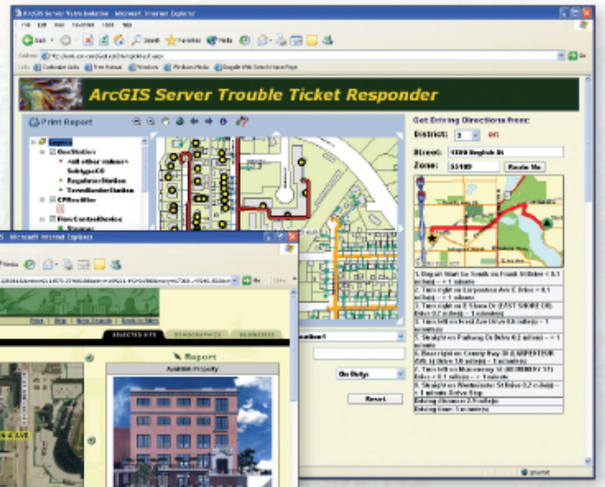
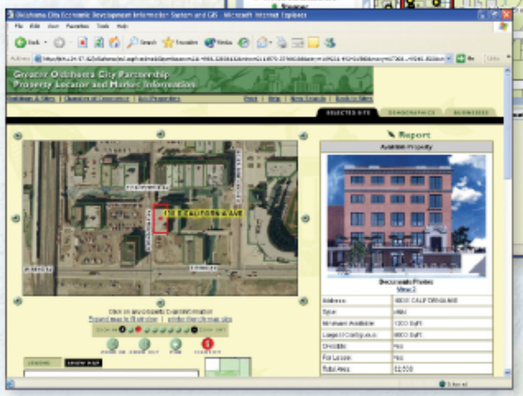
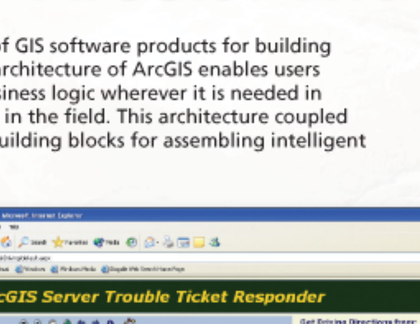
ArcGIS: The Complete Geographic Information System

ArcGIS is an integrated collection of GIS software products for building a complete GIS. The fundamental architecture of ArcGIS enables users to deploy GIS functionality and business logic wherever it is needed in desktops, servers, over the Web, or in the field. This architecture coupled with the geodatabase, forms the building blocks for assembling intelligent geographic information systems.

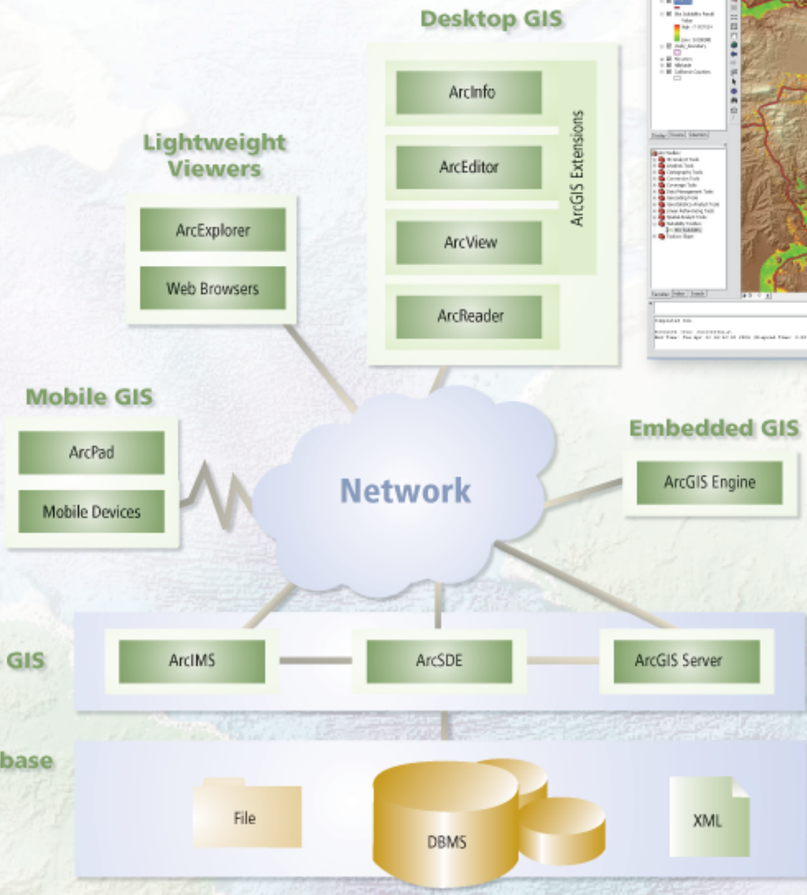


Web browsers are lightweight clients (HTML or Java) that complement ArcGIS Server and ArcIMS.





