

DOCUMENTS AND DATABASES AT THE PUBLICATIONS AND INFORMATION SECTION

C. Patey and C. Saunders
Geoscience Publications and Information Section

DOCUMENT COLLECTIONS

There are two main geoscience document collections at the Geoscience Publications and Information Section of the Geological Survey – the *Geofiles* and the *Technical Library*. In addition, there is a small collection of *Images* (e.g., slides, photographs) and two collections of ‘donated’ mineral-exploration documents.

- The *Geofiles* is a collection of documents pertaining to the geoscience of Newfoundland and Labrador and the immediate offshore region. It includes over 15 000 mineral-assessment reports, published reports and maps, open-file reports and maps, university theses, and unpublished reports and maps. About 90 percent of the documents in the *Geofiles* collections are described in, and searchable online at <http://gis.geosurv.gov.nl.ca/minesen/geofiles/> and as part of the online Geoscience Resources Atlas from the Geological Survey website at <http://gis.geosurv.gov.nl.ca/>.
- The *Technical Library* is a collection of over 11 200 documents referring to areas other than this Province and includes publications and maps published by the Geological Survey of Canada and by other provincial, federal and international surveys; technical books, and current and back issues of geoscience journals are also included in the library. Short bibliographic records for about 65 percent of the documents in the *Technical Library* collection are available through the in-house *GSLib* database.
- *Images* is a small collection of about 4200 slides, photos, negatives and videos pertaining to the geology, mining and quarrying in the Province. This collection with a related database represents only a small fraction of the slides and photos held by the Survey.
- *Exploration Company Files (Ex)* is a collection of over 2400 files of assorted mineral-exploration documents and a related database that was created in 2003 when the Survey contracted an initial review of materials donated mainly by Noranda, Chevron and Royal Oak

Mines. The documents describe exploration activity carried out by these companies and also by Asarco, Baie Verte Mines, BP-Selco, Brinex, Cominco, DOSCO, First Maritime Mining, Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas, Nalco, Price and others. Some, or parts, of the *Ex* documents may already be in the *Geofiles* collection; others include field notes, drafts or reports and maps and are not in any pre-existing collection.

- *Prosp* is a collection of over 350 reports submitted under the various mineral-industry assistance/incentive programs for the period 1988 to 1999 and a related database created in 2004. These documents cover prospecting activity carried out under the Prospector's Assistance Program, Newfoundland Exploration Assistance Program and Dimension Stone Incentive Program. The documents consist of prospecting report forms, written reports, assay certificates, field notes, maps and report drafts. Some, or part, of these documents may already be available in the *Geofiles* collection.

DATABASES

The documents in the *Geofiles* collection are described in several databases including: *Geofiles* and *Drill*.

- The new *Geofiles* database was created in Oracle in 2004 by combining records from several databases. Since then, modification in the online appearance of metadata has continued as new records have been added. The over 19 000 records describe 90 percent of the over 15 000 documents in the *Geofiles* collection. This year over 400 records for mineral-exploration assessment reports were added to the database. Records/metadata for non-confidential documents in the collection are available via the internet. More complex searches of the metadata continue to be available in-house. The current subset of the metadata from *Geofiles*, which is available in a GIS environment through the Survey's Geoscience Resources Atlas and also through the Canadian Geoscience Knowledge Network (CGKN), has polygons for 6426 mineral-exploration

ration assessment reports (i.e., just 80 percent of the non-confidential, indexed assessment reports). There are also polygons for about 30 percent of the open files published by the Geological Survey at the two GIS websites.

- The *Drill* database containing summary records for 24 700 drillholes from non-confidential documents in the *Geofiles* collection, continues to be searched.

No new records have been added to other databases for other collections, although all databases have been used to locate documents and can be searched in-house by clients. The *Exploration Company Files (Ex)* collection and database continues to be reviewed and modified as duplicate geofiles and new material is identified in the collection. *Ex* can be searched using words in the title, company, date(s), authors, and location (but not necessarily NTS values) information fields. The *Prosp* database has similar search features but has better NTS descriptors.

ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS

- *Publications Catalogue:* To improve client access to Geological Survey publications and open files, an online searchable Publications Catalogue was created in 2003 and placed on the Geological Survey website. The catalogue contains over 4000 documents and is searchable by document type (e.g., map, report, open file), NTS area, author, title, subject and year. The catalogue

is updated as new publications are released. The *Catalogue* will be replaced by the *Geofiles* database when records for all Geological Survey publications are verified in the database.

- *Document Ordering:* Mineral-exploration assessment reports and our publications can be ordered online; however, as prepayment is required, clients must contact the Publications and Information Section to provide payment and credit card information until e-commerce is available. The existing methods of ordering (e.g., telephone, mail, fax, online pdf) are still available.
- *Online Access:* A Request for Proposals for scanning of the mineral-exploration assessment reports in order to make them available via the internet was issued in 2005. A successful vendor was identified and a contract was developed through the Office of the Chief Information Officer. A pilot project was completed in January, 2006. At the time of writing, the microfiche for 3000 mineral-exploration assessment reports have been sent to the vendor for scanning. More will be sent to make-up the 440 000 16 mm frames and 20 000 35 mm frames contracted to be scanned in this phase of the project. The microfiche is being scanned in black and white and provided in pdf files linked by bookmarks. These pdf files will be linked to the *Geofiles* database. This first phase is to be completed by March 31, 2006.