

Paper: "Automating the Creation of High Volume Highly Detailed Maps"

Abstract:

The U.S. Census Bureau's Geography Division is developing new mapping systems to meet its requirements for production of several nationwide map series portraying detailed census geography. The volume of maps to be produced requires automation in the map creation process while the geographic detail portrayed often requires careful interactive editing. To deliver high quality products in a timely manner, the Census Bureau has chosen to use different levels of automation and interactivity while employing combinations of commercial mapping and graphics software packages in its new mapping systems.

The goal for the Census Bureau's automated system is to use commercially available software with no interactive editing. This presentation will discuss aspects of this fully automated mapping system including: the algorithm to determine the appropriate map scale and sheeting based on the ability to place either linear or areal names of geographic features; the process of locating areas requiring inseting; and issues which need further development for future mapping systems.