

AN INTERIM PROPOSED STANDARD
FOR DIGITAL CARTOGRAPHIC DATA QUALITY

National Committee for Digital Cartographic Data Standards
Working Group II on Data Set Quality:

Nicholas Chrisman (chair)	University of Wisconsin
Charles Poeppelmeier (vice-chair)	Defense Mapping Agency
Wallace Crisco	Bureau of Land Management
John Davis	Kansas Geological Survey
Gunther Greulich	Survey Engineering of Boston
George Johnson	National Ocean Service
David Meixler	Bureau of the Census
Dean Merchant	The Ohio State University
George Rosenfield	U.S. Geological Survey
John Stout	Petroleum Information Corp.

ABSTRACT

The Working Group on Data Set Quality of the National Committee for Digital Cartographic Data Quality has progressed through cycles of defining the issues and evaluating alternatives. The group has now completed an Interim Proposed Standard. This standard specifies the contents of a quality report pertaining to digital cartographic information.

The purpose of the quality report is to provide detailed information for a user to evaluate fitness for a particular use. The general philosophy is characterized as "truth-in-labelling", because the goal is to communicate information on fitness for use, rather than fixing arbitrary numerical thresholds of quality. The subsections of the standard permit different levels of testing for the basic components of the quality report: lineage, positional accuracy, attribute accuracy, logical consistency and completeness. While testing will be at the option of the producer, the purpose of the quality report is best served by the most rigorous and quantitative information available. Each section of the report must also deal with issues of currency and other temporal information.