



Hello and welcome to this video lesson on use of dynamic text in map creation.

# Objectives

- **Know what dynamic text is & how it helps to automate map production**
- **Know the various sources for creating dynamic text**
- **Use proper syntax to add dynamic text**
- **Understand how formatting tags can enhance the use of dynamic text**



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The objectives of this video lesson are to help you understand what dynamic text is and how to use it to help you automate map production.

We will be discussing the various types of dynamic text and how to add them to your map.

There is a specific syntax to dynamic text that must be followed for dynamic text to work. Copy and Pasting or adding preformatted dynamic text is the best way to maintain the correct syntax.

We will also discuss how to add formatting tags to the dynamic text to enhance the look of the text.

## Use Dynamic text – Dynamic text saves time and keeps layout text correct from map to map, day to day

**Alamo Fire**  
AZ-CNF-0020  
October 17, 2017  
IAP Map  
Day Shift

Approx. 200 ac  
IR flight 10/15/17 2300  
NAD 1983 UTM zone 12N

Dynamic text is text placed on a map that changes dynamically based on the current properties of the map document, data frame, and Data Driven Pages.

Dynamic text works through the use of tags.

Use of dynamic text will allow for quicker map updates and constancy across your maps.

You add dynamic text in a text box and it will updated automatically. If you add dynamic text for the date, the date on the layout will update to the current date each time you open the MXD.

Dynamic text can also be linked to other properties so you update those properties or fields and the dynamic text will update on the map.

# ArcGIS 10.X Dynamic Text - *text that changes based on the current properties of the map*

- User Name or Author Smokey Bear
- Date (date, time) 10/16/2017  
2200 hr
- Data Frame (name, coordinate system) NAD 1983 UTM zone 12N
- Document Text (from *Map Document Properties*) **Alamo Fire**  
AZ-CNF-0020
- Feature Class (data from a feature class field)
- Statistic text (page # of #) Page 1 of 4
- Data Driven Page Text (page name, #, count, attribute)

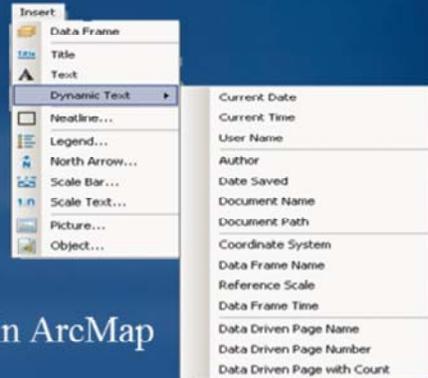


These are just a few of the many types of dynamic text that can be added to your layout.

Some types of dynamic text will update based on map document properties, data frame properties, attribute table fields or general statistics like date and time, page number or count.

# Ways To Add Dynamic Text

- Add preset text from Main Menu  
>Insert>Dynamic Text
- Copy and paste in text box from ArcGIS help or preformatted document (see Job Aid - Dynamic Text Syntax in ArcMap)
- Add from Data Driven Pages Toolbar  
(Page Text♥)
- Combine several dynamic text in one text box.



You can add preformatted dynamic text directly to the map layout from the Main Menu > Insert > Dynamic Text

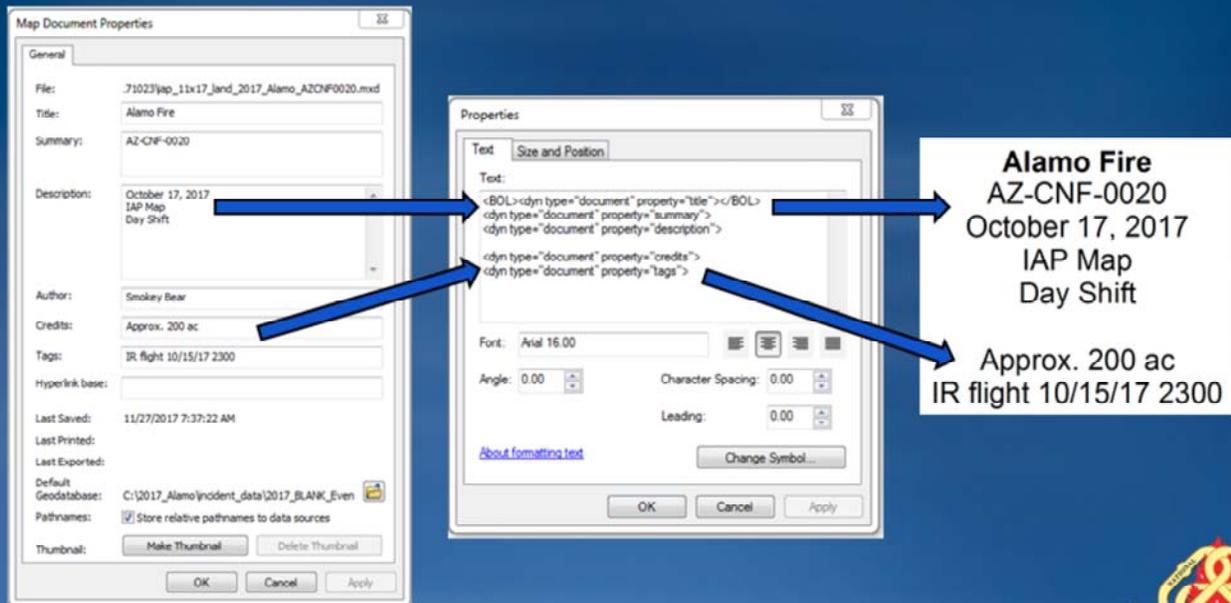
You can also add dynamic text to any text box using copy/paste from the ArcGIS help document or a preset formatting document such as the Job Aid: Dynamic Text Syntax in ArcMap.