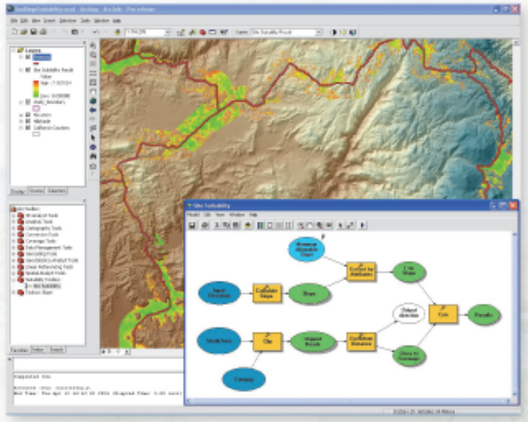
ArcPad is a mobile GIS technology.



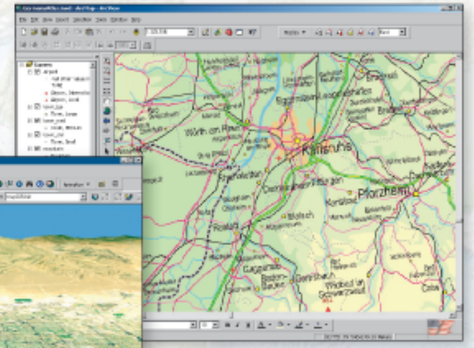
ArcIMS is a scalable Internet map server for GIS publishing of maps, data, and metadata.

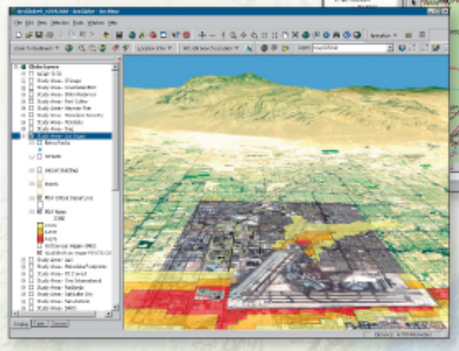
ArcSDE is an advanced spatial data server for managing geographic information in numerous relational database management systems.

ArcGIS Server is an application server that includes a shared library of GIS software objects to build serverside GIS applications in enterprise and Web computing frameworks.

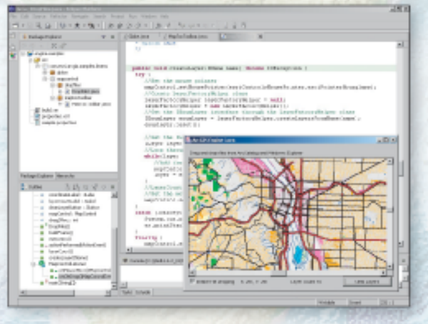


ArcReader, ArcView, ArcEditor, and ArcInfo are collectively known as ArcGIS Desktop and are a suite of desktop software products for geographic data creation, integration, and analysis.





ArcGIS extensions add specialized tools and functionality to ArcGIS Desktop.



ArcGIS Engine is a set of embeddable cross platform objects used to build custom GIS and mapping desktop applications or add new functionality to existing applications.

Desktop GIS
GIS professionals use standard desktops as a productivity tool for authoring, sharing, managing, and publishing geographic information. ArcGIS Desktop is a scalable suite of advanced GIS products:

- ArcReader
- ArcView
- ArcEditor
- ArcInfo
- ArcGIS Extensions

Server GIS
GIS users deploy centralized server GIS to publish and share geographic knowledge within larger organizations to many other users:

- ArcIMS
- ArcSDE
- ArcGIS Server

Embedded GIS
Embedded GIS is used to add selected GIS components into focused applications to deliver GIS functionality anywhere in an organization:

- ArcGIS Engine

Mobile GIS
GIS is traveling from the office into the field in many focused applications on mobile computing devices:

- ArcPad
- ArcPad Application Builder
- ArcPad Extensions
- Tablet PC for ArcGIS

Geodatabase
The geodatabase is the core geographic information model to organize GIS data into thematic layers and spatial representations. The geodatabase is open to many possible storage mechanisms including files, DBMS, and XML implementations.