



LANDSAT 7 MONTHLY UPDATE

The Landsat 7 Mission, developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, is managed by the U.S. Geological Survey under authority established by Presidential Decision Directive NSTC-3.

Program News

IGS Metadata

Metadata from Canada, Australia, South Africa, Japan, and Europe continue to be archived successfully. As of January 30, 2002, there were 8,115 Landsat 7 IGS subintervals archived for 132,732 Landsat 7 Worldwide Reference System (WRS) scenes. IGS metadata from China (BJC) were released to the public on January 4, 2002. Tape ingest for IGS metadata and browse is being tested, and remains scheduled for operations during the first quarter of 2002. All IGS accessing the DAAC IGS server are encouraged to administer their accounts (passwords) in order to maintain security.

Technical News

Data Validation and Exchange

The Kiruna, Sweden and Neustrelitz, Germany ground stations provided the USGS with raw CC data for their biannual validation. The biannual validations of these two international ground stations were successful.

The Kumamoto, Japan ground station is welcome as a new International Cooperator (IC). The Kumamoto station will be responsible for providing raw CC and LORp data for data validation and exchange.

The Landsat Program has prepared an update to the Landsat 7 Level 0-R Distribution Product Data Format Control Book (LORp DFCB). The ICs will have an opportunity to review this update and provide feedback to the USGS at the 11th Landsat Technical Working Group (LTWG) meeting held in Canberra, Australia. All comments to the proposed changes to the DFCB will be expected by March 15, 2002.

Meetings

Pecora 15 Conference

The Pecora 15/ Land Satellite Information IV Conference, in conjunction with the ISPRS Commission 1 Mid-term Symposium, will be held in Denver, Colorado on November 11-15, 2002. The theme of the conference will be "Integrating Remote Sensing at the Global, Regional, and Local Scale." Emphasis will be on the successful uses of satellite data and an examination of relevant complementary technologies. For further information, contact www.asprs.org.

Related News

EO-1 Mission

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is teaming up with NASA to extend the useful life of the Earth Observing 1 (EO-1) technology demonstration satellite. NASA officially completed the EO-1 mission in November 2001, but the two agencies, already management partners for the Landsat satellite program, have agreed to work together to extend EO-1 operations through February 2002 and then continue on a month-by-month basis.

EO-1 archive data and new acquisitions from two of its three prototype sensors, the Advanced Land Imager and Hyperion, can now be ordered from the USGS, with the first products slated to be shipped in early February.

Extending the EO-1 mission enables both agencies to sustain their research and development efforts while providing opportunities for the broader research community to obtain sample data over specified sites. USGS and NASA scientists believe both Landsat-like and "hyperspectral" data types from EO-1 could prove to be valuable in global land cover studies, ecosystem monitoring, mineral and petroleum prospecting, and agricultural crop discrimination and assessment, among other potential applications. No restrictions will be placed on users obtaining EO-1 products from the USGS.

Information on EO-1 data can be obtained at <http://eo1.usgs.gov>

SRTM Data

In January 2002, NASA began public distribution of a limited number of small Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) data sets covering sites of scientific interest to STRM Principal Investigators. Each data set consists of unedited digital elevation maps, images and ancillary data. As additional data sets are completed, they will be made available to the scientific community and the general public. For further information and to preview any of images log onto the NASA/JPL website at: <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/srtm/>

National Geographic Society Exhibit

A major, permanent exhibit of Landsat data, combined with other data sets, has opened at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C. Models of Earth's features have been created using elevation data and Landsat 7 imagery. The models, each of which is larger than 2m X 2m, are in the Society's Explorers Hall and are designed to give the public a better understanding of land features and the value of remotely sensed data.

The Landsat monthly update is an informal communication tool, prepared monthly and distributed electronically to USGS Landsat partners, to provide information about Landsat activities and related topics of interest. Comments, corrections, and queries may be directed to Ronald Beck, USGS Landsat team, at the following e-mail address: beck@usgs.gov.

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U.S. Geological Survey**