

Designing a Standards Based GIS Production System in Alaska

The Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS) produces and publishes numerous geologic maps each year.





To produce standards-based geologic maps we developed the **AK DGGS Geologic Mapping System**

 Operation Practical

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Poster View of System



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This system controls the process of: collecting, producing, converting, packaging, publishing, and sharing geologic maps and data.

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Why have a GIS map production system?

The <u>efficient</u> production of <u>high-quality</u>, <u>standards-based</u> geologic maps requires more than GIS software and a data standard

A comprehensive map and data production system is essential

An effective production system must address a wide range of related components that include:

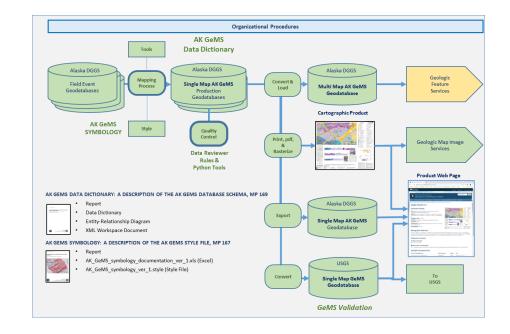
- data standards
- symbology standards
- flexible field data collection methods
- rigorous quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) procedures.

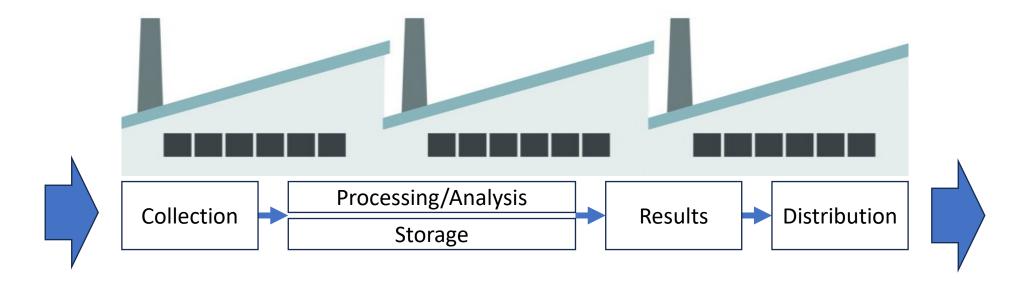
These components must all be supported by:

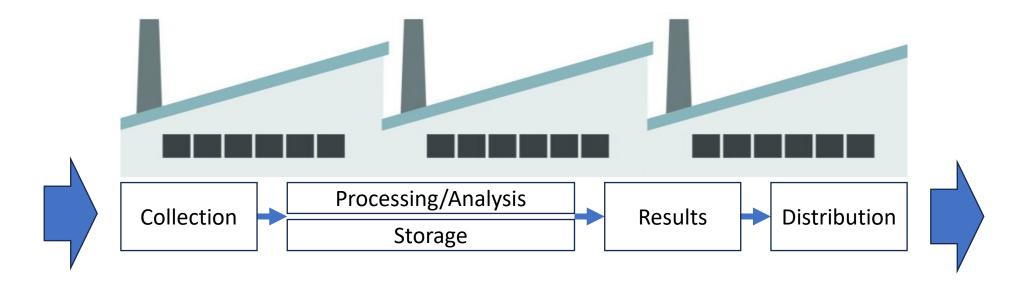
- Dedicated and embedded IT and GIS support
- Built upon a robust IT architecture.

In addition, these components must be:

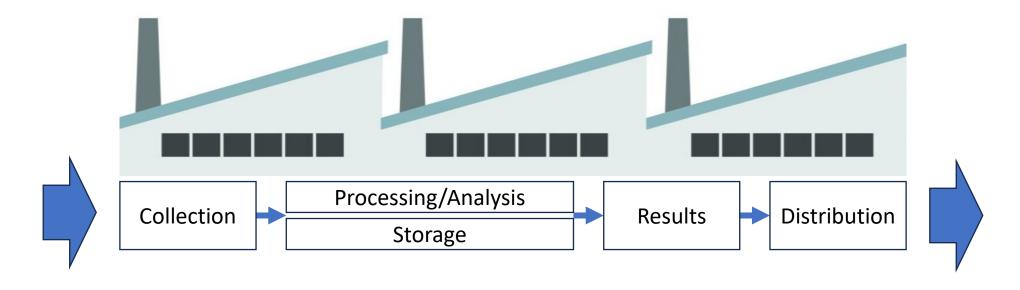
- Integrated with quality documentation
- Well-known organizational processes
- Supported by regular, first-rate training of quality people



