



ERIC

RESOURCE APPLICATIONS

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Satellite Image Sales

INTRODUCTION

ERIC is licensed by the Australian Centre for Remote Sensing (ACRES), part of Geoscience Australia, to distribute satellite imagery received through ground stations in Alice Springs and Hobart. The imagery is supplied from archives in Canberra.

The imagery with most general application comes from the Landsat series of optical satellites. Regular data collection in Australia commenced in 1978 providing a comprehensive archive to the present. Limited imagery is available between 1972 and 1978. Other forms of satellite imagery, such as RADARSAT synthetic aperture radar are also provided.

The image selection services are at no cost to the client. The role of ERIC in distributing satellite imagery involves:

1. Identify the most appropriate form of imagery.
2. Select the best available images for the purpose.
3. Cost effective development of information from the imagery.

Over 100 natural resource satellites exist and each has particular characteristics that determine the suitability for particular purposes. Imagery with low spatial resolution has very low cost and the cost increases as the spatial resolution increases. As high spatial resolution is not needed for many applications appropriate image selection can provide appreciable cost savings.

The quality of images from a particular satellite can vary considerably depending on factors such as atmospheric conditions and time of year. Also, the suitability of images for particular purposes usually depends on the seasonal conditions. Use of knowledge and experience of the requirement to select the most appropriate images greatly improves outcomes and reduces image processing costs.

The ERIC professional image processing services derive maximum information and value from the imagery. This allows clients to focus on their core activities without the cost and distractions associated with implementing a complex technology.

