Beat: Miscellaneous

Finding Your Way

(An oldie but goodie)

Philadelphia, 29.05.2017, 08:07 Time

USPA NEWS - We´ve all heard the jokes about men and maps. I think that secretly men like maps. Paper maps are tough on everyone but I am talking about the software based ones. Personally I can´t get enough of map software because everything does something that something else doesn´t do.

We´ve all heard the jokes about men and maps. I think that secretly men like maps. Paper maps are tough on everyone but I am talking about the software based ones. Personally I can´t get enough of map software because everything does something that something else doesn´t do. That´s why you need more than one!

First and foremost let me state that while this article is mainly about electronic maps this by no means is meant to downplay the importance of a paper map. That being said"¦it´s tough for a SAR team with a huge response area to have all of the maps they´d ever possibly need. This is where electronic comes in. For primary areas you should always have, and be familiar with, good old fashioned maps.

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I am very picky about map software. Some might even have map "issues"?. I just know I like what I like and hate to settle when it comes to maps. Two products that don´t ask for a lot of "settling for"? are MapTech´s (www.maptech.com) regional software as well as Google Earth (earth.google.com).

Both packages are comprehensive and I will list some of the differences that stand out and might make a person make a different decision.

Article online:
https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-11260/finding-your-way.html

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V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Mark G. Hopkins

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Official Federal Reg. No. 7442619