

## Newsletter February 2010

After a quiet period in december and the first half of january, we are working again at full speed. Companies slowly start to investigate again after a year of hesitating and trying to get hold on the crisis. It is good that investments are made again because a lot of money is lost in projects which did not start or had been stopped before they were finished.

SmallToGo continues and so I do with the newsletters as well. This time some tips and tricks in the editor. From now on a bit more technical issues will be handled. For the rest news from TatukGIS and news there is!

### 1 Slow startup

In january some movement came in the TatukGIS market, but now in february it seems that more and more customers get interested in what can be done and with the TatukGIS products. SmallToGo is as a GIS specialist also involved in GE Smallworld projects. This is mainly in the utility market.

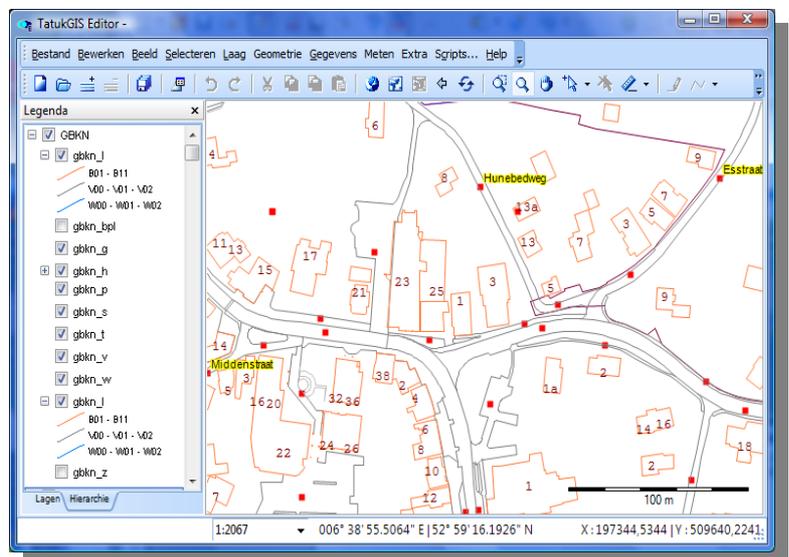
If I try to look into 2010 then I see a lot of things happening at customers which are GIS related. Also a number of GIS migration projects take place this year. One customer writing a solution in TatukGIS instead of ArcGIS, another one moving away from GeoMedia to TatukGIS and a third finds ArcView to expensive and plans to migrate to TatukGIS. So a lot of work to help everybody out. Anyway SmallToGo will support you!

### 2 Why is topography so expensive?

A lot of times I here some complaints about the price of topography data. Expensive is what one always hears.

Yes indeed it is. But why?

Capturing points, lines and areas with an exact location is very time consuming. GPS devices with a much higher accuracy then the handheld GPS devices most people use are being used by professionals. They use special techniques to measure a certain point and they use reference material for the positioning. So capturing a road like in the picture on the right can take quite some time. The road is not just one line but consists of many separate lines which in fact often do not even know they belong together.



In fact the road is represented as the right and the left side of the road. This also for water, parks, rivers etc. Often this can not be used for searching a street in a city. GIS professionals call it not intelligent data.

So capturing all this accurate data should also be maintained as the real world is always changing. Also very time consuming business.

This high accurate data is needed for drawing the exact location of pipes, cables and sewerage pipes will be put in the ground. In the Netherlands there is a law that every company having some kind of infrastructure in the ground should provide information whenever some digging takes place at a certain location. Diggers should contact the national organisation, called KLIC, who is gonna send a request to all companies having something in the ground at that location. The digger will receive a lot of documentation so it will be known

whether digging is easy or precisely.

Therefore this accurate topography is used. 10 years ago customers understood why this type of data was very expensive but with the growing interest and the use of modern technologies which reduce the amount of work for capturing, customers complain about the high costs of topography data.

Are there alternatives? Well looking at the accuracy of the data: no.

SmallToGo has no view on the foreign market of available topography data but I expect this problem arises in other countries as well.

### 3 HTML labelling

Since version 2.x of the TatukGIS and the DK 9 version, TatukGIS introduced the HTML labelling. An advanced way of setting up labels. Usually a label was setup using one field of the layer, but now a number of fields can be used. 2 fields could be presented on the map with a line in the middle. Each field can be shown in its own colour or actually each character can! The height and the font can also be controlled. Text to be shown can also be truncated or show in UPPERCASE. A lot is possible just to show a text...

Dates and floating numbers can be formatted.

In the manual all possibilities are explained and a number of examples are given. Here I show you 2 examples.

#### Example 1: labels with 2 fields with their own colour and size

```
CFL: 9.700 <FONT COLOR="red" SIZE="8">CFL: {Chamber Floor Level}</FONT>  
<HR><BR>  
WL: 9.700 <FONT COLOR="green" SIZE="6">WL: {Water Level}</FONT>
```



The text between { } is the name of a field of the layer.

The text before the field name is a fixed text shown in every annotation on the map.

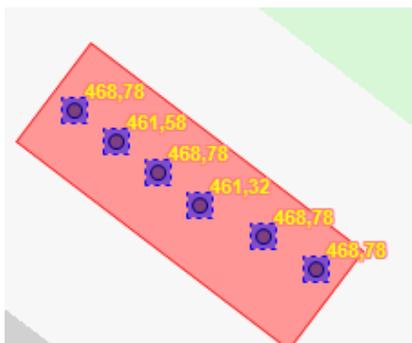
<HR> Is a horizontal rule and <BR> is a break.

#### Example 2: rounding numbers

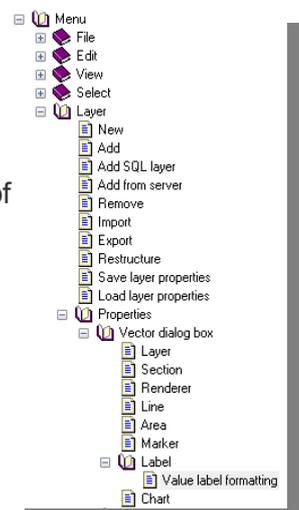
By adding F0 after the field name, the number will be shown without decimals and will be rounded.

HTML code : {rent}

HTML code: {rent:F0}



Each field type has its own way of HTML coding. On the right a part of the manual in which everything is explained.



## 4 Developments

SmallToGo sees her role as a VAR growing each month. Therefore some courses are being developed to help everybody out. The topology of a network is something which is perfectly done in GE Smallworld but needs to grow in TatukGIS. With the knowledge of GE Smallworld, SmallToGo will look at improving the networking capabilities.

SmallToGo works closely together with TatukGIS to improve functionality throughout the application. Workshops will be organised and customers will be invited to let them get to know TatukGIS.

## 5 Your contribution

Still the quiet zone in the newsletter. I will keep on trying. Good to know for you but when something from you will be published in this newsletter it is not necessary to show your name so you will still be anonymous.

## 6 TatukGIS News: Editor version 2.3

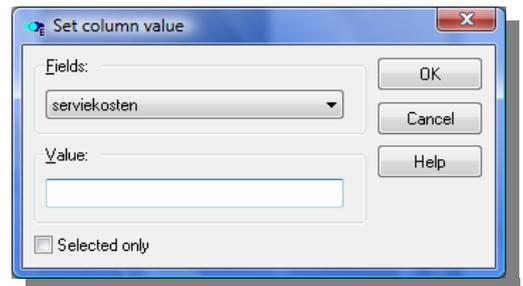
Well almost each month I give you news about new releases from TatukGIS. So also this month: TatukGIS Editor version 2.3 is released.

A number of bugfixes but also a number of some small improvements. Some new scripts are provided: 3D data generator and a shape converter from polygon to arc, from arc to point etc.

In the future I might put the technical issues in a technical newsletter.

Here are some new nice interesting features:

- On the menu 'Data – Set column value...' a new feature is added to only update the selected objects on the map. This option is safer then to use it from the data panel.
- The by SmallToGo written enhanced script for GPS is now delivered with the editor product. In the december newsletter more can be read about this GPS tool.
- in the data panel links will be shown as a hyperlink [file://](#), [http://](#) [mailto:](#) With one mouseclick the link is being activated.



Node Inflow (l/h)	Head Loss coefficient	Node Remarks	Foto_1	Foto_2	Foto_3
36000	0.00				
36000	0.00				
36000	0.00		<a href="#">file://D:\TatukGIS\Demos</a>		
36000	0.00		<a href="#">file://D:\TatukGIS\Demos</a>	<a href="#">file://D:\TatukGIS\Demos</a>	<a href="#">file://</a>
36000	0.00				
36000	0.00				

- 'Copy to clipboard' is now available on the selected panel where the list of attributes is shown or the stats tab page in the selected panel. Now this data can be copied into word or excel e.g.
- Another tiny interesting feature is the possibility to change the editor's title. So that it is the editor of TatukGIS can be hidden
- ADO.NET functionality has been added as well as the GisFileDBF unit. From now on also alphanumeric tables can be opened also.

Attribute	Value
Aantal	22
som( Punten )	44
gem( Punten )	2,00
som( Delen )	22
gem( Delen )	1,00
som( Lengte )	810,63
gem( Lengte )	36,85
som( Oppervlakte )	0,00
gem( Oppervlakte )	

- SmallToGo asked TatukGIS to further enhance the functionality to setup the editor as what I call a

Viewer+. This means that all kind of features should have an option to be used in readonly mode. Now the data panel has this option as well and this makes the editor an enhanced Viewer+

SmallToGo is satisfied with the list of small new features and I do hope you will like them as well.

With these new features you see that TatukGIS listens to its customers!

## **7 SmallToGo News**

SmallToGo is very busy in expanding its VAR tasks. Also in setting up courses and supporting customers.

At this moment I notice an increasing interest in the TatukGIS products which is good. Furthermore the migrations go on and on. Mostly cutting the costs is the reason for migration. TatukGIS' current state is very good and maybe a perfect timing for this switching. We can help you out!

## **8 Finally**

Next time I will explain something about the hierarchy in the legend. An interesting and useful feature. I will talk about setting up styles with a fixed width or size for scaling styles automatically.

Also a small piece of code of how to expand the application.

Looking back to the last few months I can conclude that TatukGIS is adding a lot of new features in the Editor. It is a stable product, a lot of functions and still when there is not enough extend it. Also the extension possibilities grow month by month.

Best regards, Danny van Hooren