

## **HOW TO IMPORT A CDED (CANADIAN DIGITAL ELEVATION DATA) FILE LOCATED NORTH OF THE 68<sup>th</sup> PARALLEL, IN THE MAPINFO AND ARC MAP GIS SOFTWARE?**

The MapInfo and Arc Map GIS software don't recognize CDED files located North of the 68<sup>th</sup> parallel. A data file is normally constituted of two cells (East and West) of 1201 rows x 1201 columns of square pixels each. However, the pixels in data sets located North of the 68<sup>th</sup> parallel are not perfectly square, this is the reason why these GIS softwares are unable to open these files.

To open and view such files, one solution is to convert the latitude/longitude coordinates into the UTM projection. If you don't have a software to perform this conversion, GeoBase suggests to download the 3DEM GIS software. It is offered cost-free by Visualization Software at the following Web site address:

<http://www.visualizationsoftware.com/3dem/downloads.html>.

### **PROCEDURES:**

#### **STEP #1 CONVERTING YOUR DATA:**

1. Open 3DEM and select "File" and "LOAD TERRAIN MODEL" click on the "USGS DEM" button and click "ok".
2. In the window "Open USGS ASCII or SDTS DEM File", select the two .dem cells (East and West) from the saved data set on your computer. Click "Open" and the DEM will display.
3. Click "Operation" in the menu, "Change Projection" and "Convert to UTM projection".
4. From the window "Change UTM Ellipsoid" choose NAD83 and click "OK". Your data will automatically be projected
5. Then click "File" in the menu, click to "Save USGS ASCII DEM" under a different file name (for example 67a01\_UTM.dem) on your computer.

#### **STEP #2 OPENING YOUR DATA WITH THE MAPINFO OR ARC MAP GIS SOFTWARE:**

For the MapInfo software:

1. Select "Vertical Mapper", "Create grid" and "Import grid".
2. In the window "Grid import", click "Add" and search the UTM saved file from your folder (for example 67a01\_UTM.dem). Click "Ok".  
Your CDED file is now imported successfully in the MapInfo GIS software!

For the ArcMap software:

1. Select "ArcTool box", "Conversion tool", "To Raster", and "DEM to Raster".
2. Download the UTM saved file (for example 67a01\_UTM.dem) from your folder. Click "Ok".

Your CDED file is now imported successfully in the Arc Map GIS software!

Note: This method affects the precision of the data slightly.