AIRNow-International The future of the United States real-time air quality reporting and forecasting program and GEOSS participation



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PA United States Environmental Protection Agency

AIRNow-International

Outline

• What is AIRNow-International?

- Software
- A Community...
 - Shanghai China pilot
- System Capabilities
- Program Goals
 - Current Status
 - Promoting the sharing air quality data globally

What is AIRNow-International?

New AIRNow Software package

- Complete redesign of the U.S. AIRNow system
 - AIRNow is the national real-time reporting and forecasting system for air quality for the States
- Collect, process, map, and distribute real-time environmental information (not just air)
- Microsoft SQL Server platform
- New GIS-based mapping software (ESRI)
 - Geospatial, World-wide mapping capability
 - Map other datasets (e.g., multiple pollutants, aq model outputs)
 - Data fusion possible
- Data and Information Management Systems

What is AIRNow-International?

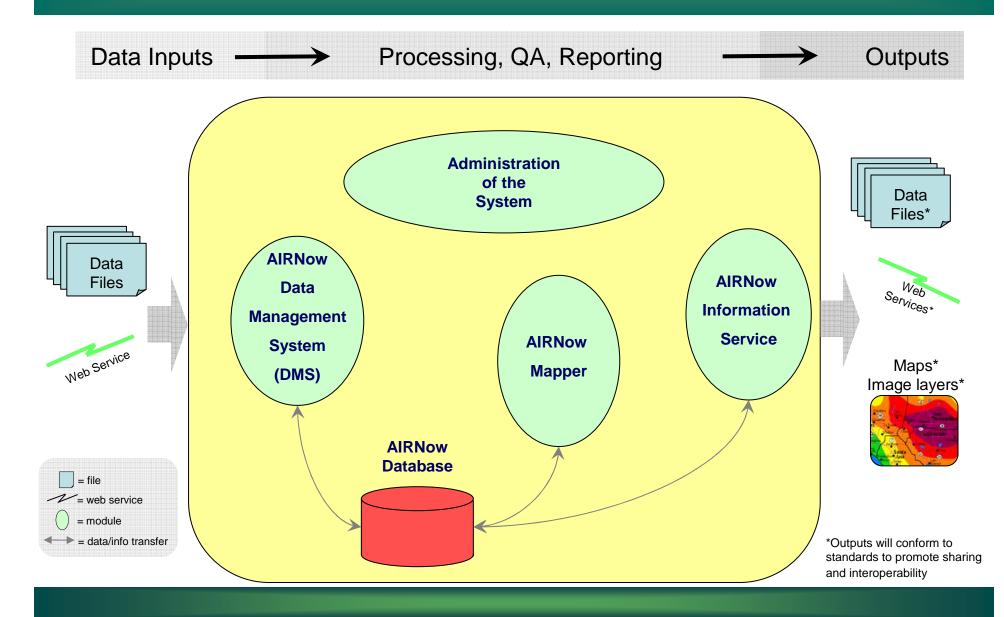
• Services approach...Web 2.0 friendly

- Readily distribute data
- Greater flexibility (sites, geographic extent, parameters, date/time, units, duration, and aggregation)
- Outputs: CSV, KML, NetCDF, GRIB2, Shapefiles, CAP

• Built with open components/standards

- Easily adopted by agencies/organizations
- Multiple language support
- Portable, flexible, and sustainable
- Opportunity for leveraging tools and expertise

AIRNow-International System (Conceptual and Functional Design & Data Flow)



What is AIRNow-International?

Part of a growing 'Community'

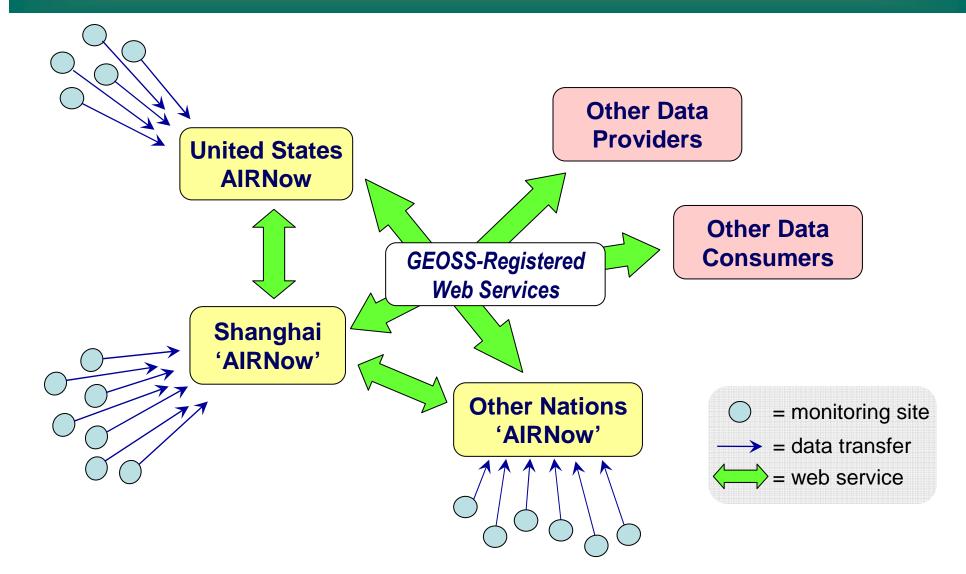
- U.S. AIRNow has always been more than software...
 - Regional cooperation and daily interaction with stakeholders
 - Annual conferences
- Initial pilot of AIRNow-International: Shanghai, China
 - 2010 World Expo
 - help Shanghai visualize, forecast and report air quality conditions

