ArcGIS is Easier to Use

There are hundreds of improvements in ArcGIS 10—from mapping to mobile capabilities—that will make it easier for you to accomplish your common workflows. This video illustrates some of the enhancements in ArcGIS for Desktop.

http://video.esri.com/watch/132/arcgis-is-easier-to-use

Video Transcription

00:01 We've reviewed many different areas within the building of this release.

00:05 And one of those is how do you work with [ArcGIS] Desktop or [ArcGIS] Server or [ArcGIS] Mobile and how to make it easier to use.

00:14 We'll take a look now at some of these areas.

00:18 It all begins in one place.

00:20 We listened to what you're doing.

00:24 We understand that, you know, we read the user forums, look at the questions and issues you're having...

00:30 ...with technical support.

00:32 We're also looking at your workflows.

00:33 So we have hundreds of different types of input coming in and then try to...

00:38 ...leverage that information to come up with improvements on how you can interact with the system better.

00:45 We're only going to be demonstrating a few of these today, but there is a full review...

00:50 ...I believe in these sheets that the packet of information you got today with some links to what's new in ArcGIS 10.

00:57 So if you want to dive really deep, go into that document sometime.

01:01 It's pretty lengthy.

01:03 Let's take a look now at one of the areas.

01:07 It's about your user interface.

01:09 This is where you all begin...

01:11 ...many of you spend most of your time.

01:13 It's about creating, editing, and maintaining data and information.

01:20 So again it looks at that ease of use, fewer mouse clicks again to get to those results that you need.

01:28 Looking at the toolbars and the types of tools that are available there for you to use and create new products.

01:37 Looking at different types of windows and the access to move and interact with those.

01:44 Taking a look at the back office as well, and we'll be demonstrating some concepts about basemap layers...

01:51 ...and how through caching, it improves the performance of those services and how you can interact with the system there.

02:00 Finally my favorite is actually it's about search, being able to search on maps and data through a new search engines that we have.

02:09 And instead of me blathering about that, let's go ahead...

02:12 ...and look at the demonstration now about some of this new functionality I just described. Jen.

02:19 So how many of you spend a lot of time in ArcMap, making maps and your data? Okay.

02:24 So I just wanted to spend a few minutes just showing you some of the new improvements in ArcMap...

02:28 ...to help you be more productive when creating your maps.

02:32 So here we're just looking at some data and some information inside of ArcMap.

02:36 If I want to know what this data is, I can hover over the table of contents to see what layers are present in the map.

02:42 I can then have this window auto hide.

02:45 So that's a new feature of ArcGIS 10 is the auto hide windows so that you can have them minimize on the side of the interface.

02:52 This also works with the tools.

02:53 So I just used the Identify tool and that window popped up and so I can just have it easily just slide away...

02:59 ...and so I can continue to work with my map.

03:02 Another thing to kind of notice there is that the map doesn't redraw when you use this.

03:05 So when it auto hides, you don't have any redraw.

03:08 I just saw a couple hands do this out there...

03:11 So this is really nice if your map's content doesn't update or redraw when you're working with these.

03:16 Another one of the new features of ArcMap is the ArcCatalog window.

03:20 So rather than having to go and switch applications or launch ArcCatalog to find data and add it to your applications...

03:28 ...you can now do that from directly inside of ArcMap.

03:31 So I'm just going to go and grab one of my maps here, my city map base layer and just go ahead and drag and drop it directly into the interface.

03:38 So this will save you some time from having to go back and forth between ArcCatalog, searching for that information...

03:43 ...and then dragging and dropping it into your map.

03:47 On the search subject, another new enhancement is the ability to search for data and information.

03:53 So, in this situation, I have being displayed there in the yellow symbols are the capital improvement projects for 2009.

04:01 So I'd like to locate the capital improvement project layer for 2010.

04:06 So if I just come into my search window and type in the word capital, you see I get quite a few results, right?

04:12 I'm getting layers.

04:13 I'm getting feature classes from the geodatabase.

04:15 I'm getting toolboxes and tools as well as map documents.

04:19 Notice when I hover over these, I get some information about what that is.

04:25 I may find a thumbnail associated with it so I can look at it.

04:29 If you want to filter out your information a little more, so let's say for example...

04:33 ...I only want to locate map documents that have the word capital in it.

04:37 I can filter it using one of these links here, so by map, I can look at it by data or I can look at it by tools.

04:45 But I want to get a little more specific to find my capital improvement projects for 2010.

04:50 So I'm just going to type in the word 2010.

04:52 And now...it's returned just one result.

04:56 And I'll just hover it over so it gives me a little information about it.

04:59 So I can see it's the city capital improvement project for 2010.

05:03 I'm just going to go ahead and drag and drop that into ArcMap.

05:06 So that gives me a nice capability of being able to search for either local content...

05:11 ...and another way you can search is you can search through your enterprise or also through ArcGIS Online.

05:18 So my data's come in and you notice that it's been symbolized just using one of the default ArcMap symbols.

05:25 So another new enhancement at 10 is I can now search for symbols.

05:30 So how many of you have been asking for this enhancement?

05:34 Just a few...I don't believe it...I don't believe it.

05:36 Geez.

05:38 So I can come in now into my symbol selector and I can just type in a keyword, in this case projects.

05:44 So I want to use my own project symbology.

05:47 I've searched for it.

05:48 I have a couple results.

05:49 So I'll just go ahead and choose that and update the symbology.

05:52 Right. Save you a lot of time.

05:54 How many of you used to go through all the style sheets, turn them on, and scroll through all the symbols.

05:59 You go, oh, no, wrong one, go back.

06:01 So this is a really nice enhancement for you.

06:04 The last thing that I'm going to show you is the new basemap layer.

06:08 So if you notice when I kind of just pan around the map, it takes a couple seconds to redraw.

06:14 So I want to get some better performance when I'm working inside of ArcMap.

06:17 And so one feature that's available is the new basemap layer.

06:20 So I'll just go ahead and add one.

06:22 And what I can do is I can take all of those basemap layers that I'm not editing...

06:26 ...that they're just there just to provide me some background context...

06:30 ...and I can drag and drop them into the new basemap layer.

06:35 This layer uses a better performing drawing engine so you'll get better performance from these layers...

06:41 ...once you've added them in there, And so now...

06:46 ...you'll notice when I pan around the map that I'm getting some better performance here.

06:51 So any of those layers that you're just using, as I said, for a background reference...

06:55 ...adding them as a basemap layer will really help the performance of your drawing inside of ArcMap.

07:01 So those are just a few of the desktop enhancements...

07:03 ...or ArcMap enhancements that will help you be more productive when you're creating your maps.

07:08 There are a lot more, but we'll let you investigate them on your own.

07:12 Alright. Thanks, Jen.

07:14 Actually what I liked about the search tool is that it's not only just that local desktop or within your organization.

07:20 You can go throughout the enterprise or go out to the Web...

07:23 ...because I have many groups that are trying to build these systems...

07:26 ...and they need to have access to the different types of data that they have within the organization.

07:31 So the search tool can help right off the bat.

07:34 And the second item, what I like, is, well, you've got the [Arc]Catalog window that you can bring right...

07:41 ...in there and start to leverage that without going back and forth like you did before.

07:45 The third element is the basemap layer.

07:49 You don't have to be a rocket scientist to build this cache and take advantage of it.

07:53 You just drag and drop as she's shown and take advantage of that.

07:57 Faster performance, make it easier to use.

08:00 So take a look at that.

08:01 You know, maybe when you get back that's...that's the first one you can go to.