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1. New Orleans District has a large investment in both CADD and GIS data sets. Within NOD, engineers are using GIS data to feed engineering drawings/designs, and engineering drawings to feed GIS. The CADD Standards call for the use of both custom line styles and level names both of which Intergraph's MGE software does not support and would make it impossible to meet our mission. CADD and GIS data sets must remain inter-changeable. Custom line styles with lettering look great on engineering drawings, but they are not legible on large-scale maps.

Response: With each release, the Center strives to move the TSSDS and A/E/C Standards closer together. For the case of custom line styles, possibly a mapping routine would have to be developed so CADD and GIS users can use each other's data. At this point, the Center does not have a ready-made solution, but we are working toward the goal of a standard that can be used in the A/E/C, GIS, and FM disciplines.

2. The Channel Improvement Project is using CADD software to map, monitor and provide engineering designs to stabilize 383 miles of riverbanks on the Atchafalaya and Mississippi Rivers. While this project is unique to the Mississippi Valley Division, it is not unique to NOD. Vicksburg, Memphis and St. Louis District's are also involved in the same type of monitoring and design process. Just within NOD the project uses over 900 design files with photo backing to map the layout of the rivers. These files are setup to provide rapid turnaround to the meet customer's request for drawings, provide maps to managers of bank failure sites and to feed constructions drawings to the field. Changing the size and title block would have a major time and cost impact on the project; setting us back a year or more laying out new sheets with match lines, sheet details, grids lines, extracting new photos and filling in title blocks.

Response: Existing drawings should only be converted to the standards on an "as needed" basis. The Center does not mandate the conversion of every existing drawing to meet the new standards. The Center is developing a standards "checker" to assist in identifying items within files that do not meet the tri-service standards. It is hoped that by providing tools such as the checker and workspace, that the field will be able to implement the standards more easily.

3. The Tri-Service CADD standards are generic and provides a good starting platform, but they do not address some of the unique features found on the river. The standards do not address navigation and bank stabilization features. We track 100 years of stone and ACM revetments placed on the riverbank. One layer, one color and a single line style would allow us to track these unique features. MVD just produced the 1998 Mississippi River Navigation Book using CADD. We could not have produced the book using the Tri-Service standards because they are too generic.

Response: The Standards are constantly evolving to meet the needs of the field. The Center would welcome any recommendations from New Orleans District on any level/layer information that is felt to be missing from these standards.

4. I think everyone understands the reasons for standards and the reasons for the generic standard, and some engineers say they are too detailed. The standards need additional explanation on how to handle the unique problems and still be compliant.

Response: Based on comments between Release 1.4 and 1.7, most users felt that the standards were not detailed enough. Therefore additional disciplines and level/layer information was added to create Release 1.7. The Center would welcome any suggestions on methods for simplifying the standards.

5. The Surveying and Mapping/Civil Site libraries need additional cells. Suggest adding NOAA cell library that has navigation aids, REEGIS cell library as well as the old civil site cells.

Response: The Center would welcome any of these libraries being submitted to the A/E/C Standards library. The Center has a copy of the old civil/site library, but requests that the NOAA and REEGIS cell libraries, as well as a list of which cells are applicable be sent by e-mail (if possible) to either Stephen Spangler, spangls@ex1.wes.army.mil or Edward Huell, huelle@ex1.wes.army.mil.