International collaboration and knowledge exchange

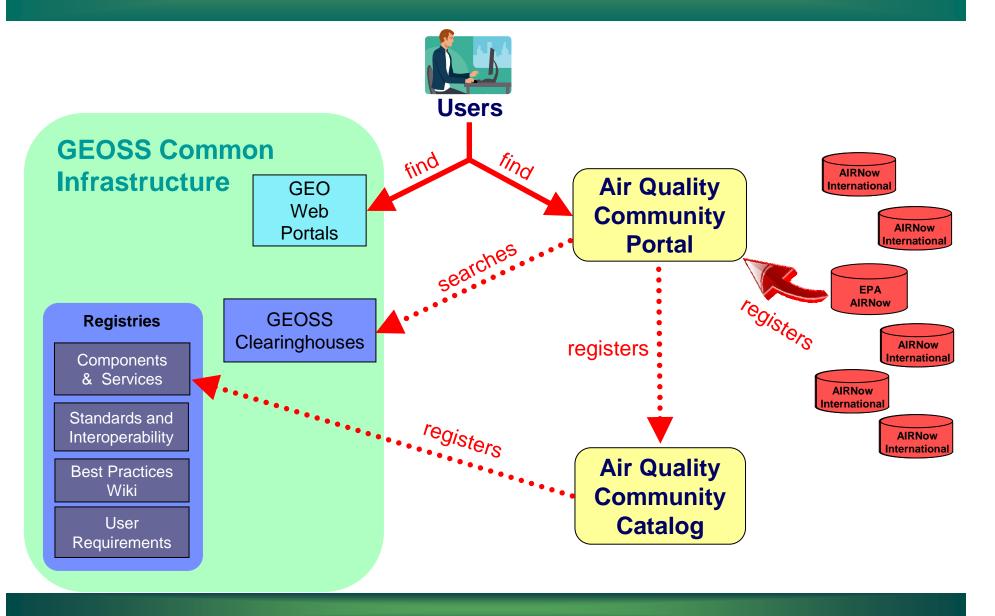
- Promote local, national and international data exchange
 - Agency to Agency
 - Agency to the Public
 - GEOSS
- Promote data standardization via GEOSS

The goal of improving data exchange and access is achieved by building this community

AIRNow-International Concept



AIRNow GEOSS Participation

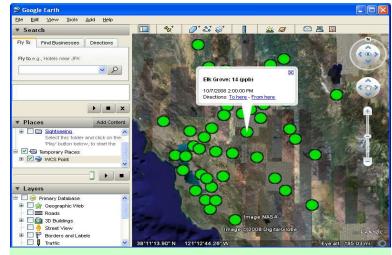


AIRNow-International Capabilities

Multiple file outputs

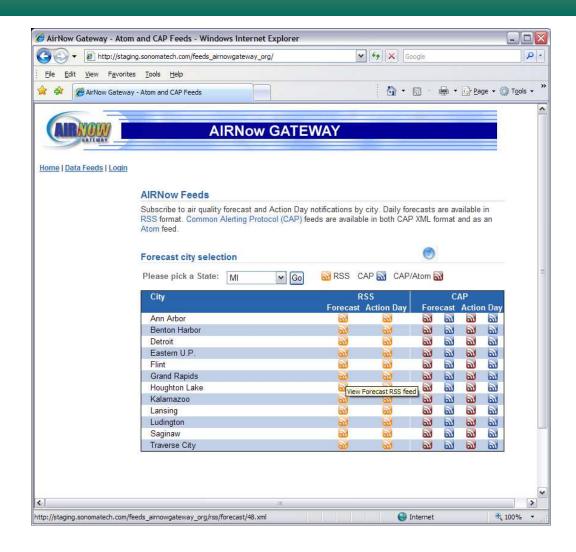
- Comma Separated Value (CSV)
- NetCDF and GRIB2
- Available via web service or FTP
- New AQCSV format
 - Standardize air quality data exchange?
- RSS and CAP feeds
- Web Services
 - Web Mapping Service
 - Web Feature Service
 - Web Coverage Service
- KML files (Google Earth) and Shapefiles





