase was the most flexible geospatial solution and offered cadastre functionality standard ‘out of the box,’” says Oskó. Executives were reluctant to undertake the cost of a full-scale implementation without first ensuring the solution would deliver significant benefits. Oskó notes, “We wanted to make sure Topobase met our needs in operation and not just on paper.”

Successful Pilot

The Land Office’s Autodesk Topobase implementation at the Lehel Ter office began in late 2005 with an implementation team that included Autodesk Consulting and ITV Geomatik, a Swiss-based professional services provider. According to Oskó, “Autodesk Consulting handled the software development, and ITV Geomatik drove local development and managed the project. Our organization developed the requirements and helped to thoroughly test the system.”

After an extensive and successful testing period, the Land Office trained employees to use the software. “We trained two groups of employees to use the system,” explains Oskó. “First, we ensured that our IT staff could use the Topobase Administrator to support, manage, and customize the system. Then we trained our survey department to create and edit cadastral data. Because they were all familiar with AutoCAD, the training progressed very quickly.”

The Autodesk Topobase pilot launched at the Land Office’s Lehel Ter office in January 2007. Today, the Lehel Ter office uses the software to store, maintain, and manage information for three districts containing 7,000 parcels and 15,000 buildings. Cadastral maps include more than 400,000 lines and symbols, 50,000 other attributes, and 300,000 points. The survey department can edit all of that data on standard PC hardware using the Topobase interface, and IT staff administers the solution through the Topobase Administrator module.

Now, when residents want maps or legal documents, they go to the new office. Lehel Ter staff access the information citizens request on an easy-to-use web interface. Developed in-house quickly and inexpensively, the web tool uses the open data structure. Staff print records, charging relevant fees. The process is virtually identical to the old one—only much faster.

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Oracle Spatial Administration

The IT department uses the Topobase Administrator module to set up, configure, and manage data within Oracle Spatial. Because Topobase hides the complexity of the data, the Lehel Ter office does not need to call on experienced database administrators to manage the system. “If we have new ideas or need to make changes to our processes, we can easily make updates using the Topobase Administrator module or we can develop new functionality with the rich API,” explains Oskó. “That saves us time and money.”

The Result

Within the first few weeks of using Topobase, the Land Office at Lehel Ter measured some impressive time savings. Staff report completing routine data maintenance and preparation ten times faster than with the old system. Customers have maps 60 times faster. And, users are updating data for a building job two times faster.

According to Oskó, “Topobase is a good fit with our need to operate more efficiently and to be self-sufficient. Overall, we are editing and maintaining data 50% faster. Most importantly, we are saving time and money while keeping our important cadastral information accurate and secure for the people of Budapest. We are looking at rolling the system out for full implementation in the next few years.”

To learn more about how Autodesk Topobase can streamline workflows, visit www.autodesk.com/infrastructure.