



Landsat World Update

Volume 1, Number 12

July 25, 1988

LANDSAT PROGRAM STATUS - Landsat 4 and 5 continue to operate nominally. Integration activities for Landsat 6 have begun with EOSAT subcontractors and Martin Marietta Corporation, Colorado, supplier of the Titan II launch vehicle. A Preliminary Design Review for the Landsat 6 spacecraft will be held August 2 and 3 at General Electric Astro-Space Division, New Jersey. A Critical Design Review for the Landsat 6 Enhanced Thematic Mapper Sensor will be held September 13-14 at Hughes' Santa Barbara Research Center, California. A formal license application has been filed by EOSAT with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for Landsat 6 communications systems.

ISPRS VOTES USA FOR 1992 - The General Assembly of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) has accepted an invitation from the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing to host the 17th ISPRS Congress in Washington, D.C., August 2-14, 1992. The Congress will be held at the Washington Convention Center, and will be led by Congress Director Dr. Lawrence (Larry) Fritz of the General Electric Company. The USA was selected to host the Congress with 116 votes, versus 57 for runnerup Bulgaria, during the General Assembly meetings held July 3 at the 16th International Congress in Kyoto, Japan.

WORKING GROUP PROPOSED TO STUDY INTERNATIONAL REMOTE SENSING SYSTEM - At the ISPRS 16th International Congress in Kyoto, Japan, a working group was proposed to study international satellite remote sensing programs, and the possibility of an international consortium similar to the INTELSAT and INMARSAT systems. In the plenary session "Planning for an International Mapping and Remote Sensing Satellite System," John MacDonald of MacDonald Dettweiler Associates, Canada, stated that by the end of this century 16 countries will have launched 48 remote sensing systems into orbit.

The costs of supporting a multi-national "Envirosat" system would be dramatically less than the combined costs of the individual systems (many of which will provide similar sets of data), according to MacDonald. The discussion by current satellite operators and satellite data users questioned the timing of such a working group, conflicting national interests, and data format/handling capabilities of various countries. The European Space Agency's ERS-I project, and an agreement recently announced between the People's Republic of China and Brazil, were cited as examples of current cooperative ventures. Aleksandr Draznjuk of the Soviet Union proposed a mission in the spirit of the Apollo/Soyuz venture of the 1970's, and Mr. Cho of Japan's Remote Sensing Technology Center (RESTEC) announced opportunities for cooperation on the ADEOS satellite platform planned for launch in 1992. Peter M.P. Norris of EOSAT reported a strong economic outlook for the international remote sensing industry during the 1990's, and gave a positive appraisal of current commercial space remote sensing activities by the U.S. and French programs.

NEW EOSAT SALES AGENT AWARDED EUROPEAN CONTRACT - Integrated Information Systems (IIS) of Athens, Greece is leading a team of remote sensing experts to develop a training program for European coastal monitoring using Landsat data, under a recent contract award. A two-year simulation project, with initial phase valued at over \$1 million, will provide education and training for oil industry and harbor authorities, to help combat and forecast pollution of the Mediterranean Sea. The system is planned to provide a continuous stream of satellite data, and includes the use of data from Landsat 6. The program is funded by the European Common Market communities, and includes participation by IBERSAT (Spain), Ciset (Italy), Delft-Hydraulik (Holland), Helmepa - Association of Greek Ship Owners for Environment Protection, and Aegean University. IIS is one of the newest of EOSAT's network of international representatives.

SOVIETS LAUNCH OCEAN/ICE INSTRUMENT - On July 5, the Soviet Union launched a new satellite, Okean, into a 680 by 651 kilometer orbit. Okean carries microwave sounders and side-looking radar for ocean and ice data collection. (source: Aviation Week and Space Technology, 7/11/88)

EOSAT A SPONSOR OF LATIN AMERICA SELPER CONFERENCE - The Third Sociedad de Especialistas Latinoamericanos en Percepcion Remota (SELPER) Symposium on Remote Sensing will be held December 5-9, 1988 in Acapulco, Mexico. The theme of the conference will be "Remote Sensing for Natural Resource Evaluations." Abstracts for the conference will be accepted until September 30, 1988, and must be submitted directly to: Dr. Roman Alvarez, IIMAS-UNAM, Apartado Postal 20-726, 01000 Mexico, D.F. Mexico; phone (52-5) 550-5511; telex: 1764062 IMAS ME. EOSAT will be a sponsor of the conference, and will help coordinate U.S. participation. For more information, contact Timothy Puckorius, International Sales for Latin America, EOSAT, 4300 Forbes Blvd., Lanham, Maryland, 20706 USA; phone (301) 552-0500, (800) 344-9933; telex: 277685 LSAT UR.

NEW VISIONS OF EARTH EXHIBIT OPENS - The Denver Museum of Natural History has opened an impressive, three-level exhibit titled "New Visions of Earth: The Technology of Reading Our Planet." The exhibit is divided by floor into three themes: first, the principles of remote sensing (including instrumentation, resolution and spectral response) are explained with interactive systems and models, including a working GIS system provided by the USDA Forest Service. The second level is a colorful image collection which illustrates various applications of remote sensing technology. The third level addresses the global perspective provided by remote sensing (i.e. global change, ozone studies), and exhibits a number of current and future space vehicles and tools that will be used for data collection, including the Space Shuttle, Space Station and Landsat 5 Satellite. The Museum is located in Denver City Park at 2001 Colorado Boulevard; phone (303) 370-6357.

WORKSHOPS IN GIS AND DIGITAL PROCESSING - The Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies (CALMIT) has announced workshops in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Digital Processing of Remotely Sensed Data. The four-day workshops will be held at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln beginning August 1. Workshop fee is \$375 (includes all course materials and computer access time), and workshops are limited to 12 persons. For more information, contact CALMIT at (402) 472-2567.

WASHINGTON D.C. IMAGE POSTER NOW AVAILABLE - Spaceshots, Inc. has released a Landsat Thematic Mapper (TM) image mosaic of the Washington, D.C. area. The full-color 24" by 36" print is available with (\$20.03) or without (\$14.73) laminate finish, and can be ordered directly from Spaceshots Inc., 11111 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 210, Los Angeles, California, 90025 USA; phone (213) 478-8802. During August, Spaceshots will also release posters of Boston, New York City and San Diego.

THE LANDSAT WORLD UPDATE will now be published monthly. We appreciate the contributions and announcements that have helped to create the UPDATE, and encourage your continued information and participation.

LANDSAT WORLD UPDATE is a report to the earth remote sensing community. It contains timely information about the Landsat program, including the status of Landsats 4 and 5 and the progress of the next-generation satellite development program.

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