Web Coverage Service – Point: KML Output

RSS AIRNow Gateway Feeds



RSS Feeds

AIRNow-International Web Services

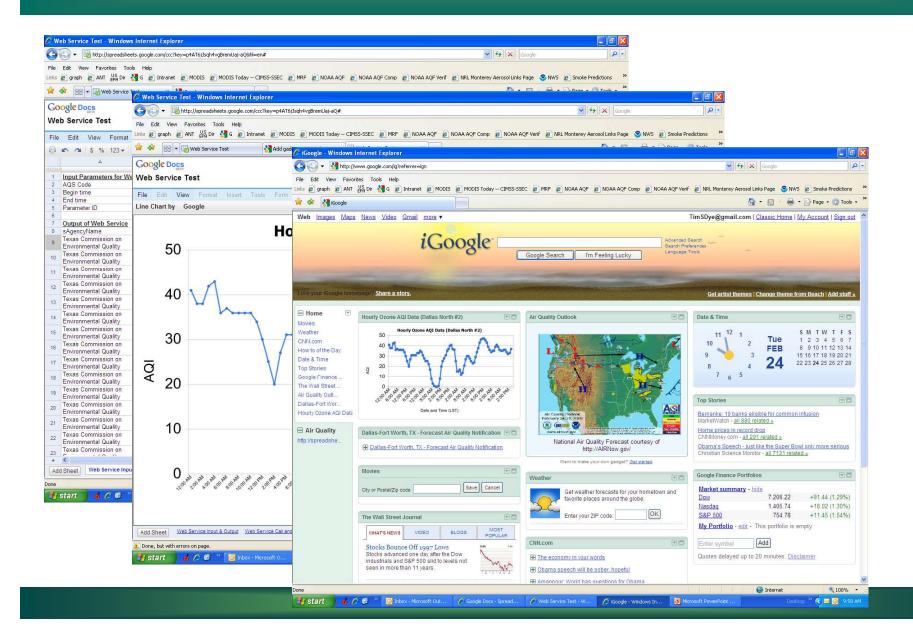
• Web Services will be URL based initially (RESTful)

- Web Mapping Service
 - Return map images with desired data displayed (contour map)
- Web Feature Service
 - Returns geographic map features (not map images)
 - Shapefiles or GML
- Web Coverage Service
 - Returns data for points or a gridded coverage area
 - CSV, KML, NetCDF, or GRIB2

• How can the air quality community use them?

- A data feed for internal applications and/or web sites
- A data feed for GEOSS via the Air Quality Portal/Catalogue
- Excel spreadsheets
- Google docs
- Visualization tools

Example - Web Service Data Request



AIRNow-International "GIS Services..."

• KML files (Google Earth)

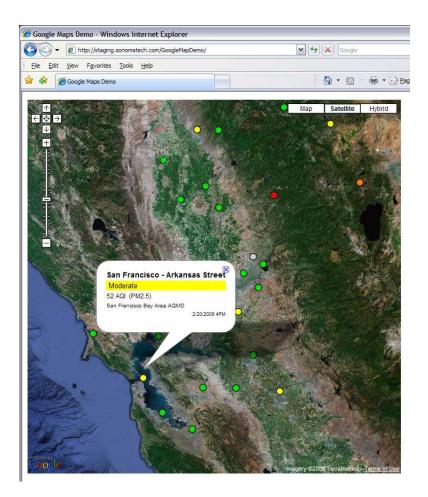
- U.S. AIRNow currently has national KML file

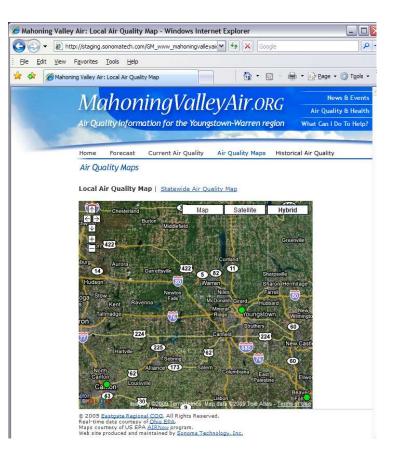
- Current conditions, today/tomorrow air quality forecast
- More KML files and/or web service calls will be available in AIRNow-International system

– Why KML initially versus web mapping service?

- open source
- lots of applications can use KML
- easy to use KML on your website
- allows others to view your data
- Easy to develop versus building web based GIS system to visualize data
- Shapefiles will be available as well

Google Map Examples





California



AIRNow-International Goals

• 2009

- Install AIRNow-International in Shanghai June
 - Extensive testing
- Replace existing AIRNow system in United States September
- Begin building the 'community' late 2009
 - Create forum for exchange collaborative web site
 - Outreach to current partners share/exchange data
 - Broader GEOSS participation

• 2010

- Operation at World Expo in Shanghai
- Further develop the community
- Explore interest in future partners

• The Long Term

- Grow the community
- Deploy system to future partners
- Promote data sharing worldwide