



WILLIAM T. PECORA AWARD

Eagle Vision Team

For sustained and timely remote sensing support for humanity in times of crisis.

The U.S. Air Force Eagle Vision program has tirelessly supported the advancement of Earth observations for the last 16 years, providing invaluable support to homeland security, humanitarian aid, and natural disaster recovery efforts. The program consists of five ground stations capable of downlinking real-time commercial satellite imagery from numerous Earth observation satellites to deliver time-vital precision images in support of U.S. global crisis response. The ground stations are deployable worldwide to provide on-site support to crisis response. The system is compatible with many satellite-imaging constellations, including U.S. commercial satellites and international missions such as France's Satellite Pour l'Observation de la Terre, India's Cartosat, Germany's TerraSAR-X, and Canada's RADARSAT Constellation.

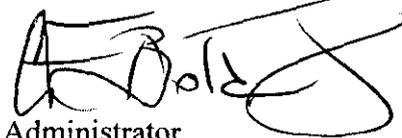
The Eagle Vision program, spawned from the post-Desert Storm need for timely, unclassified imagery that the U.S. military could share with our allies, has demonstrated phenomenal capability outside the combat zone. In particular, the Eagle Vision team has provided vital aid to dozens of natural disaster relief efforts. In each of the past 3 years, the Eagle Vision Team imaged over 75,000 square kilometers in the State of California in support of wildfire suppression. The Eagle Vision Team provided imagery for relief efforts for every major flood or hurricane to hit the U.S. homeland during the past 4 years, including Hurricane Katrina. During the recent earthquake activity in Haiti, two Eagle Vision units provided first responders images within 24 hours of the first shockwave. In 2009 alone, the Eagle Vision Team provided support to 19 different disaster events in six different countries.

Eagle Vision has also become an invaluable humanitarian resource outside our Nation's borders. During the past decade, many African countries emerged from long civil and regional wars with devastated economies and infrastructures. The U.S., the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and international relief agencies struggled with difficult conditions, outdated maps, and little accurate imagery. The Eagle Vision Team was deployed to Africa several times, from 2004–2007, to collect commercial satellite imagery of Chad, Mauritania, Uganda, and Niger to build a current, broad-area geospatial collection for humanitarian support.

The Eagle Vision Team has a remarkable record of leveraging commercial satellite technology to support warfighters and firefighters alike. They also pushed the technological envelope in the arena of Earth observations. In doing so, the Team saved countless lives, safeguarded thousands of acres of forest, and minimized damage to millions of dollars of property. In recognition of these accomplishments, the Department of the Interior and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration take great pleasure in presenting the 2010 William T. Pecora Award to the Eagle Vision Team.



Secretary
Department of the Interior



Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration