

# How geospatial technology has impacted



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

While at the beach, I also took several photos and uploaded them onto Backbone. When posting to social media, not only is the whole world able to see your photos but, also your exact location. This is just one example of how GIS is hard at work. Our Communities depend on spatial technologies such as GIS (Global Information Systems) when faced with emergencies or natural disasters. GIS provides maps of local communities and areas of special interest to emergency management. The help that comes to assist relies greatly on GIS.

This technology has been adapted for all phases of emergency management – planning, mitigation preparedness, and recovery. While planning, the hazards, risks and possible consequences are identified. Only after the potential damaging event is evaluated, can mitigation and preparedness activities start. In an emergency, time is the deadliest enemy. Hours and seconds make the difference between saving lives and losing lives. GIS provides the tools to make a critical difference. For example, GIS was an integral part of the response phase when Hurricane Strain hit the Louisiana and Mississippi Gulf Coast in 2005.

The Red Cross used GIS to assist the agency in providing communities and displaced people with food, clothing, shelter and other essentials. Emergency response depends on accurate data from a number of sources that can be translated into useable information. That's exactly what GIS does for us. In the future, spatial technologies could be used in a number of ways. It is possible that we may have ID and ID spatial information. Smoothness will have even more uses and capabilities than they do today. It is likely, that

they will have the technology necessary to film in 360 degrees id video with incredible resolution.

Future vehicles may be equipped with devices that track and report our speed and driving patterns to our insurance companies and the authorities if needed. In the future spatial technology use will be at an all-time high. It will give us the ability to keep up with an ever changing world. As you can see, spatial technologies have a great impact on our lives, from obtaining travel directions to responding to natural disasters and other types of emergencies. Without such technologies, we would be once again, reduced to paper rails and data based operations.

Paper maps and plans provided very little means of interactivity that we have today with our many spatial technological resources. Our lives would be more complicated and it would take longer to get things accomplished. We should be thankful that we live in a time where we have so much imperative information at our fingertips. As the world continues to grow and change there will be an even higher demand to develop further spatial technologies. The technology today is only the tip of the iceberg of what is to come.