

## Forging links seminar

**It is well known that geography forms an important medium to enable data from different sources to be associated. It does this through the fact that location is often a common theme across datasets. This power to unite data has been central to a number of initiatives, including the Digital National Framework and, more recently, as a central core to the UK Location Strategy. And it has also formed the glue that enables many of the more informal mash-ups to be generated.**

If the focus is moved away from geographic information (GI) and one looks for wider trends in the information economy, then a new way of organising information is emerging – the linked data web. Although relatively young and an offshoot of the semantic web, the linked data web has begun to grow quite rapidly. It has been recognised by linked data practitioners that location based information can provide a valuable means to assist the growth of the linked data web, and indeed some of the core datasets currently published on the linked data web are rich in location data. However, it is also clear that in the majority of cases where location is exploited, it is not always fully done so. Similarly, the majority of people in the GI community will either know only vaguely about the nature of the linked data web or will have not heard of it at all.

This special Terra future™ seminar aims to bring the two communities together: to inform the GI community about the power of linked data, to inform the linked data community about the power of GI, and, most importantly, to **forge links** between the two communities. If linked data is about modern ways to interconnect information, and if part of the power of GI lies in enabling data to be linked, then Terra future is about creating links between communities.

### Who should attend?

Those in the GI community wishing to find out about the linked data web and those in the linked data community wishing to find out how to exploit geographic data.

### Where, when, how much?

The event will be held in the Ordnance Survey Business Centre ([map](#)) on 10 March. Better still, it's free!

### What is the plan for the day?

A provisional agenda is outlined below:

09.15–10.00	Registration and coffee	
10.00–10.15	Welcome and introduction	– Peter ter Haar, Ordnance Survey
10.20–10.40	Linked data in a nutshell	– Tom Heath, Talis®
10.40–11.00	The power of GI	– Liz Ratcliffe, Ordnance Survey
11.00–11.15	GeoVation™	– Chris Parker, Ordnance Survey
11.15–11.30	Coffee break	
11.30–11.50	Linked data and <i>the Beeb</i>	– Tom Scott and Silver Oliver, BBC®
11.50–12.10	Linked data in government	– speaker TBC
12.15–13.00	Lunch	
13.00–13.45	Linked data technical workshop and panel discussion	– Hugh Glaser, Sameas.org and University of Southampton®
13.45–14.30	Geographic information workshop and panel discussion	– Brian Higgs, Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council and Digital National Framework; Ian Holt, Ordnance Survey
14.30–14.45	Coffee break	
14.45–15.45	Group idea generation	– Delegates form a number of discussion groups with equal numbers from each community in facilitated discussion around practical joint uses of linked data and GI.
15.45	Closing address and summary	– Glen Hart and Liz Ratcliffe, Ordnance Survey

## How do I register?

To register please fill out the form below and send it to us at [terrafuture@ordnancesurvey.co.uk](mailto:terrafuture@ordnancesurvey.co.uk).

Please state:

- Name

- Organisation (if applicable)

- Whether you are a member of the GI community, Linked data, both or neither

- Any special dietary considerations?

- Whether you will require parking

Any other comments

Places will be limited to around 140 (approximately 70 from each community), so book early to avoid disappointment!

**Please feel free to forward this invitation to interested parties.**