



The company's 3-D digital replica of Vancouver, Canada, site of the 2010 Winter Olympics next month.

Aegis

Meet the leading man of the must-see 3-D

AEGis exec re-creates Olympic villages and NATO summits, but he got his big break in Iraq

By Mike Marshall

Times Staff Writer
mike.marshall@htimes.com

There is a man in Huntsville who re-creates some of the world's most important settings.

He builds 3-D databases of cities hosting Olympic Games, countries fighting wars and sites planning NATO summits.

It took him just more than a month to do a digital replica of Phoenix, site of the 2008 Super Bowl. Afghanistan, with 1 million square miles, was finished in two months.

Baghdad was Scott Allman's big break.

"We went to a government entity and told them we wanted to try something: We'd build downtown Baghdad in 3-D," he said. "They didn't think we could do it."

"No company had ever done that, and we did it."

Now, Allman, the geospatial programs director for AEGis Technologies,

has completed a 3-D database of Vancouver, site of the 2010 Winter Olympics, scheduled to begin Feb. 12.

The Vancouver Olympics was Allman's biggest project. He and his staff of 22 - five imagery analysts, seven

computer artists, 10 3-D modelers - worked for about six months building the databases for security and event-planning purposes.

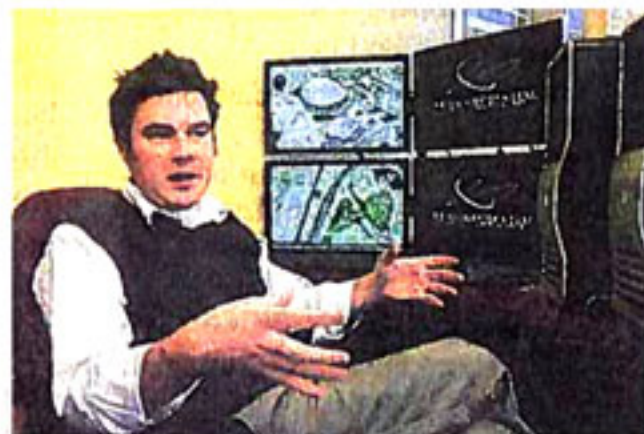
"We take satellite imagery and geographic data," Allman said. "We use real-life data on the ground, like hand-held photos and pictures on the Internet. We take it off this virtual new world we live in and combine it. ..."

Allman and his staff compiled data for much of British Columbia - everything between Vancouver and Whistler, about a two-hour drive from Vancouver.

It was the second Olympics for All-

man and his staff; they also built the 3-D database for the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

Allman is already preparing for a third Olympics, the 2012 Summer Games in London.



Glenn Baeske/The Huntsville Times

AEGis Technologies' Scott Allman has built a 3-D database for the winter Olympics in Vancouver, Canada.

"We're about to get it," he said.

Already, his résumé includes some of the world's most important events and venues - the Middle East and a recent NATO summit in Strasbourg, France, among them.

All of it completed in the last 2½ years.

"When you're working 80 to 100 hours (a week), you can get a lot done," Allman said.

'Build the world'

Out of college, Allman's goal was to "build the world, do something no one

Please see 3-D on C3

Business

> 10 QUESTIONS

Monday **Technology** | Tuesday **Small Business** | Wednesday **NASA/Defense** | Thursday **Government** | Friday **Real Estate** | Saturday **Week in Review** | Sunday **10 Questions**

The Huntsville Times Sunday, January 24, 2010

Page C1

The Huntsville Times, Sunday, January 24, 2010 C3

3-D

Continued from page C1

had done before," as he put it. By his admission, he'd taken a unusual path to get to that point.

After graduating from Grissom High School in 1996, he enrolled in the University of Montevallo. Initially, he planned to major in music, but acting began taking more and more of a hold.

He graduated from Montevallo in 2001, then moved to Hollywood with the idea of becoming an actor and a musician.

"Hollywood broke me down," he said.

At Warner Bros. Studios, where he worked as a production assistant, he learned about satellites.

Tired of asking his father for loans, he returned to Huntsville to work for Computer Sciences Corp. as a project manager. At CSC, he

went to Bosnia and Kosovo, where he operated "a virtual classroom with satellites for noncommissioned officers," he said.

In 2003, he returned to Huntsville and met David King, then the director of visual simulation at CSC and now the vice president for simulation development at AEGIS.

"He basically taught me about modeling and simulation," Allman said, "and that's where the story begins."

At the current rate of growth, with his staff growing from one to 22 in 2½ years, with his expanding list of worldwide projects, he believes the story will not end soon.

"Think of all the military hardware and all the technology that Huntsville has created and combining that with real-world data," Allman said. "We're using that technology to build the world."

It's a good business to be in, he said, because the world is always changing.