You can add dynamic text linked to data driven pages from the data driven pages toolbar.

You can combine different dynamic text into one text box.

**REMEMBER TO COPY THE WHOLE SYNTAX.**

# Dynamic Text Linked to Map Document Properties

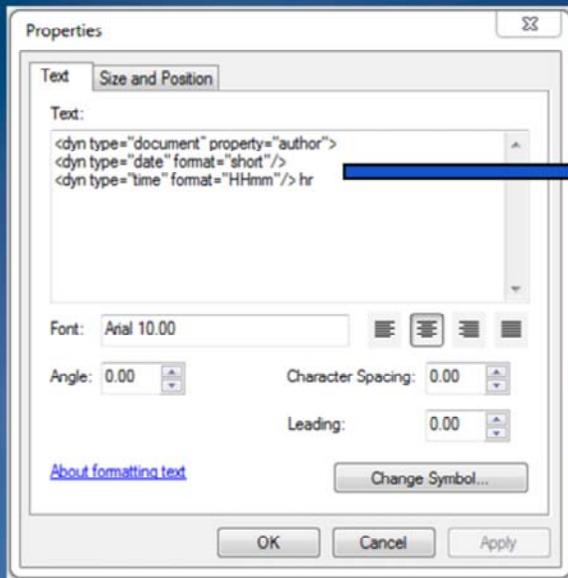


Dynamic Text can be linked to information in the Map Document Properties. You can link to any field in the properties window.

This is a good way to make sure that the fire name & number are always correct in your layout.

You can also add information on a daily basis in the Map Document Properties fields that will link to dynamic text in your layout. Just update the Map Document Properties and the layout text will be automatically updated. In the example above the current acres and source are in the Credits & Tags fields. Update those daily and the dynamic text referencing those fields will be updated in the map layout.

# Date and Time Dynamic Text



Smokey Bear  
10/16/2017  
2200 hr

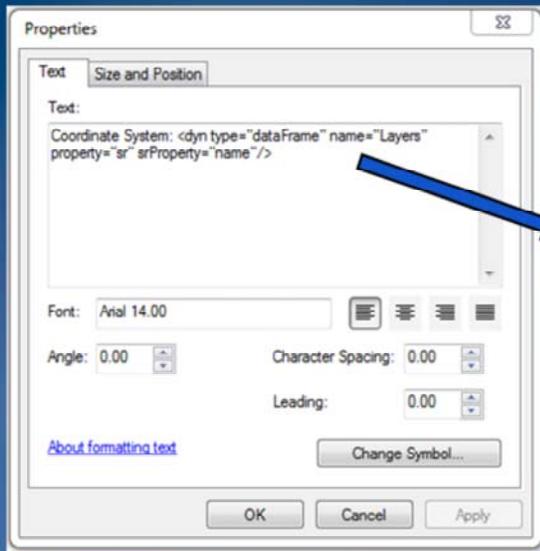


Date and time formatting ensures that the correct date and time of the map creation will be on the map.

Remember: Don't use the dynamic text date/time for the operational data/time in your legend when you are creating maps for the next operational shift. i.e. Maps created at night for the next day shift.

Date and time is used for the map creation data and time.

# Dynamic Text From Data Frame Settings



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM zone 12N

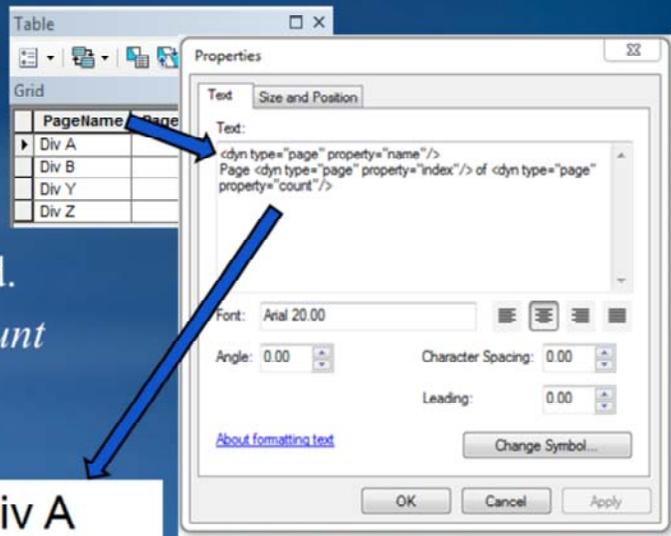


This dynamic text references the data frame coordinate system.

