

**CIRCUMPOLAR ACTIVE-LAYER PERMAFROST SYSTEM (CAPS):
A GLOBAL GEOCRYOLOGICAL DATABASE ON CD AND INTERNET --
(POSTER)**

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ABSTRACT: The Data and Information Working Group of the International Permafrost Association (IPA) is coordinating a major state-of-the-art review of frozen ground-related data and information culminating in the launching of a CD at the Seventh International Conference on Permafrost, June 1988 in Yellowknife, N.W.T., Canada. Titled "Circumpolar Active-Layer Permafrost System (CAPS)", the CD is intended for a broad audience including the scientific and engineering communities, educators and policy makers. It is available through the IPA Web site (www.soton.ac.uk/ipa), and will be available for demonstration at the Polar Libraries Colloquy in September 1998.

The contents include:

- the digital version of the IPA Northern Hemisphere permafrost map and digital permafrost maps of Alaska and Switzerland;
- a cumulative bibliography of permafrost literature spanning 1978 - 1997;
- a twelve-language glossary of frozen ground-related terms (including Icelandic);
- a bibliography and index of more than 700 Russian permafrost maps;
- the Global Geocryological Database (GGD), currently containing 180 descriptions of permafrost and ground ice-related data sets held by individuals and organizations around the world;
- approximately 40 selected data sets of active layer and borehole temperature profiles, representative of important time series from many of the member countries of the IPA.

The IPA is a 22-member non-governmental organization founded in 1983 to disseminate knowledge of permafrost, seasonal frost, artificial ground freezing, and periglacial phenomena. One of the IPA's long-term goals is to retrieve, organize and disseminate frozen ground data at local, regional and global scales. To accomplish this, its Working Group on Data and Information has been developing the Global Geocryological Database (GGD), which will ultimately be an internationally distributed system of linked data centers or nodes, partnering in particular with the Web-based International Arctic Environmental Data Directory (known as ADD), with the World Data Centers, and with polar libraries through the Polar Libraries Colloquy. The use of the Web as the "advertising service" -- making known the existence of permafrost data and information -- and as the access tool -- to deliver that data and information -- fosters broader awareness of the information for science and engineering, education, policy-making, and even general public use.

Future projects of the Working Group will focus on identifying and making accessible Antarctic active layer, permafrost and periglacial data. Because the ADD is forging links between itself and the similar Antarctic Master Directory (AMD, hosted in Christchurch, New Zealand), the IPA intends to continue its own active participation in both, seeking to improve permafrost data and information access within a bipolar context.

The WDC-A for Glaciology [Snow and Ice] coordinated development of GGD and production of the first CD-ROM, with partial support from several NSF and NOAA grants. The GeoData Institute, University of

Southampton, developed and maintains the IPA Web site (www.soton.ac.uk/ipa). This site includes text from the semi-annual issues of the IPA News Bulletin "Frozen Ground" and reports of the IPA Working Groups, as well as providing online access to the GGD and to many of the data and information products on the CAPS CD.

THE LAPLAND RESEARCH NETWORK AT YOUR SERVICE - POSTER

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ABSTRACT: The purpose of the Lapland Research Network is to promote research directed towards and within the area of Northern Finland, as well as to link research findings with its practical applications to the economy.

The activities of the network are multidisciplinary. It coordinates northern research of different fields and disseminates information dealing with Lapland for use by decision-makers and the public.

The network has been developed by collecting information on research units, so that researchers and those seeking research information can acquire knowledge of research done in Lapland, and linking these two sources through an information distribution process: a metadatabase and directory of research units, researchers and ongoing research in Lapland and their addresses.

The Lapland Research Network home page available on the internet familiarizes you with these research units and, also connects you to other arctic networks: <http://www.urova.fi/home/arktinen/lts>