

INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE  
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICE OF EARTH SCIENCE  
AND THE  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
FOR A  
LANDSAT DATA CONTINUITY MISSION

PURPOSE

The Office of Earth Science of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Department of the Interior's (DOI) United States Geological Survey (USGS) hereby agree to enter into a partnership to acquire Landsat-quality data which meets both NASA and DOI/USGS scientific and operational requirements for observing land use and land change, which include supporting the U.S. Global Change Research Program. These data will be provided to the Government by the private sector via a to-be-determined means, presumably using one or more satellites instrumented for that purpose. This endeavor shall be referred to as the Landsat Data Continuity Mission, or LDCM.

Further, the LDCM initiative is based on the requirement to maintain continuity of data characteristics and accessibility for Landsat data users consistent with the U.S. Government policies. This initiative is bolstered by the fact that moderate-resolution, Landsat-like data are critical to global, national, and regional science investigations and applications, that academic research and Government resource-management activities require reliable, affordable access to such data, and that commercial value-added firms rely on access to such data to support a growing market for derived information products. Finally, this initiative is necessary since the market for moderate-resolution, Landsat-like data has proven to be insufficient to sustain an entirely independent, self-capitalized commercial business.

This Initial Implementation Agreement (IIA) is for the acquisition of such data to be included in the DOI archive in keeping with the Landsat programmatic goals, stated in the Land Remote Sensing Policy Act of 1992, and the Commercial Space Act of 1998.

4/5001-00916

## II. RESPONSIBILITIES

The NASA and the DOI/USGS agree to jointly undertake the following responsibilities:

1. NASA and DOI/USGS shall jointly acquire Landsat-quality data to be used by the United States Government, in particular to meet the needs of NASA and DOI/USGS, and to be archived by DOI/USGS. The result of this endeavor will be a contract with a vendor for delivery to commence in the 2005-2006 era for a period of at least 5 years. This endeavor shall be in the context of a developing strategy for providing continuous Landsat-type data for the long term.
2. NASA shall lead the procurement effort with full DOI/USGS support and participation; subsequently, DOI/USGS shall lead the data delivery effort with full NASA support and participation. A two-step procurement is planned; the contract award for step one is anticipated to occur no later than the summer of 2002.
3. The responsibility to provide funds for the resulting contract will be shared by the two agencies in a true partnership. The exact contribution of each agency will be subsequently determined by, and will depend upon, the performance requirements specified in the contract and the U.S. Administration's and Congress's endorsement of the respective agency roles in LDCM.
4. DOI/USGS shall be responsible for archiving, accessing, processing, and distributing those data to the Federal government and to other users during the life of the mission, whether providing those services directly, or through the contract. Regardless of mission-era arrangements, the national long-term archive for these data shall be DOI's National Satellite Land Remote Sensing Data Archive operated by the USGS in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.
5. DOI/USGS, with full NASA support and participation, shall lead the economic analysis and evaluation effort on proposed alternatives to the current model of data archival, access, processing, and product distribution.
6. NASA shall provide for the calibration and validation of the data in cooperation with operational quality assurance provided by DOI/USGS.
7. NASA and DOI/USGS shall fund a science team to provide support in matters dealing with the data specification, calibration, validation, and other appropriate areas.
8. Each agency shall be responsible for providing financial support (including travel, etc.) for its personnel supporting this acquisition activity.
9. A joint Formulation Team will develop acquisition details with support from field centers in both agencies.
10. The programmatic points of contact at their respective headquarters are the DOI/USGS Liaison for Satellite Programs and the NASA Landsat Program Executive.

III. FUNDING

All activities pursuant to this IIA are subject to the availability of appropriated funds, and no provision herein shall be interpreted to require obligation or payment of funds in violation of the Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. § 1341. This IIA is not a funding document, and does not represent the obligation or transfer of funds.

Each party shall support the other in the appropriation process and shall reconsider this agreement should conditions merit.

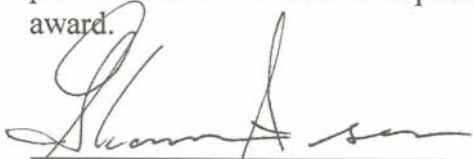
IV. AUTHORITY

This IIA is under the authority granted by the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AND THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY CONCERNING COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS, signed by the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey on December 8, 1999, and the Associate Administrator for Earth Science of NASA on January 4, 2000. It shall be listed in ANNEX I thereof.

Additional direction is given in the AMENDMENT TO PRESIDENTIAL DECISION DIRECTIVE/NSTC-3, signed October 16, 2000, by President William J. Clinton, which directed the USGS and NASA to "... develop a strategy for maintaining continuity of Landsat-type data beyond Landsat 7 that is consistent with each agency's expertise and mission."

V. EFFECTIVE DATE

This IIA shall be effective upon the date of the last signature below. It is the intention of the parties to enter into a Final Implementation Agreement within 30 days of final (step 2) contract award.



Ghassem R. Asrar  
Associate Administrator  
for the Office of Earth Science  
National Aeronautics and Space  
Administration



Charles P. Groat  
Director,  
United States Geological Survey  
Department of the Interior

1 November 2001  
Date:

OCT. 25, 2001  
Date: