



ePlan is a collaborative program between Land Use Victoria and the surveying industry, in conjunction with the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM). Since 2011, it has been introduced into Victorian surveying firms on a voluntary basis.

## What is ePlan?

An ePlan file is a digital substitute for paper and PDF subdivision plans. It is principally a data file containing surveying and administrative information, similar to that contained in a plan and cadastral survey related to land subdivision.

The SPEAR (Surveying and Planning through Electronic Applications and Referrals) system provides the ability to submit, validate and visualise an ePlan as the plan of subdivision instead of submitting a PDF of the plan.

## Why ePlan?

ePlan provides significant benefits to the surveying profession, land development industry, Land Use Victoria and other key stakeholders by optimising the current practice of electronic submission of subdivision plans in Victoria.

Having structured plans of subdivision in a digital format allows for automatic validation of those plans in terms of:

- identifying surveying errors
- checking mathematical closure of parcels
- reviewing content
- compliance with the Registrar's requirements.

ePlan validation is facilitated by web service technology and is available to surveyors as a self-checking service.

Information within ePlan files can be digitally extracted, populated into related databases and re-used for the creation of new subdivision plans.

The registration process is assisted by computer-aided examination of the digital plan. This facility improves the timeliness and accuracy of the registration process for plans of subdivision.

Automatic digital data extraction from digital plans will be a significant contribution to the development and maintenance of a spatially-accurate cadastral database.

## What's in an ePlan?

An ePlan is designed to contain information in a cadastral survey and subdivision plan including:

- surveying measurements
- dimensions of the parcels
- interests in land, such as easements
- land parcel descriptions and identifiers
- administrative information on the subdivision

- owners corporation schedules
- abuttal and title connections
- surveyor's report and annotations
- plan approval status
- surveyor's details.

Cadastral Map Base (Vicmap Property)

- provides a standard data exchange format for sharing and collaboration, which is also nationally and internationally recognised.

## ePlan benefits

ePlan benefits the surveying profession and those involved in the land development industry because it:

- improves the quality of plan data and associated documents
- improves access to/delivery of survey information
- assists with improved digital plan examination/checking process
- standardises the presentation of plans
- reduces errors, anomalies and requisitions
- eliminates the duplication of drawing files by storing all required data in a computed plan
- improves turnaround times
- provides more timely, accurate and complete updates
- eliminates the 'drafting' step from the plan of subdivision creation process
- saves time in constructing the subsequent surveys through pre-populating administrative data from Vicmap and SMES (e.g. admin boundaries, survey marks, location addresses, road abuttals, etc.)
- speeds up the application creation process in SPEAR through pre-populating most of the required information in the application screen (e.g. applicant reference number, dealing type, plan number, application parcels and number of lots)
- enhances the accuracy of the Digital

## Using ePlans in SPEAR

ePlan functionality in SPEAR is designed to:

- access digital cadastral information to allow pre-population of existing data for preparation of new plans
- support the process of undertaking a subdivision survey and preparing an ePlan file
- validate the data contained in the ePlan file
- visualise the ePlan into a PDF plan
- enhance the quality of the visualised PDF plan
- submit the new subdivision for examination and registration in digital form.

## Key Features

- standard data format – LandXML
- version control managed by the ePlan file
- electronic lodgement
- automated data extraction
- automated data validation
- automated PDF plan visualisation
- efficient data re-use

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