



Getting Started with B-Inspired

Your Step by Step Guide to Author, Publish and Serve your Metadata through our Free Web Service www.b-inspired.ie

About Metadata

Metadata is critical for sharing tools, data, and maps and for searching to see if the resources you need already exist. Metadata describes geographic information system (GIS) resources in the same way a card in a library's card catalog describes a book. Once you've found a resource with a search, its metadata will help you decide whether it's suitable for your purposes. To make this decision, you may need to know how accurate or current the resource is and if there are any restrictions on how it can be used. Metadata can answer these questions.

The INSPIRE Directive

The INSPIRE Directive was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 25 April 2007, and entered into force on 15 May 2007. INSPIRE lays down general rules for the establishment of an infrastructure for spatial Information in Europe, for the purposes of environmental policies and policies or activities which may have a direct or indirect impact on the environment.

How B-Inspired can help achieve INSPIRE Compliancy

B-inspired is an education and awareness initiative from ESRI Ireland that is targeted at our customers and clients to assist them in meeting their obligations under the EU INSPIRE Directive. As well as including some general purpose information about INSPIRE, b-inspired also provides a mechanism for customers and clients to access and utilise tools and services that embrace the "Compile, Manage, Publish and Serve" philosophy that is behind ESRI's approach to INSPIRE compliance.

ArcCatalog, a client application that is an integral part of ESRI's ArcView Desktop GIS, can be used to fulfill your obligations for Compiling and Managing metadata associated with your spatial data holdings. ArcCatalog is fully compliant with the ISO 19115 and ISO 19139 standards, the Gemini Metadata Standard (applicable for the Northern Ireland marketplace and available via the Productivity Suite from ESRI UK) and INSPIRE (Editor can be downloaded from the B-Inspired website).



Compilation of your metadata to these standards ensures compliance with the Metadata Implementation Rules of the Directive and also that your metadata is transportable between systems.

By physically connecting ArcCatalog to an available Metadata server, you can then publish your metadata to a pre-defined Metadata Catalog service which will facilitate “Serve”, and subsequent “Search” components.

Any item (resource) in ArcCatalog, including folders and file types such as Word documents, can have metadata. Once created, metadata is copied, moved, and deleted along with the item when it is managed with ArcCatalog.

Each GIS resource has its own discrete metadata document. Metadata documents describing related resources are not interconnected. Metadata for a feature class describes only that feature class—it does not inherit any metadata from the feature dataset in which the feature class is stored. Similarly, metadata for a layer file or an ArcIMS Image Service should describe only the layer file or image service and the information it portrays, not the data sources it consumes.

Metadata created with ArcCatalog is stored as XML data, either in a file alongside the item, or within its Geodatabase. In a Geodatabase, metadata is stored in the GDB_UserMetadata table as a BLOB (A large block of data, such as an image, a sound file, or XML, stored in a database) of XML data.

XML is a markup language similar to HTML. HTML defines both the data and how it's presented. XML, on the other hand, lets you define data using tags that add meaning. Style sheets are created using XSL.

Publishing Metadata

You can publish an item's metadata or any XML document to the B-Inspired Metadata Service using ArcCatalog. Before you can do this you must have permission to publish metadata; the B-Inspired Administrator will give you a user name and password that you can use to publish and maintain your metadata. If you do not have a username and password or require more information on how you can become INSPIRE compliant through the use of our tools and services please contact ESRI Ireland by clicking b-inspired@esri-ireland.ie.



Follow these simple steps to Author, Publish and Serve your Metadata

(You must have access to ArcCatalog)

Step 1: Create a connection to the Metadata Service

1. Launch **ArcCatalog** on your desktop.
(If you do not have a copy of ArcCatalog then you should contact ESRI Ireland by clicking here b-inspired@esri-ireland.ie)
2. In the Catalog tree view on the left double-click **GIS Servers** node. The tree will expand to show the different types of servers to which you can make connections.
3. Double-click **Add ArcIMS Server** node and a dialog box will appear for you to enter the detail of the ArcIMS Server to which you wish to connect.
4. In the dialog box **URL of Server** enter the following URL: <http://metadata.b-inspired.ie>
5. Click on the check box marked **Show secure services**. The Username and Password text boxes will become active.
6. Type the **Username** and **Password** in the text boxes for accessing the available secure services. As a Customer, your username and Password should already have been supplied to you by ESRI Ireland. If you do not have a username and password or have misplaced it, then please contact ESRI Ireland by emailing b-inspired@esri-ireland.ie.
7. Click the **Get List** button. The list of available services will be displayed for you.
8. Tick the check box beside the "**B_inspired_Publish_Service**" service. This service will have an icon of a hand holding a pencil.
9. If this is not your desktop or you do not want other people who use this desktop to get access to the B-inspired Metadata for publishing you should uncheck the **Save Name/Password**.
10. Click the **Ok** button. A new entry will appear in the list of GIS Servers available with the URL as entered above.

A connection has now been created to the hosted metadata service enabling you to publish your metadata. Unless you specifically remove it, this connection will be available every time you launch ArcCatalog from now on. You can rename this connection by Right clicking on this new entry in the ArcCatalog tree view and select Rename from the context menu.



Step 2: How to Publish Metadata

1. Make a connection to the Metadata Service as per instructions at Step 1 above, if not already connected. Note: If you have permission to publish metadata, the Metadata Service's icon will show a hand holding a pencil.
2. In the contents tab of the ArcCatalog Tree select the Spatial Datasets whose metadata you want to publish.
3. Right Click and select Copy or press the Copy button.
4. Double click on your B-Inspired Service created in Step 1 and it will expand and display the metadata service with the icon showing a hand holding a pencil.
5. Double click on the B-Inspired Metadata Service and it will expand to show the folders that are available to you to publish to.
6. Select the folder in the B-Inspired Metadata Service to which you want to publish your metadata.
7. Right Click and Paste or press the Paste button. The published documents will appear in the ArcIMS metadata folder. Publishing can take a few moments. If any problems were encountered, a report will appear indicating why a document could not be published. If any documents were previously published, the report will also show which documents were updated.
8. Once you have completed publishing your metadata it will be transferred to the Browser Service by an ESRI Ireland administrator so that it is then becomes available to the public. There is a scheduled transfer once a week (Fridays morning), should you require an urgent release of your metadata you should email ESRI Ireland using b-inspired@esri-ireland.ie providing details of your account and the metadata that you wish to have published/republished.

TIP: You can also publish metadata by dragging and dropping any ArcCatalog item on to your ArcIMS Metadata Service or one of the folders within it contains. This is the only way you can publish the metadata associated with an ArcIMS Image or Feature Service.