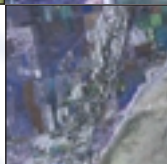
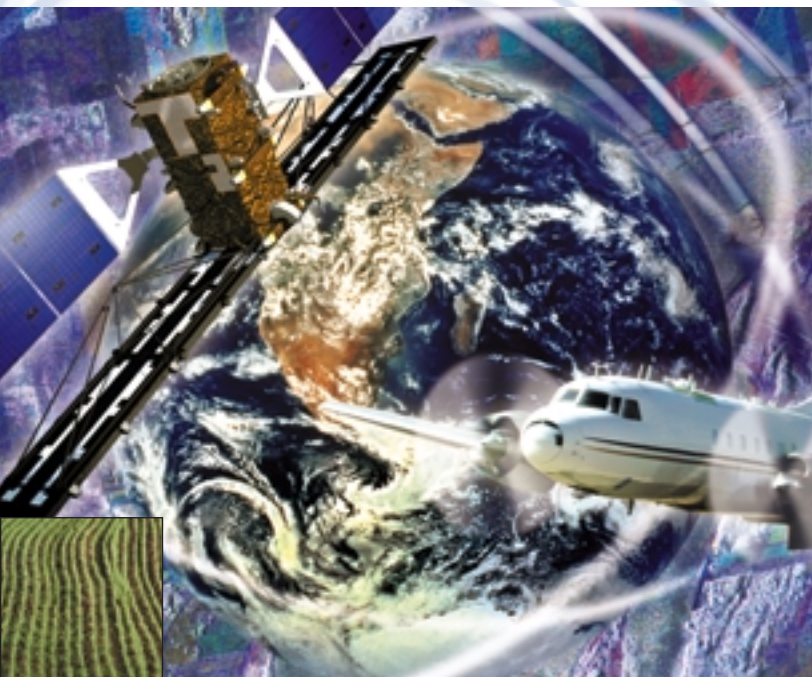
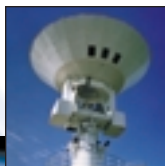
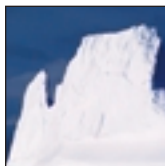




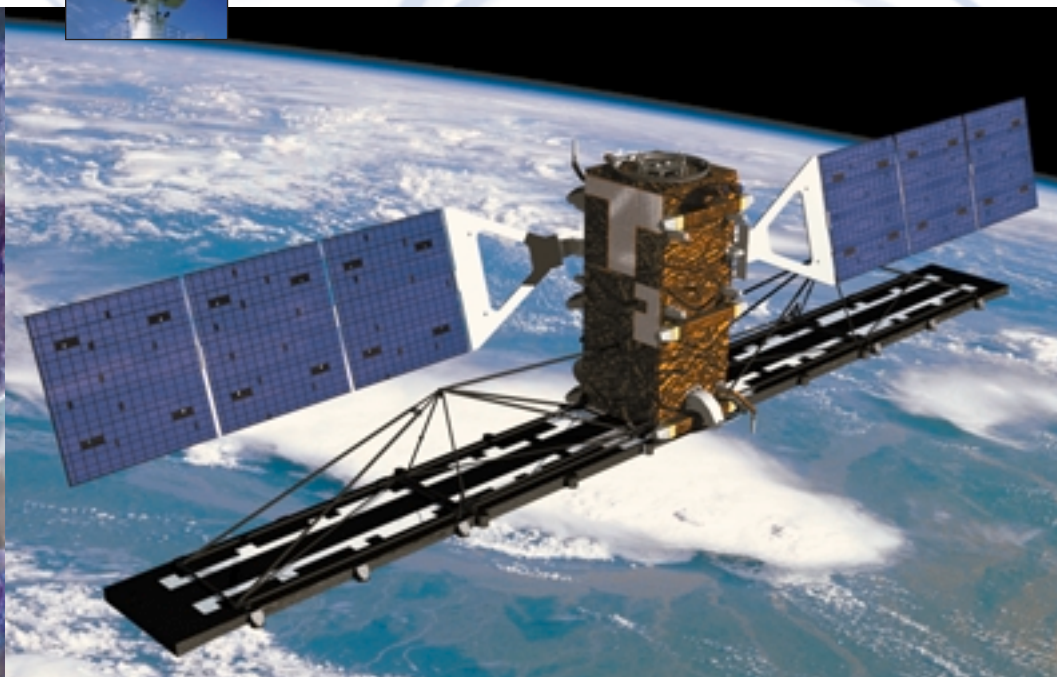
Preparing the Canadian EO Community for RADARSAT-2



Space Technologies:
Investing in Our Future



As Canada continues to lead the world in Earth Observation (EO), the stage is set for the launch of RADARSAT-2, the world's most advanced Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) satellite. RADARSAT-2 will have innovative features, some of which have never before been available on a commercial satellite.



New capabilities of RADARSAT-2 include:

- High spatial resolution (3 metres);
- Selective polarization;
- Quad polarimetry.

These new capabilities will present a challenge to the EO community. Members of the EO community should readily adopt the higher spatial resolution data, but a substantial effort in training and development will be required to make full use of the multi-polarisation and polarimetric data.

The Canadian Space Agency, in collaboration with the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS), has initiated a suite of activities to prepare the EO community for the full potential of RADARSAT-2. The program's objectives are to help the Canadian EO community (academia, industry and government departments) master the concepts, develop the tools and explore the potential of RADARSAT-2 data in new and existing EO applications.

The CSA will acquire simulated RADARSAT-2 data with the Conqair-580 airborne system and with ESA's (European Space Agency) ENVISAT satellite, through Canada being a member of ESA. This data will be offered to the research community and to value added companies, so that they may develop the tools, the applications and the expertise. With this innovative initiative, the CSA is leading Canadian industry in the world EO market, and is truly investing in our future.



For more information on Earth Observation activities of the Canadian Space Agency please visit our website at www.space.gc.ca or contact:

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