

IMTA (AMERICAS) 2009 CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
September 13-15, 2009

*"CONNECTING THE BUSINESS OF MAPS WORLDWIDE"*

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to attend the 2009 International Map Trade Association (Americas) Conference and Trade Show, along with a government forum to be held during this event. IMTA (Americas) Conference will be held 13-15 September at the Hotel Albuquerque in the heart of the historic Old Town Plaza and museum district in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

IMTA specializes in the multiple disciplines that make up the mapping and spatial information industry worldwide. Changes within our industry are causing us to rethink how business is done, and this conference will focus on better handling today's challenges of changing politics, society, culture, technology, and economy. The 2009 IMTA (Americas) Conference & Trade Show will offer cartography workshops, educational sessions, trade show exhibits, a geocaching event, and a golf tournament.

As well as the vibrant educational sessions, another important part of the event will consist of forums covering the retail, publishing, cartographic and government sectors of the mapping and spatial information industry. As a government agency representative, you may be particularly interested in attending the Government Forum, offered on Tuesday 15 September, from 12:30 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.

This meeting will be hosted by the United States Geological Survey, and facilitated by Ms. Kari Craun, Director of the National Geospatial Technical Operations Center. Government invitees include the Natural Resources Canada, Instituto Nacional De Estadística Y Geografía, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, and U.S. Census Bureau. The content of the forum will be guided by your topics of interest from your colleagues in other Government agencies in the North America region. Topics might include discussion on trends and issues facing government mapping organizations and will provide an opportunity to seek answers to questions that others may have resolved in the Government Sector. We hope to provide an interesting roundtable discussion and a unique networking opportunity with this forum.

You can obtain information on this event by visiting the IMTA website at: [www.maptrade.org](http://www.maptrade.org) or by contacting Mr. Ron Lofton at (303) 202-4115 or [rlofton@usgs.gov](mailto:rlofton@usgs.gov).

We sincerely hope that you will join us in making this year's government forum a success. We look forward to your response and seeing you at the 2009 IMTA Americas Conference & Trade Show and I hope you can also participate in a making this a successful Government Forum.

Yours sincerely,

*Mike Kline*

Mike Kline  
IMTA (Americas) President