



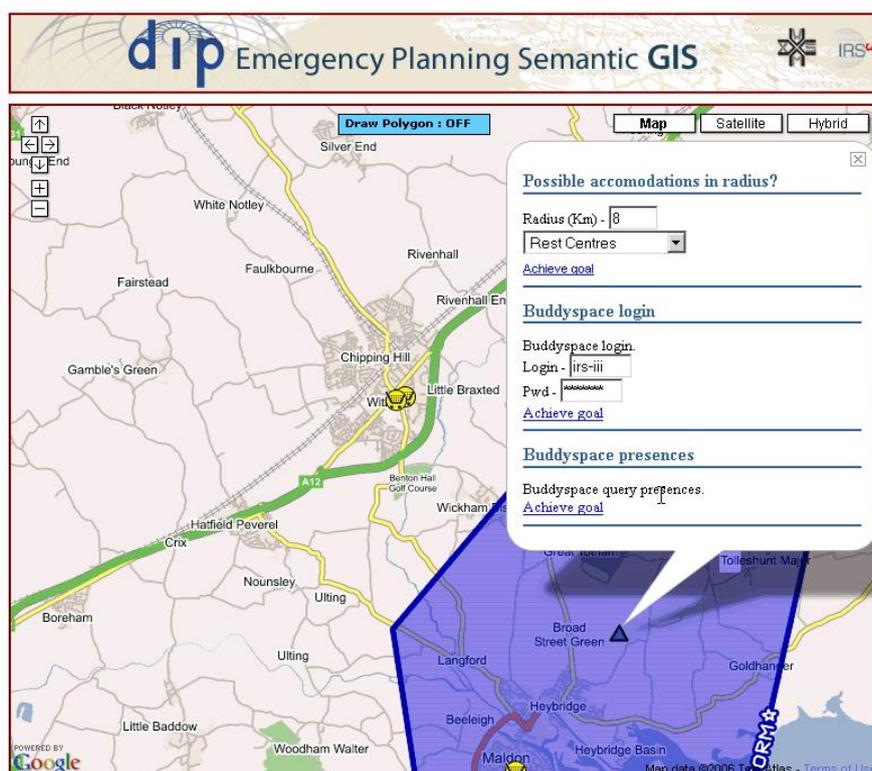
Data, Information and Process Integration
with Semantic Web Services

DIP Showcase nominated finalist of Semantic Web Challenge 2006!

The DIP showcase *Semantic Web Services GIS based Emergency Management Application* has recently been short-listed as one of top five applications in this year's Semantic Web Challenge 2006. The finals of the Challenge will be held at the ISWC 2006 Conference in Athens, USA on 5-11 Nov 2006.

The [DIP emergency management showcase](#) is based on a real event – a heavy snowstorm in the Stansted area (UK) in January of 2003 – with the single-minded focus befitting a real-life emergency. During the snowstorm thousands of drivers were stranded in their cars overnight, posing a serious challenge to the emergency services of Essex County.

The aim of the DIP showcase is to prototype a semantic-based decision-support system which automatically combines a number of web services to assist in the planning of emergency response actions. The 'web services' in this case involve a number of different databases – map data, traffic information, weather reports, status of emergency services, et c. – semantically annotated according to a common set of ontologies.





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The emergency management showcase – one of three within the DIP project – is led by Essex County Council, supported by MDR Partners, with technical implementation by partners KMi (Open University) and British Telecom. It recently won the Semantic Scripting Challenge prize at the 2nd Workshop on Scripting for the Semantic Web (ESCW Conference, June 2006, Budva, Montenegro).

About Semantic Web Challenge

The Semantic Web Challenge (<http://challenge.semanticweb.org/>) was established in 2003 with the aim of encouraging innovative solutions that best exemplify the future vision of the Semantic Web. It offers researchers the chance to showcase their latest applications and to pitch them against the best of the rest. The Challenge's intention is to provide a competitive framework which stimulates research and advances the state-of-the-art of the semantic web.

About DIP

DIP (Data, Information, and Process Integration with Semantic Web Services) is an Integrated Project (FP6 - 507483) supported by the European Union's IST programme. It started in January 2004 and is scheduled to run for 36 months, with a total funding of €16.3 M. It is co-ordinated by DERI, the [Digital Enterprise Research Institute](#), a European research institute researching into next generation semantic web and web service technologies. DERI is based both in Galway (Ireland) and Innsbruck (Austria).

Related press articles:

Semantic rescue in snow blizzard emergency

(<http://istresults.cordis.lu/index.cfm/section/news/tpl/article/BrowsingType/Features/ID/82690>)

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For more information on DIP, visit <http://dip.semanticweb.org/>

For more information about the Emergency Planning prototype, visit <http://irs-test.open.ac.uk/sgis-dev/>

For more information on the Workshop on Scripting for the Semantic Web, see:

<http://www.semanticscripting.org/SFSW2006/>