3D Analyst: Working With Terrain Datasets

Goals of the workshop

- Define what a terrain dataset is.
- Discuss why a terrain dataset is useful.
- Explain how a terrain dataset works and how it scales to handle large lidar point collections.
- Demonstrate the creation, update, and use of a terrain dataset.
- Provide recommendations and best practices.

Major topics covered

- High-level definition of a terrain dataset.
- Common application domains.
- How a terrain dataset distinguishes itself from TINs and rasters.
- Database versus file-oriented solutions.
- Scalability.
- Large continuous surfaces with minimal tile/edge artifacts.
- Multiresolution surface via vector-based pyramiding.
- Pyramid filtering options and point-thinning methodologies.
- Data import and file format support including LAS.
- Use of multipoint-based shapes for efficiency.
- Updates and editing.
- Analytic abilities.
- Display options.
- Recommendations, known limits, and resources.