



Landsat World Update

VOLUME 1, NO. 2

FEB 8, 1988

LANDSAT PROGRAM STATUS - Landsat 4 and 5 continue to operate nominally. There has been no change in the status of the Landsat 6 contract.

OOPS! - Yes, Landsat 4 is again collecting TM data through TDRSS, as we announced in the last issue. However, it was launched in July, 1982, making 1988 its **sixth year of continuous operation**, not its fifth. In fact, **Landsat 4 now shows the longest continuous length of service**, passing Landsat 1 which was decommissioned after 5 1/2 years.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AFFIRM LANDSAT VALUE - In a recent letter to President Reagan, the Joint Satellite Mapping and Remote Sensing Committee of the two largest mapping and remote sensing organizations made a strong plea for Landsat and the U.S. remote sensing industry. The 16,000 members of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) and the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM) proposed a renewed commitment to satellite Earth remote sensing by the U.S. government, and stressed the benefits of the Landsat program. According to the members, the U.S. Landsat program is "**one of the truly great accomplishments of the U.S. space effort**" and that "the international aspects of this program have brought great economic and foreign policy benefits to the United States." (source: Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing, January 1988)

U.S. SPENDS LESS ON REMOTE SENSING- Figures compiled by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) show that the **U.S. is spending significantly less** than many western nations **on remote sensing**. The 1986 figures, in millions of dollars, are as follows: ESA-198, France- 120, Canada- 43, Japan- 43, U.S.- 24 and FR Germany- 8.

NEW SATELLITE RECEIVING STATION FOR ECUADOR - On January 22 the Government of Ecuador signed an agreement with Macdonald Dettwiler (Vancouver, Canada) to purchase a \$19 million ground system for the reception of Landsat, SPOT and future radar data. The new receiving station is being financed by a loan from the Canadian Export Development Corporation to the Government of Ecuador.

ASPRS/EOSAT SEMINAR - The Potomac Chapter of the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) and EOSAT hosted a half day seminar in Lanham, Maryland on the use of Geocoded Landsat data. Over **80 representatives of various government and private sector businesses** attended. EOSAT presented technical information about the Geocoded products, and a representative from Ducks Unlimited, a wetland conservation organization, showed the new data type in use.

Geocoded data are oriented to user-defined map projection and direction. The data are also delivered in a new, easier to use, format. Ducks Unlimited's experience with Geocoded data indicates a 90% savings in data ingest times and much greater precision in locating small wetland areas.

REMOTE SENSING PROFESSIONALS WANTED - EOSAT is seeking qualified applicants for positions in technical, applications and marketing positions. Send resumes to Ms. Donna Ray, EOSAT, 4300 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham, Maryland, USA 20706.

LANDSAT IMAGES OF ISRAEL, MIDDLE EAST - Extensive Landsat MSS and TM digital mosaics of Israel and other areas in the Middle East have been created by Pictorial Archive of Jerusalem to provide a historical perspective of events from the Bible. Dr. Richard Cleave, Director of Pictorial Archive, has created false color satellite images as well as aerial and ground views. Images from Pictorial Archive are currently featured in Bible Times, a new publication distributed from Jerusalem. The images have also been featured on a number of television programs, and in religious and historical displays throughout the world.

Pictorial Archive has begun a project with Jet Propulsion Laboratory (Pasadena, California) to provide three-dimensional satellite views ("fly-over") of Israel. **Landsat Thematic Mapper images have been selected for the project**, combined with topographic data provided by the government of Israel. The resulting videotape will provide even more detail than JPL's first release "L.A.- The Movie", using a more efficient hardware/software system.

For more information or to purchase images in the U.S., contact Dan Noorlander, Educational Programs, 1773 North 1030 West, Orem, Utah 84057, phone (801) 226-8767.

LANDSAT IMAGE MAP OF LOS ANGELES AVAILABLE - Landsat Thematic Mapper Data has been used to create a false color digital image map of Los Angeles, California and surrounding regions, including portions of the San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys, and Orange County. The image map was enhanced by KRS (Kodak Remote Sensing) in Landover, Maryland. Contact Space Shots, Inc., 1111 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 210, Los Angeles, California 90025, phone (213) 312-9129.

USDA RESEARCHER OFFERS SATELLITE DATA ACQUISITION AID - Locating satellite remote sensing data will be a lot easier thanks to John Price of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Remote Sensing Research Laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland. John has written a program for PC and PC-compatible systems to help identify Landsat path/row locations, and spacecraft overpass dates. The program is a helpful tool for those who use Landsat World Reference System maps and satellite overpass calendars.

EOSAT has agreed to make the new program available on a 5.25 inch floppy disk for the cost of reproduction and handling (\$5.00). To order, contact EOSAT Customer Services in Lanham, Maryland at (301) 552-0537 or (800) 344-9933 and ask for the SATCOV diskette. To expedite service, send order and payment (no purchase orders please) to EOSAT, 4300 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham, Maryland, USA 20706

LANDSAT WORLD UPDATE is a bi-weekly 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.

LANDSAT WORLD UPDATE is provided by EOSAT as a service to the remote sensing community, and no restrictions are placed on its reproduction. Any questions, comments or additions to the Update should be directed by mail to EOSAT Public Affairs Office, 4300 Forbes Boulevard, Lanham, Maryland 20706, U.S.A. or by telephone to (301) 552-0547 or (800) 344-9933 ext 547.
