



# AGC Imagery Office

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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## Background

The AGC Imagery Office (AIO) functions as the U.S. Army's commercial imagery acquisition agent and monitor. This action is designed to prevent Army agencies and organizations from duplicating imagery acquisition/data purchases. The AIO is also designated as the repository of selected commercial satellite/aerial imagery and AGI data pertaining to terrain analysis and water resources operations. The AIO Data Library is accessible to DoD users via an online search & discovery web client application called DataDoors.



Efficient management of the research, acquisition and distribution of imagery and imagery products is increasingly important as Army units expand their use of remotely-sensed data. The AIO serves several functions in its role as monitor, as defined in AR 115-11, *Army Geospatial Information and Services*. These include acting as the Army's primary point of contact for commercial satellite imagery data sources, both electro-optical and SAR, to support engineer and terrain analysis operations and applications, and serving as the repository of selected commercial images/products. The office collaborates with commercial satellite imagery vendors, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) and other data providers to collect and disseminate commercial satellite imagery and imagery products, BuckEye data, and IFSAR/LIDAR to the Army.

## Current Operations

The AIO team consists of one team lead and five personnel dedicated to data research, acquisition and dissemination; one team member is designated the AGC Collection Manager. Army funds for commercial imagery procurement have been nearly eliminated in recent years, so AIO offers many avenues in which to satisfy valid imagery requirements at no cost. Using government contract vehicles, such as the NGA EnhancedView and COMSAR Contracts, is one way AIO acquires commercial imagery data at no cost. Another approach is taking advantage of archived imagery repositories at NGA such as the Web-based Access & Retrieval Portal-Unclassified St. Louis Information Library (WARP-USTIL) and the Information Access Services (IAS) which provide commercial imagery at no cost. AIO's Collection Manager is authorized to submit requirements on behalf of Army customers for new or archived imagery collections through the NGA Geospatial-Intelligence Management System (GIMS). The AIO and the Defense Installation Spatial Data Infrastructure (DISDI) of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment forged a partnership to support commercial imagery requirements for the DoD Installations and Environment community. This partnership leverages the business practices AIO has utilized in commercial imagery acquisition and dissemination for more than 15 years. The commercial imagery that is acquired on behalf of the DISDI community is made accessible via the ADL to benefit other end users with duplicate requirements.

**Future Developments:** AIO will continue to provide commercial imagery research and acquisition for the Soldier through existing and newly developed technologies. The partnership with DISDI will endure and continue to benefit both communities of interest.

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