The Kansas City Carlson User Group

I’m reflecting on my impressions of the inaugural meeting of the Kansas City Carlson User Group meeting held at the corporate office of Griner & Schmitz on August 20, 2009. About a dozen individuals showed up to form new business relationships with one another and draw on the strengths from their common bond.

The meeting started out with the gracious hospitality of Griner & Schmitz who hosted the event at their corporate headquarters in Kansas City. Complimentary food and beverages were aplenty and the guests quickly found themselves forming or renewing friendships with others in attendance.

After a bit of socializing, the guests were treated to a sneak peek of Carlson SurvCE 2.5 from Carlson Software South Central Regional Sales Director Aaron Newman. Aaron demonstrated many of the new and powerful features of SurvCE and showed the attendees how to leverage the power of the Carlson Field-to-Finish routines. Throughout the presentation, one of the key benefits of a User Group is that questions posed by one individual benefits the others and attendees are generally willing to share their observations and experiences with others. After Aaron’s presentation, I was given the opportunity to demonstrate some of the new features that will be released with Carlson 2010 with particular focus on surveying and the communication of information between the field and the office.

It was amazing at how quickly the two-hour meeting flew by but it is my opinion the Kansas City Carlson User Group is off to a great start. If you’re in the Kansas City area in mid-October for the expected follow-up meeting, consider dropping in for some informational aspects of the products and services offered

by Carlson Software. Otherwise, express your interest in forming a Carlson User Group in your region!

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Ladd Nelson

Carlson Webinars – BIM, GIS and CAD Standards

Carlson Software recently asked Felicia and me to present webinars on topics we have particular interest in or specialize in.

Felicia's webinar on BIM, GIS and Carlson Software can be viewed here: BIM, GIS and Carlson Software Webinar

My webinar on CAD Standards can be viewed here: CAD Standards for Carlson Software with AutoCAD or IntelliCAD

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Jennifer Dibona

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BIM, GIS and Carlson Software Webinar

Felicia Provencal's webinar for Carlson Software on the topic, "BIM, GIS and Carlson Software" can be viewed or downloaded here.

Carlson-IntelliCAD GIS Starter Kit from ESRI

Those currently using Carlson with IntelliCAD are eligible for a new “GIS Starter Kit” from ESRI. The Kit includes:

- ArcGIS ArcView desktop software
- A copy of the book *A to Z GIS: An Illustrated Dictionary of Geographic Information Systems*
- A copy of *GIS Tutorial: Workbook for ArcView 9*, Third Edition
- A 10% discount for the ESRI Survey & Engineering GIS Summit ($325 – standard registration price)

To take advantage of the offer, call 1-800-GIS-XPRT (1-800-447-9778) and request the **Carlson-IntelliCAD GIS Starter Kit** and **please have your Carlson Serial Number available**.

You can read more about ESRI’s commitment to survey and engineering services by visiting http://www.ESRI.com/engineering.

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Jennifer DiBona

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Carlson + ESRI = Wow!

So, how cool is this?

At the Carlson User Conference this week in Lexington, KY, Brent Jones of ESRI announced a new grant program in coordination with Carlson Software. The program will bring ESRI products to every IntelliCAD-based Carlson program.

Speaking with Brent on Tuesday, he said that a few of the details have yet to be worked out, but Carlson IntelliCAD users should be hearing details in about a month.

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Jennifer Dibona

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Dewberry's Dave Palumbo presents 'Choosing and Implementing Carlson'

Starting his presentation at the Carlson User Conference by saying "Carlson works for us," Dave Palumbo, PE, Technology Manager for Infrastructure Services at Dewberry, noted that Dewberry, an ENR top 50 design firm was an early adopter of technology as a differentiator. The evaluation and implementation of three competing solutions took Dewberry more than two years. "Patience was of the essense," Palumbo said.

Read the entire post

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Karen Cummings

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Carlson Software Expands Carlson College™

Carlson Software recently expanded their expert level training program, Carlson College™, and started the Carlson College Training Program. This new program will allow individuals and companies to get training direct from Carlson Software or through the members of the Carlson College Training Program. New members of the Training Program include Harken-Reidar Inc. of Front Royal, Va.; Carlson Desktop Solutions (CDS), based in Austin, Texas; That CAD Girl, located near Raleigh, N.C.; and, for C&G products only, Larry Phipps of the Land Surveyor's Workshop in Jefferson, N.C. Membership in the Carlson College Training Program is available to any person or organization that makes a commitment to providing quality training on Carlson Software products.

For more information on the Carlson College Training Program or training, please contact Carlson Software at 800-989-5028, email training@carlsonsw.com or visit www.carlsonsw.com/training. Members of the Carlson College Training Program are independent entities from Carlson Software.

