

Antarctic Digital Database (ADD)

ADD Version 4.0 will be released on the internet in July/August 2002. The major differences between this version and Version 3.0 (released in 1998) is the incorporation of a dataset supplied by Australia, covering the coastal regions of Australian Antarctic Territory, and improvements in the resolution of data for parts of British Antarctic Territory.

New data provided by the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) significantly improved the coastline between 36°E and 168°E. In addition, complete topographic data supplied by AAD were incorporated for three tiles surrounding the Amery Ice Shelf (SQ 41-42, SR 41-42 and SR 43-44). In other tiles, the existing rock outcrop and contour data have been amended to fit the new coastline. In the Antarctic Peninsula region, contour data have been incorporated from the BAS/BKG 1:250,000 satellite image maps of Trinity Peninsula and Adelaide Island. The coastline of the Antarctic Peninsula and offshore islands north of Marguerite Bay has been revised using the image mosaic created by BKG and more recent images, where available. The pattern of rock outcrop and contours has been warped and edited to fit the new coastline. This affects five tiles (SP 19-20, SP 21-22, SQ 19-20, SQ 21-22, SR 19-20). Finally, the omission of a few small nunataks in tile SS 28-30 has been rectified.

The web site has continued to be well used by the public and by Antarctic researchers. Figures for usage of the ADD since it was launched on the internet in July 1998 are as follows:

	<i>Registered in the year starting July</i>				
	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>Total</i>
Visitors to the web site:	4002	5232	5366	5585	20185
Number of registrations:	499	612	539	550	2200
Tiles downloaded:	3080	3419	4562	4082	15143

Users from 57 countries have registered at the ADD web site during the past year and tiles were downloaded to 43 countries. Country affiliations are as given by the users and no attempts have been made to verify the information given. After Version 3.0 was released in July 2000, there was a large increase in usage by existing registrants. Activity during 2001 decreased slightly but it is anticipated that usage will rise again once Version 4.0 is released and existing users are notified.

A revised edition of the ADD Manual, prepared to accompany Version 3.0 and published in hard copy format in March 2001, was circulated to WG-GGI members or their Antarctic mapping centres. Further copies of the manual are available from the UK WG-GGI member. Version 3.0 of the manual will replace the existing manual on the ADD website shortly and an addendum, documenting the changes made to Version 4.0, will be published on the internet later. Generalized datasets at 1:1 000 000, 1:5 000 000 and 1:10 000 000 scales were added to the ADD web site soon after the launch of ADD Version 3.0 in July 2000 and a similar range of generalized products will be made available for Version 4.0.

It is anticipated that it will be possible to move the ADD to a SCAR URL (www.add.scar.org) later this year.

