

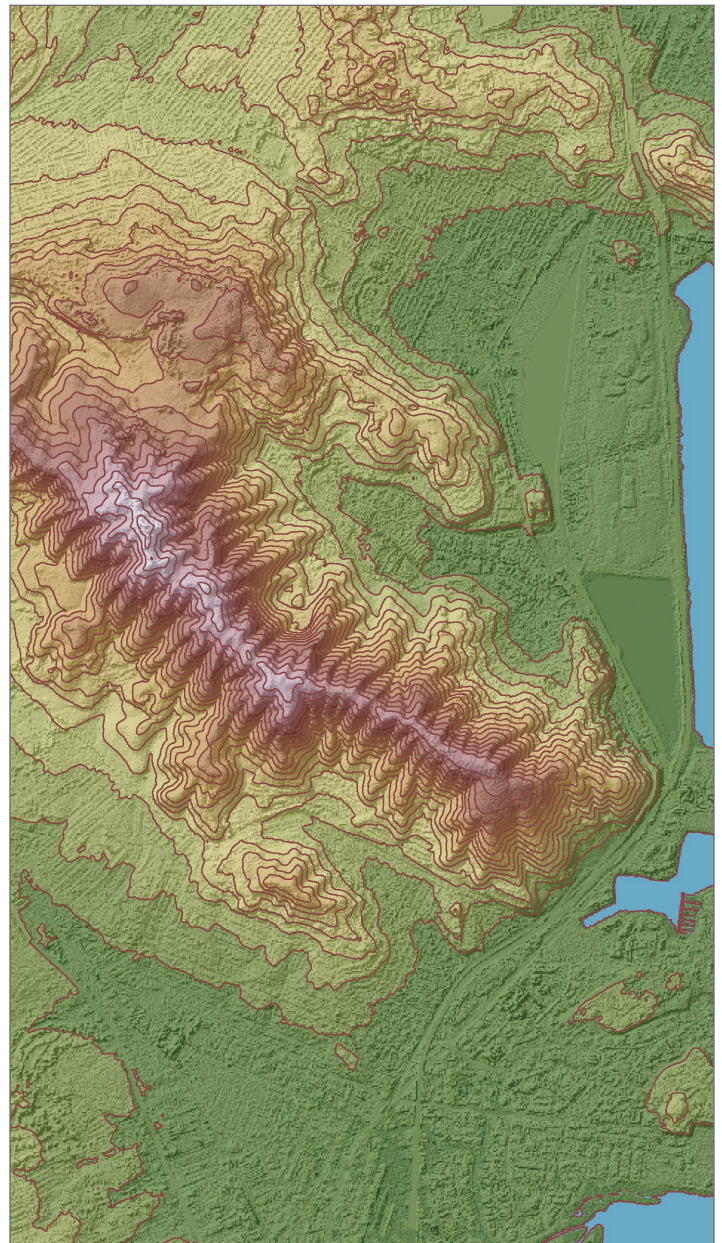
CASE STUDY

Intermap® aids in design of California's statewide high-speed rail network.

Challenges

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) selected URS Corporation, one of the largest global engineering design firms, as part of a team to provide engineering and environmental services for the new statewide rail network. The high-speed train system stretches from San Francisco, Oakland, and Sacramento in the north – with service to the Central Valley – to Los Angeles and San Diego in the south. Seen as a solution for California's transportation crisis, the rail network will connect with existing rail, air, and highway systems and could carry as many as 117 million passengers annually by 2030, based on recent forecasts.

URS Corporation "required highly refined elevation data to create a preliminary engineering design for this massive project," said its Regional Manager Joe Devoy. "All we had was U.S. Geological Survey data, which lacked the detail required for this task. During this initial phase, we wanted to avoid hiring a



NEXTMap® digital elevation model of San Francisco overlaid with contours.

survey company that would cost at least \$1 million to obtain detailed terrain data between downtown Los Angeles and Palmdale alone.”

Solution

URS Corporation purchased digital elevation models created by Intermap’s proprietary interferometric synthetic aperture radar (IFSAR) technology and now uses NEXTMap® products, including digital terrain models (DTMs), digital surface models (DSMs), and 5-foot contours, to define track alignment and optimal routing for the Golden State’s high-speed train network.

Additionally, Intermap accommodated URS Corporation’s request to format the datasets for use in MicroStation, a suite of 2D and 3D computer-aided design (CAD) software used by professionals in the transportation industry. “We found no abnormalities in the data. Everything was straightforward and easy to use,” Devoy said.

Results

Intermap’s data enabled URS Corporation to quickly and affordably meet their geospatial needs. “We were able to move forward with our preliminary design project without spending money on a survey company,” said Devoy. “When we needed customized details on a precision-bounded area, Intermap gave us what we required and only charged us for the information that we requested.” The company also uses Intermap’s data for other engineering projects, such as freeway interchanges, noise studies, and tunneling studies.

“Intermap’s data is the best choice for quality, savings, and availability. I will absolutely continue to recommend Intermap to my colleagues and other companies that seek enhanced digital elevation datasets.”

“Intermap’s data definitely met our expectations and the quality was even higher than we anticipated.”

Joe Devoy
Southern California Regional Manager
GIS Services, URS Corporation

INTERMAP®

Intermap Technologies® is a global geospatial solutions leader focused on improving the ways in which people, businesses, and governments use location-based information. Through the creation of the Orion Platform™, the industry’s first software-driven spatial data platform, Intermap provides products, services, and solutions that help business and governments solve their geospatial challenges.

www.intermap.com

Copyright 2014. Intermap Technologies®. All rights reserved.