

The Spanish National Geographic Institute wins the PSI Alliance 5 Star award for excellence in public data provision.

Vienna Open Data Portal receives an honourable mention

Brussels, 30 June 2011, The PSI Alliance has awarded its inaugural 5 Star award to the Spanish National Geographic Institute at its annual conference on 28 June. The Institute matched and excelled the 5 Star criteria set for the provision of public data by a local authority.

In particular, the National Geographic Institute received the award for the excellent work regarding the development and promotion of a spatial data portal, its commitment and effort on cross-border projects of homogenization and standardization of data, its leadership shown and involvement in the “Eurogeocloud” project and finally the National Geographic Institute’s exponentially growing momentum in opening data.

The new Vienna City Open Data Portal came a close second and received an honourable mention for its high quality provision of public data.

The provision of public sector information (PSI) is a vital component of the economy and vital to citizens and businesses in almost every walk of life – everything from apps giving real time public transport information to providing up to date company registration information. Conservative estimates put the value of PSI at €27bn, but in reality it is almost impossible to quantify, in the same way that the value of the internet cannot be quantified.

Rolf Nordqvist, Chairman of the PSI Alliance said:

“I am very happy to award the PSI Alliance 5 Star award to the National Geographic Institute – it is a very worthy winner”

“The National Geographic Institute provides an excellent service to citizens and businesses alike – it has made its data both available and accessible.”

Sebastian Mas Mayoral, Director of National Center of Geographic Information said:

“It is an honour to win the PSI Alliance 5 Star award. The National Geographic Institute has worked hard to put as much public information online as possible as well as being easy to navigate”

“We are very pleased that our efforts are helping businesses and citizens to use and innovate with this valuable data.”

NOTES TO EDITORS

The PSI Alliance is a trade association established in order to encourage the public sector to maintain a trading environment that is fair and equitable, in particular in relation to the licensing and re-use of public sector information (PSI).

PSI Alliance[★]

Members are private sector companies and associations who are committed to working with PSI holders towards the maintenance and development of a vibrant, information-driven EU economy that ultimately works to the benefit of the public sector, private sector and the end consumer.

The European Commission is currently looking at revising the PSI Directive, their report is expected in the autumn 2011.

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