Name:	Maurits van der Vlugt
Current Position:	Senior Associate
Key Skills:	• Deep working knowledge of geographic information technology, Spatial Data Infrastructures, business strategies and analysis
	• Experience of Environmental geospatial and metadata governance, life cycles, and quality assurance
	• Strong verbal and written communication skills, translating jargon into English
	• Working with and leading multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural, and multi-language teams
	• Thorough understanding of distributed, standards-based, geospatial information systems
	• End-to-end project management and delivery
	• Fluent in English, Dutch and German

Profile

Maurits is a leading authority in location information. He consults across government and the private sector delivering strategic location-intelligence solutions and spends time volunteering with GeoRabble, Locate Conferences and mentoring young professionals to give a voice to emerging trends and topics.

Having worked for over 30 years in the geospatial information industry in Europe, the USA, the Middle East, and Australia, he has developed an extensive international network. His areas of interest and expertise extend into Data and Information Governance, Geographic Information Management, Economic Value assessment, and Spatial Data Infrastructures.

Signature clients include the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Land Information New Zealand, Geoscience Australia, and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

He has delivered numerous conference and business presentations and published many journal and magazine articles. He taught 'Customising GIS for the Web' at the University of Redlands (USA) and held 'Ignite' talks in Australia and the USA. He has won multiple awards for his presentations, project delivery and contributions to the industry.

Maurits assumes an active leadership role in the Spatial Information Industry: he was non-executive director and deputy chair of the board of Locate Conferences Australia and is a contributor to the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) 'Future Trends' report. (http://ggim.un.org/docs/UN-GGIM-Future-trends_Second%20edition.pdf).

Maurits is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).

Professional Experience

August 2010 to present	Independent Consultant, Mercury Project Solutions (Pty Ltd)

- Consulting to Government and Business on SDI, Spatial Information Management and Open Data. Clients include NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment, the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust, WA LandCorp, the WA Water Corporation, Geosciences Australia, Australian Bureau of Meteorology, BHP Billiton-Iron Ore, Landgate WA, Insurance Australia Group, and Land Information New Zealand.
- Key projects:
  - o **NSW Department of Planning and Environment: 'Green Infrastructure Data Strategy'**

    This strategy defines the data acquisition process and methodology in a way that can be applied to future data acquisition and delivery, to maximise the data's usability, reliability, and dependability, now and in the future.
  - o **NSW Department of Planning and Environment: 'Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan (CPCP) data management and governance strategy and implementation'**

    The Data Management Plan (aka Data Lifecycle plan) defines the processes, protocols, rules, quality assurance arrangements, roles and responsibilities for data creation, ingestion, storage, processing, and sharing.
  - o **KSA National Commission for Survey (GCS): 'Geospatial Foundation Theme Governance for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia'**

  Part of the international consultants' team that defined requirements, models and data governance for KSA's Foundation Spatial Data Themes.
  - o **NSW Crown Land Commissioner: 'Activate design and development'**

    Activate is a map-based decision support tool developed for the NSW Crown Lands Commissioner (CLC), to assist in assessing NSW Crown Lands assets and how they may contribute socio-economic benefits to NSW.
  - o **National Committee for GIS: 'National Strategy for Geospatial Information for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia'.**
  - o **NSW Office of Environment and Heritage: Development of a three-year Spatial Information Strategy.**
  - o **WA Department of State Development: State Agreements and Major Projects Locator (SAMPL)**

    Strategy Development, Implementation Planning and Project Management.
  - o **South East QLD Water Corporation (SEQWater): Spatial Strategy and Delivery Plan** (with GIS People).
  - o **Bureau of Meteorology: Project Coordination for the National Environmental Information Infrastructure (NEII) – Pathfinder project.**

- Past Chair: ANZ Forum, Open Geospatial Consortium.
- Founder and senior adviser, GeoNext conference

June 2010 – October 2012   **Co-founder and Director, Bushfire Connect**

Bushfire Connect was an online, volunteer bushfire crisis service presenting real-time information submitted by local community members and emergency agencies. http://spatial21.blogspot.com.au/2012/10/the-rise-and-fall-of-bushfire-connect.html

March 2006 – August 2010   **Principal Consultant, NGIS Australia**

- Manager of the 'Eastern Australia' Business Unit. Built this up from a (part-time) one-person start-up 2006, to a profitable Business Unit, with over $1.5 Million in turnover and employing 13 staff and contractors in 2010.
- Company-wide leadership as a member of the NGIS leadership team and 'Business Consulting Capability Lead'.
- Responsible for account and project management, marketing and contributing to NGIS' involvement in national bodies such as SIBA (Spatial Information Business Association) and the CRC-SI.
- Managed several major and high-profile projects, including:
  o Rio Tinto Exploration: Data Discovery and Access Project. Requirements analysis and schema design.
  o Development of an online tool visualising sea-level rise scenarios for coastal cities in Australia, on behalf of the Australian Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE).
  o 'Emergency 2.0': Exploring how Web2.0 and social media can help Emergency Management. http://www.katelundy.com.au/2009/12/02/emergency-2-0-australia-geospatial-social-media-project/
  o Architecture design, technology recommendations and implementation plan for the Aceh Geospatial Data Centre (AGDC) Banda Aceh, Indonesia.
  o Development of a NSW whole-of-government spatial information strategy and action plan: CS2i, precursor to the NSW Location Intelligence Strategy (http://www.finance.nsw.gov.au/ict/priorities/managing-information-better-services/nsw-location-intelligence-strategy)