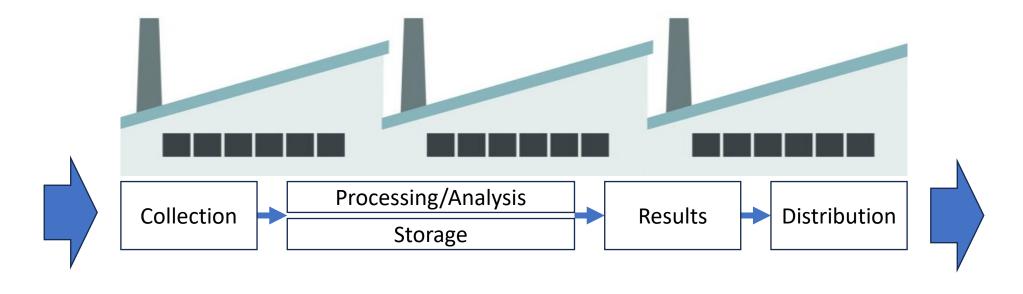


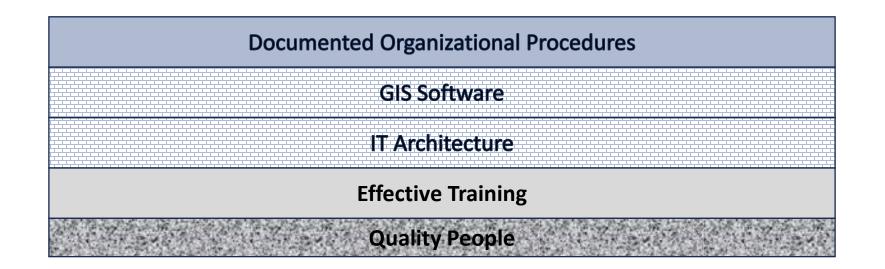


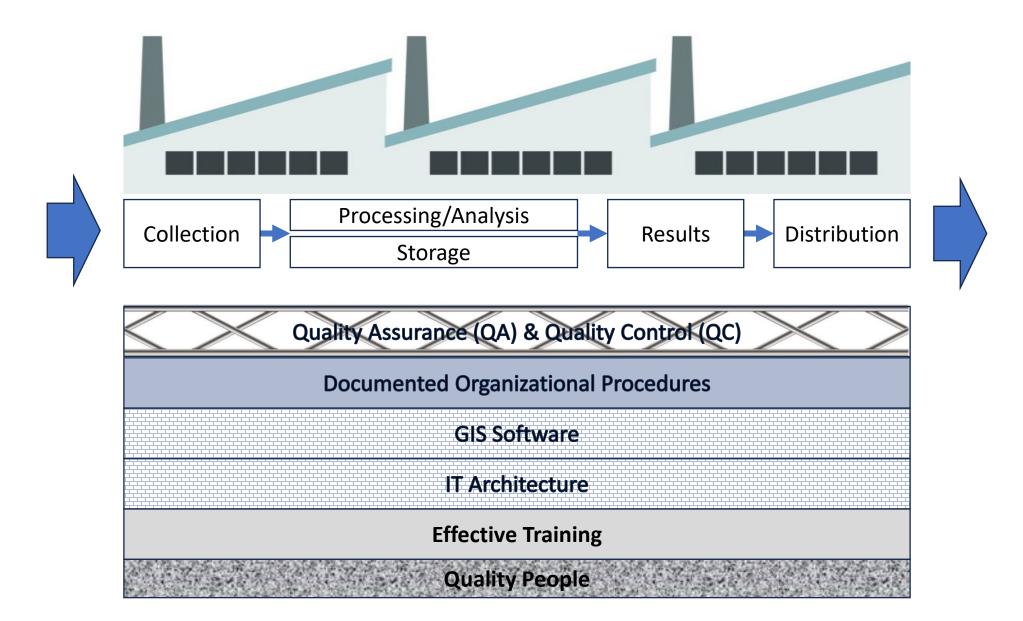


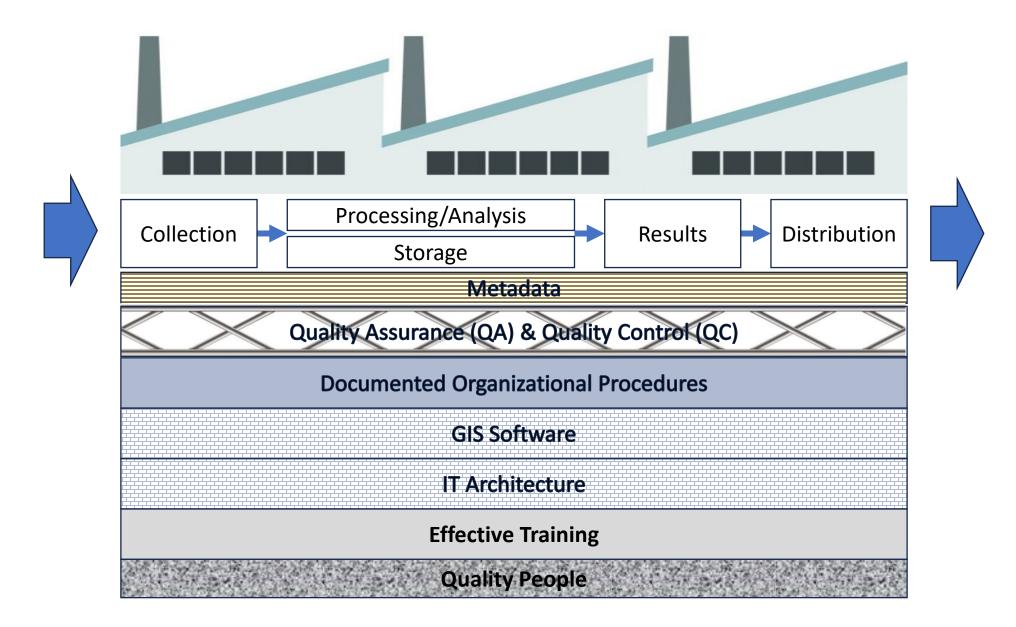












