



Quantum GIS Training Manual

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Foreword

1.1 Background

In 2008 we launched the [Gentle Introduction to GIS](#)¹, a completely free, open content resource for people who want to learn about GIS without being overloaded with jargon and new terminology. It was sponsored by the South African government and has been a phenomenal success, with people all over the world writing to us to tell us how they are using the materials to run University Training Courses, teach themselves GIS and so on. The Gentle Introduction is not a software tutorial, but rather aims to be a generic text (although we used QGIS in all examples) for someone learning about GIS. There is also the QGIS manual which provides a detailed functional overview of the QGIS application. However, it is not structured as a tutorial, but rather as a reference guide. At Linfiniti Consulting CC. we frequently run training courses and have realised that a third resource is needed - one that leads the reader sequentially through learning the key aspects of QGIS in a trainer-trainee format - which prompted us to produce this work.

This training manual is intended to provide all the materials needed to run a 5 day course on QGIS, PostgreSQL and PostGIS. The course is structured with content to suit novice, intermediate and advanced users alike and has many exercises complete with annotated answers throughout the text.

1.2 License



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¹<http://linfiniti.com/dla>

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1.3 Sponsoring Chapters

This work is by no means a complete treatise on all the things you can do with QGIS and we encourage others to add new materials to fill any gaps. Linfiniti Consulting CC. can also create additional materials for you as a commercial service, with the understanding that all such works produced should become part of the core content and be published under the same license.

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- Marcelle Sutton (marcelle@linfiniti.com⁶) - Marcelle provided proof reading and editorial advice during the creation of this work.

1.5 Individual Contributors

Your name here!

1.6 Sponsors

- Cape Peninsula University of Technology

1.7 Data

The sample data that accompanies this resource is freely available and comes from the following sources:

- Streets and Places datasets from OpenStreetMap (<http://www.openstreetmap.org/>)
- Property boundaries (urban and rural), water bodies from NGI (<http://www.ngi.gov.za/>)
- SRTM DEM from the CGIAR-CGI (<http://srtm.csi.cgiar.org/>)

1.8 Latest Version

You can always obtain the latest version of this document by visiting our [home page](#)⁷ which is kindly hosted by <http://readthedocs.org>.

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⁷<http://readthedocs.org/builds/the-free-qgis-training-manual/>

Note: There are links to PDF and epub versions of the documentation in the lower right hand corner of the above mentioned home page.

Tim Sutton, May 2012