

SPOT 6/7 Imagery to Improve Efficiency of US Agriculture



Airbus Defence and Space has entered into an agreement with the GIS mapping engine operator Satshot to provide high-resolution SPOT 6/7 satellite data over a large area of the corn and wheat belt within the continental United States. SPOT 6/7 data is integrated into the Satshot platform, which can be used for deep analysis of specific farmland for further improved operations and efficiency.

Satshot is a fully customized cloud-based online Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping engine that handles satellite imagery distribution, analysis, and management for the agricultural (ag) industry. Satshot relies on three main platforms (Mapcenter, Landscout and iCue) along with various imagery to help growers be more efficient in the field. SPOT 6/7 data can be used within Satshot's platforms for a variety of applications,

such as: crop health monitoring and stress estimation throughout the season, Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), crop damage assessment for insurance, land use sustainability management, land value, and Precision Ag Variable Rate Technologies (VRT).

SPOT 6/7 data provides 1.5 metre high resolution natural colour and near infra-red information with daily collection opportunities making the data a valuable source for analysis and decision-making in the ag industry. The large swath and coverage capabilities of the twin satellites allow for mapping from a national level down to fragmented farmland parcels at a very competitive price point. This trade-off between resolution, coverage and revisit is key to monitor crop growth and needs more closely and make better informed decisions.