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Developing a Custom GIS Desktop Application to Support Administration of a Statewide Railroad Crossing Inventory.

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The Oklahoma Department of Transportation Railway Division requires tools to collect and manage its statewide inventory of railroad crossings. In addition to field collection tools, Jacobs developed a custom desktop application (OK.RAIL) to manage the inventory. OK.RAIL is a .NET ClickOnce Smart Client application that solves performance and functionality limitations of web-based applications along with the complexity of developing a feature-rich web application. It utilizes a custom ESRI ArcIMS map control embedded in a .NET Windows Forms application which provides real-time data entry, editing, and mapping functionality from data stored in an enterprise SQL Server database via XML Web Services. This presentation will describe the technical architecture of this application along with lessons learned during the development of the OK.RAIL application.