



**GIS Certification Institute (GISCI), 701 Lee St, Ste. 680, Des Plaines IL 60016**

**Press Release: For Immediate Release**

**GISCI Announces New Executive Director**

**Des Plaines, IL (May 1, 2013)** The Board of Directors of the GIS Certification Institute (GISCI) is pleased to announce the hiring of Bill Hodge GISP as its executive director, effective May 1, 2013. Reporting directly to the Board, Hodge will manage all day-to-day activities for the organization and direct its efforts as it moves into its second decade of existence. GISCI is committed to the advancement of the GIS profession for the benefit of society and individual practitioners and serves as a leader in advancing the professional development, recognition, and career preparation of current and future GISPs.

Mike Vanhook, GISCI President, noted that "GISCI is very fortunate to have Mr. Hodge; he has already demonstrated that he is dedicated to his work, can take on many challenges and will immediately have a positive impact on operations."

"I am extremely pleased to have this opportunity," Hodge said. "I have been a member of the Board for the past year, and that involvement has given me a keen insight into the strength of the organization and its future. I am excited about working with the entire industry, our member organizations, and individual GISPs, leading GISCI and the geospatial profession into the next phase of our existence."

Hodge has extensive experience in marketing, having worked for several Fortune 500 companies in a sales and marketing capacity to the chemical and oil & gas industries. He has worked in the geospatial profession for over 10 years, managing the Enterprise GIS operations for the City of Midland, TX for the last five years. He received his GISP in Jan 2010, has served on both the Application Review and Outreach Committees for GISCI, and is enrolled in Penn State's MGIS Online Program.

**About GISCI**

The GIS Certification Institute (GISCI) provides the geographic information systems (GIS) community with a complete certification program. GISCI offers participants from the first years on the job until retirement a positive method of developing value for professionals and employers in the GIS profession. The organization is now developing an exam component for the GISP Certification to be implemented in early 2015.