Integrated Team Is Essential!

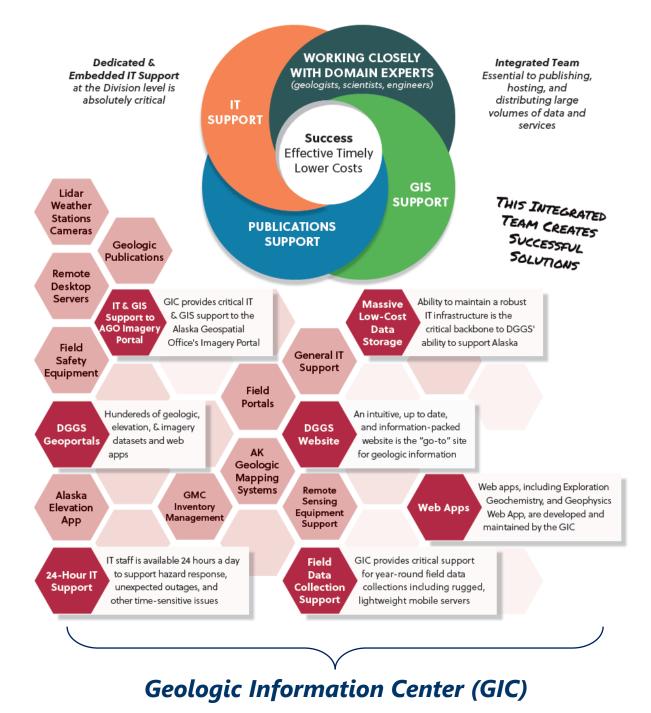
Dedicated and Embedded IT support at the Operational Level is Absolutely Critical

Regularly scheduled coordination meetings:

