

Recent Updates to Surveyor-General's Direction No. 12 Control Surveys and SCIMS

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ABSTRACT

Surveyor-General's Direction No. 12 Control Surveys and SCIMS (SGD12) aims to standardise the undertaking of control surveys that contribute towards the ongoing extension, maintenance and preservation of the NSW State Control Survey Network, and to outline the requirements for survey results and information to be placed on public record in the Survey Control Information Management System (SCIMS). This includes aspects of best survey practice, appropriate survey equipment, network design, reduction techniques and adjustment strategies needed to achieve a required standard for update of coordinates, heights and statements of accuracy for survey marks. In April 2021, DCS Spatial Services released a new version of SGD12 after extensive internal and external review, which also introduces the 'Technical Specifications for NSW Secondary Control Surveys'. Both are available on the DCS Spatial Services website at https://www.spatial.nsw.gov.au/surveying/surveyor_generals_directions. This is the most major update to the document since 2012 and is in response to several changes in the surveying industry, including the introduction of the Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020 (GDA2020), the adoption of rigorous uncertainty in SCIMS and the technological advances in surveying equipment. Similarly, the recent update and enforcement of Surveyor-General's Direction No. 11 Preservation of Survey Infrastructure (SGD11) has resulted in surveyors increasingly undertaking their own control surveys in an effort to preserve the integrity of the State Control Survey Network and the state's cadastre. This presentation provides an overview of some of the fundamental changes in SGD12 and how these affect control surveys intending to update SCIMS. It also provides a big-picture overview of the State Control Survey Network with a discussion on some of the changes that have occurred since the adoption of GDA2020.

KEYWORDS: *Surveyor-General Direction No. 12, control survey, SCIMS, geodesy, standards.*