May 2002 – March 2006   **Senior Geo-IT Consultant, SKM**

Responsibilities:
- Project and Account Management
- Strategic Consulting
- Open GIS Liaison
- Selected Projects and Activities:
  o Project Management of the ASIBA/OGC-A Spatial Interoperability Demonstration Project (SIDP) http://www.opengeospatial.org/pressroom/pressreleases/439. Winner of the APSEA 2005 "Research and Innovation" award.

o Design and Project Management of the NSW Local-e e-Mapping project, providing online mapping facilities for 80 rural Councils in NSW. Winner of the APSEA 2004 "Environment and Community" award.

o 2003 – Project Management for OGC's Conformance and Interoperability Testing and Evaluation Initiative (CITE).

April 2003 **Visiting Professor, University of Redlands, California**

Teaching 'Customising GIS for the web' as part of the International Master's of Science in GIS program: http://www.spatial.redlands.edu/msgis/

December 2000 – April 2002 **WebMapping Team Manager, Social Change Online**

Responsibilities:
- Leading the Web Mapping development team
- Marketing and product development
- Business analysis and project management

At Social Change Online, he was actively involved in, and led, several Open Geospatial Consortium projects, including the Geospatial Fusion Services Pilot Project (GFSPP) and the Open Web Services Testbed 1.

October 2000 – November 2000 **GIS Consultant, Meixner Engineers, Vienna, Austria**

Performing a feasibility study for a World Bank funded Urban Management Information System in the Liaoning River Basin, China. On-site fact finding, interviews with city and provincial officials, cost-benefit analysis, procurement recommendations.

1998 –2000 **Project Manager | Department of Geo-Information, Technical University of Vienna, Austria**

Responsibilities:
- General project management for external research projects.
- Organisation of the 1998 OGC Technical Committee meeting in Vienna.
- Co-ordination and implementation of European (5th and 6th Framework) GIS stimulation and dissemination projects such as GIPSIE, Panel-GI and pre-ANVIL.

Publications and Presentations

Maurits has authored many papers and articles within the geo-spatial, location intelligence and social media arenas. Please contact us directly if you would like further information on these publications and presentations.

Awards

- 2021 NSW Professional of the Year. Issued by Asia Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards (APSEA) https://www.apsea.org.au/

Annually awarded to a practitioner who is working in any of the disciplines of surveying and spatial sciences whose professional achievements are acknowledged by peer citation as exemplifying the highest standards of excellence and ethical conduct.

- 2021 SIBA | GITA Chair's Award. Issued by https://www.spatialbusiness.org/
  Recognition for over 20 years of contribution to the spatial industry, including:
  - Driving Locate Conferences Australia's successful COVID crisis response, pivoting to Locate Connect in 2020 and reinventing Locate for the future.
  - Championing diversity as co-convener of the Space, Spatial and Surveying Diversity Leadership Network.
  - Tireless commitment in a series of volunteer leadership roles, ranging from co-founding GeoRabble, mentoring young professionals, and serving on the boards of SIBA and chair of Locate Conferences Australia (LCA).
- 2005 APSEA Award for 'Research and Innovation'.
  Award issued to the project team I led for the ASIBA/OGC-A Spatial Interoperability Demonstration Project (SIDP)
  http://www.opengeospatial.org/pressroom/pressreleases/439
- 2004 APSEA 'Environment and Community' award.
  Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Award (APSEA) for the Design and Project Management of the NSW Local-e e-Mapping project, providing online mapping facilities for 80 rural councils in NSW.

Qualifications

1988   University of Utrecht (Netherlands), master's degree in human Geography with majors in Computer Science, Applied Geography & Spatial Planning, and Geographical Information Systems of Arts,

2019   Australian Institute of Company Directors, Company Directors Course

Corporate Training

- Sales and Marketing (NGIS)
- Prince2 Project Management (NGIS)
- Advanced PMBOK Project Management (SKM)
- Communication and Presentation (SKM, NGIS)
- Management Development Program I & II (SKM)

Memberships and affiliations

- Chair: Space, Spatial and Surveying Diversity Leadership Network (SSSDLN – http://sssdln.org)
- Member and Graduate: Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD)
- Industry Partner: FrontierSI (https://frontiersi.com.au/our-partners/)
- Past non-executive director and Chair: Locate Conferences Australia (https://locateconference.com/)
- Past Director: Spatial Industries Business Association (SIBA - http://www.siba.com.au/)
- Past Chair, OGC Australia and New Zealand Forum (http://www.opengeospatial.org/ogc/regions/anzforum).

Outside interests

Maurits volunteers his time to community initiatives such as GeoRabble and mentoring young professionals. In his remaining spare time, he plays competitive Bridge and enjoys the theatre and cooking for friends.

CV last updated: **February 2024**