Read the entire Press release here.

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Karen Cummings

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AutoCAD 2010 Release, Autodesk

2006 Software Retirement

Autodesk has announced that their 2010 products will be released on March 24, 2009. I found this post by Randy McSwain to be a good overview of the new features in AutoCAD 2010.

As of March 13, 2009, Autodesk no longer supports or offers upgrades from their 2006 products.

Because of the retirement of Land Desktop, I see that Autodesk is offering to crossgrade existing Land Desktop customers to Map or Civil 3D with special pricing. Subscription will probably be mandatory, but I'm not certain.

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Jennifer Dibona

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Dewberry Case Study, 'Choosing and Implementing Carlson,' at the Carlson 'Break New Ground' Users Conference, April 5-7

MAYSVILLE, Ky., U.S.A. (March 24, 2009) – At the Carlson "Break New Ground" User Conference in Lexington, Ky., April 5 through 7, David Palumbo of Dewberry will be presenting a case study on how the 2000-person professional services firm with more than 40 locations in 18 states recently chose the Carlson Civil Suite for its site-civil engineering needs.

"In April 2007, Dewberry's site-civil market segment group

embarked on a strategic initiative to unify and modernize site-civil work flow across two dozen offices that service this segment," said Palumbo, PE, Technology Manager for Infrastructure Services at Dewberry. "Carlson Civil Suite was selected over two competing solutions as best aligning with Dewberry's desired work flow and site-civil technical specifications."

The Carlson Civil Suite includes Carlson Civil, Carlson Survey, Carlson Hydrology, and Carlson GIS. Together, these four products are a comprehensive set of design/drafting tools that automate all facets of the civil engineering project.

Palumbo, whose duties include facilitating technology solution acquisition and implementation for all of Dewberry's infrastructure services, including site-civil, transportation, and telecommunications, will explain the intensive process Dewberry performed to choose Carlson. Then he will show how Dewberry, an Engineering News-Record "Top 50" design firm, set about to most effectively implement Carlson throughout their extensive company.

"We will have approximately 250 to 300 users of the product when we're done," he said, noting that the project started by first defining a comprehensive work flow and site-civil task specification independent of software and automation tools. It was these specifications that became the basis of evaluating vendor solutions.

Palumbo will be joining Robert H. (Rob) Campbell, president and CEO of Juniper Systems, Inc., and Brent Jones, PE, PLS, of ESRI, as a speaker at Carlson's 2nd annual conference designed specifically for surveyors, civil engineers, mining engineers, construction engineers, partner manufacturers, and dealers. Palumbo will be speaking during the Monday evening banquet.

“Working with Dewberry has been a rewarding experience,” said Bruce Carlson, president and founder of Carlson Software. “With so many offices, Dewberry had special demands for data sharing and project tracking and also wide-ranging needs for data interoperability across platforms such as AutoCAD, Microstation and ESRI, including compatibility with field data collection and instrumentation,” he added. “Our product offerings are focusing on these capabilities. We enjoyed being a part of their competitive product review – that’s our preferred business environment!”

The goal of Carlson’s user conference is to help users “break new ground” and learn how to optimize the power of Carlson’s versatile software. Learning tracks at this two-and-a-half-day event will cover the same land development aspects as Carlson Software products: data collection, land surveying, civil engineering, mining and construction and machine control.

Carlson is keeping the cost of the two-day event at $695 right up to registration to help more people harness the power of Carlson Software and get project ready. Sign up now at www.carlsonsw.com/conference. Group discounts are available.

About Carlson Software. Carlson Software, an independent company founded in 1983, develops software solutions to bring the land development professional from concept to completion. The 25-year-old company is well known for its comprehensive civil, surveying, machine control and positioning, plus mining software solutions. Its free technical support and dedication to customer service is unique in the industry. Carlson Software is headquartered in Maysville, Ky., with branch offices in Boston, Atlanta, and Queensland, Australia.

About Dewberry

Dewberry is a 2,000-person professional services firm, specializing in engineering and architectural design; program management; planning; GIS; surveying; and environmental

services. Established in 1956, the firm has more than 40 locations nationwide, with headquarters in Fairfax, Virginia, near Washington, DC. For more information, visit www.dewberry.com.

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Jim Reinbold

Large Companies DO Use Carlson – Dewberry Presenting Implementation Case Study at Conference

Carlson Software put out a press release this week announcing that a representative of Dewberry will be making a presentation at the User Conference about their recent implementation of Carlson Survey and Civil Software.

This is a good supporting argument for my Myth #7 about how large companies DO use Carlson.

Click here for the press release about Dewberry.

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Jennifer Dibona