You can delete the words “Coordinate System:” but don’t delete any of the syntax.

# Dynamic Text from Data Driven Pages

You can add dynamic text from fields in your index layer attribute tables using the *Data Driven Page Attribute* command. The *Data Driven Page with Count* command will add the current page number with the total number of pages.



Dynamic text coming from Data Driven Pages makes creation of map sheets go faster.

Using the *Data Driven Page Attribute* command will allow you to select any field in the Index Layer attribute table. i.e. Div A in the PageName field.

*Data Driven Page with Count* command adds the correct syntax for “Page 1 of 4”.

Add dynamic text once to your layout and all the maps in your map packet will have the correct division label and page number.

# Using Text Formatting Tags

The image shows two screenshots from ArcGIS. The top screenshot is the 'Properties' window, showing the 'Text' tab with the following XML code: `<BOL><dyn type="document" property="title"></BOL><dyn type="document" property="summary"></dyn type="document" property="description">`. The `<BOL>` and `</BOL>` tags are circled in red. A blue arrow points from the `<BOL>` tag to the bolded text 'Alamo Fire' in the final output. The bottom screenshot is the 'Map Document Properties' window, showing the 'Description' field with the following XML code: `October 17, 2017 IAP Map <sub>Approx. 200 ac IR flight 10/15/17 2300</sub>`. The `<sub>` and `</sub>` tags are circled in red. A blue arrow points from the `<sub>` tag to the subscripted text 'Approx. 200 ac IR flight 10/15/17 2300' in the final output. The final output is a white box with the following text: **Alamo Fire**  
AZ-CNF-0020  
October 17, 2017  
IAP Map  
Day Shift  
Approx. 200 ac  
IR flight 10/15/17 2300

Text formatting tags can be imbedded in the text boxes or the Map Document Properties.

You can change the font to bold, italic, subscript, underline, etc.. by using the correct formatting tags.

An ArcGIS Help search on “formatting tags” will give you a list of the correct syntax to use. Then you can either type the syntax, following the formatting tag syntax in help, or you can copy/paste the syntax in your textbox.

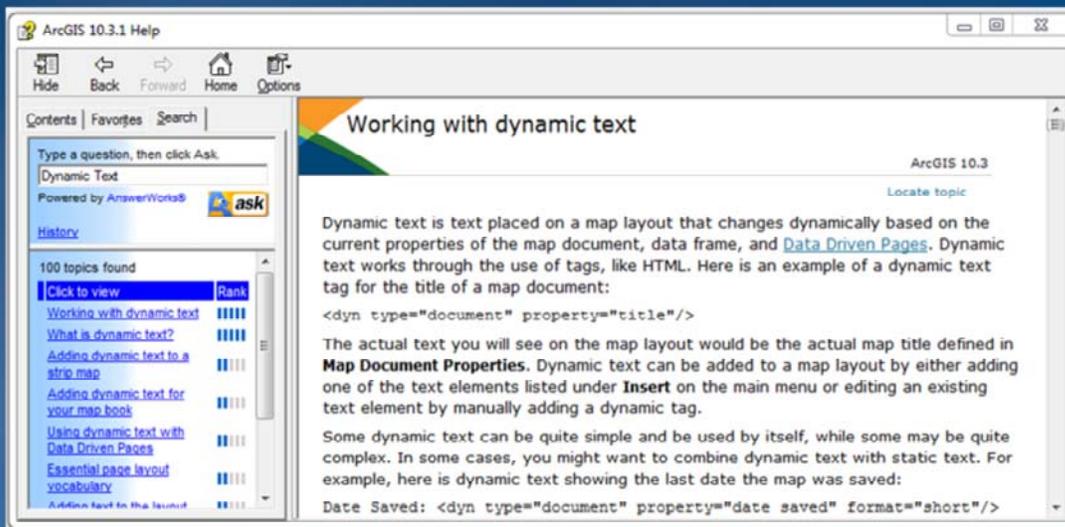
# Conditional text

The image shows two overlapping dialog boxes. The 'Map Document Properties' dialog box has a 'Credits' field that is empty. The 'Properties' dialog box shows a 'Text' field with the value '10/17/2017' and a dynamic text expression: `<dyn type="document" property="credits" emptyStr="No credits for this map."/>`. Two blue arrows point from the 'Credits' field in the first dialog to the dynamic text expression in the second, and from the dynamic text expression to a white box containing the text '10/17/2017' and 'No credits for this map.'.

If text values are blank, conditional text can be added.

Here the Credits field is blank so the dynamic text returns the statement "No credits for this map."

# ArcGIS Help - Dynamic Text



Referencing ArcGIS Help allows you to Copy/Paste in a textbox to ensure the syntax is correct.

You can also open the Job Aid: Dynamic Text Syntax in ArcMap and copy and paste from there. The job aid has examples of multiple syntax combined together in one textbox to allow for easy text creation.

HINT: Many GISS' have created their own blank map templates. They have the dynamic textboxes already created on the layout. Then they just populate the Map Document Properties; add, symbolize and label the data and they are well on the way to having the map completed for export.