- Weekly GEDI meetings (Geologic Data Inquiry)
- Bi-weekly Division Publications Meetings
- Weekly GeMS Multimap Meetings
- Individual Product Production Status Meetings
- Other Spin Off Meetings

Emphasis on Training:

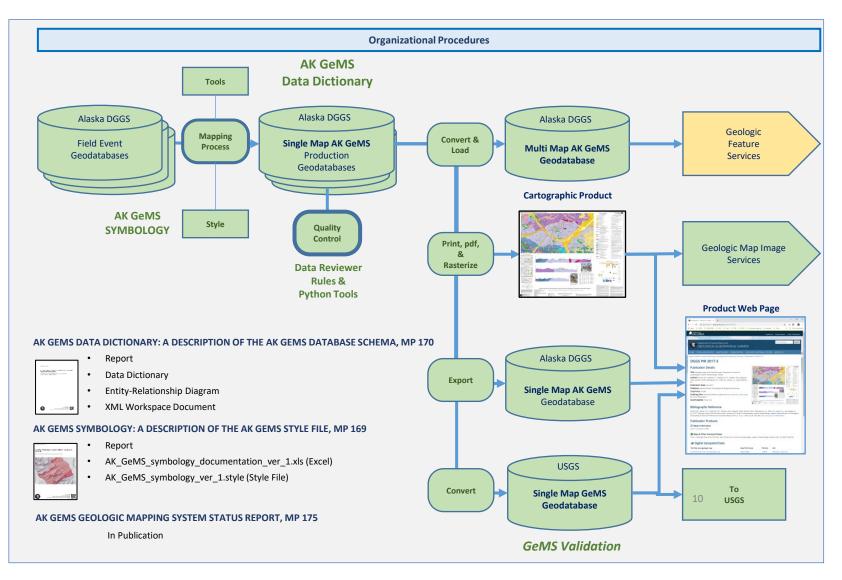
- Weekly GIS Tips & Tricks
- Illustrator sessions
- ESRI Training emphasis
- One-on-one training and support from IT, GIS, & Publications



AK GeMS Geologic Mapping System

AK GeMS Recent Efforts

- Developed a comprehensive AK GeMS Production Workflow & Task List
- Developed a semi-automated quality control process, upgrading to ArcPro
- Published 50+ AK GeMS
 Databases
- Populating our multi-map geodatabase and began development of multi-map services and web apps
- Working on Version 2.0 of Published Standards



Well-defined organizational procedures are critical.

The backbone of our procedures is our **AK GeMS production workflow graphic**

This workflow is a **16-phase process** that takes a map and its data from prepublication though production, quality control, publication, and archiving.

The workflow Identifies:

- Order
- Responsibilities
- Location of data
- Production meetings
- Products

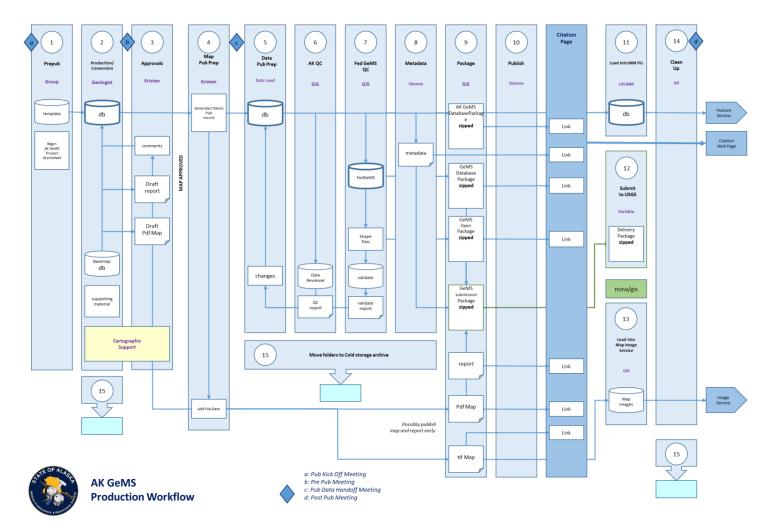
QA (don't make mistakes) Phases

- Phase 2: Production
- Phases 5: Data Prep

QC (find mistakes) Phases

- Phase 3: Approvals
- Phases 6-7: GeMS QC

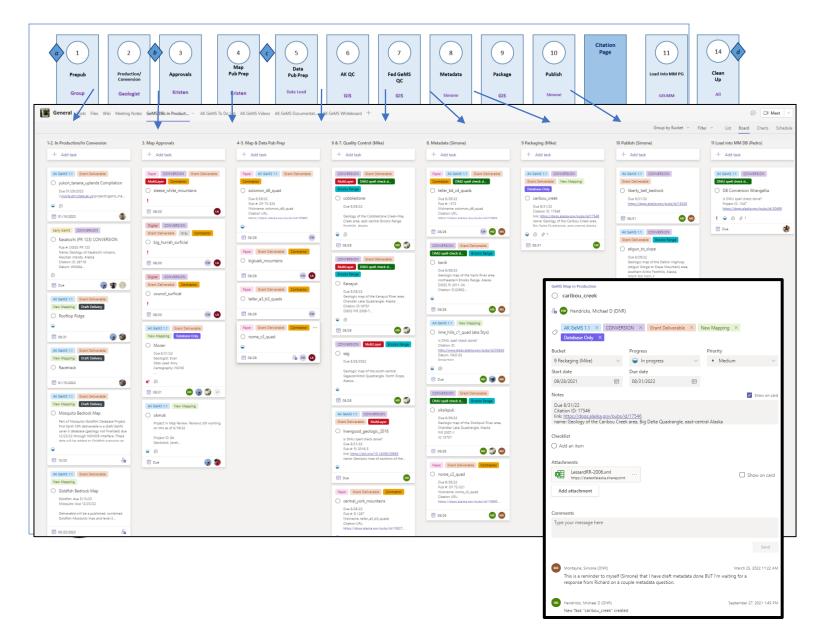
AK GeMS Production Workflow



We are using Microsoft Teams Planner App to track map production through the AK GeMS Production Workflow

Reviewed:

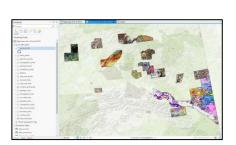
- Weekly at our GEDI
 Geologic Data Inquiry) Meeting
- Bi-weekly Publications Meeting
- Quarterly at Division
 Publications Status Review



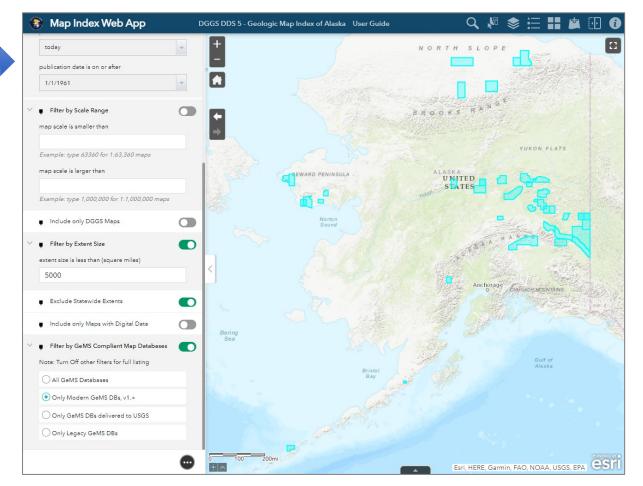
Geologic Map Index Web App

AK GeMS Availability

- **Available**: 43 AK GeMS Map Databases currently available for download
- In Production: 20 Geologic Maps currently in production
- **Planned**: We have 40+ Geologic Maps that will go into production this next year
- Populating our multi-map PostgreSQL geodatabase and begun development of multi-map services and web apps



https://maps.dggs.alaska.gov/mapindex



For additional Information & related Presentations and Publications

https://dggs.alaska.gov/pubs/project/1607

Conclusion

Establishing a more standardized and documented system based on published data and symbology standards is a success.

DGGS now produces higher quality standards-based map products at a significantly faster rate than in the past.

Between 2013 and 2020 we published 19 new geologic maps, (in various data formats), at a production rate of 2.4 a year.

With the Alaska Geologic Mapping System operational we have published, since 2021, 7 new maps and converted 45 maps into our AK GeMS data standard, at a production rate of 18 a year.

This is over a 7 folder increase in productivity!

