



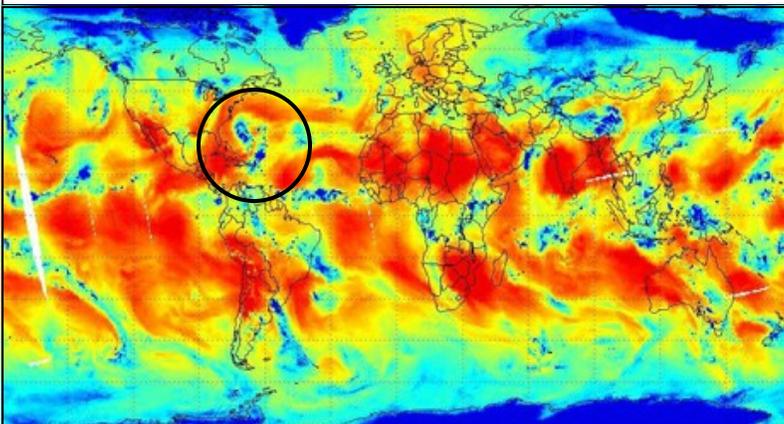
SW Region-AZ/NV/SoCA

NASA Launches New Polar Orbiter to Study Long Term Climate Change

NASA successfully launched the new polar orbiter, NPOESS Preparatory Program (NPP) platform, on October 28, 2011. The image at right shows the nighttime launch aboard a Delta II rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Ca. The new platform will collect critical weather data and provide long term climate change monitoring data.



The mission is a bridge between the highly successful Earth Observation System (EOS) and the planned Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS). NPP consists of a five-instrument suite including: the Visible/Infrared Imager Radiometer Suite (VIIRS); the Cross-track Infrared Sounder (CrIS); the Clouds and Earth Radiant Energy System (CERES); the Advanced Technology Microwave Sounder (ATMS); and the Ozone Mapping and Profiler Suite (OMPS). The launch vehicle also successfully deployed five small CubeSats two for the University of Michigan; and one each for Auburn University, Montana State University and Utah State University. (Source: NASA)



The image to the left show the first measurements from the NPP platform, collected November 8, 2011 and represents the distribution of atmospheric water vapor. Tropical Storm Sean is visible in the data (See circle), as the blue patch, in the Atlantic off the coast of the Southeastern United States.

WILL APPLE APPLY ITS MIDAS TOUCH TO THE WEB 3D IMAGERY AND APP MARKET?

There is now confirmation, according to 9to5mac.com, that Apple has acquired the small Swedish startup firm, C3 Technologies. Apple purportedly sealed the deal last year and appears poised to enter the fray with Google and others in the rapidly developing world of 3D web imagery and application delivery. It appears that the first market for the newly acquired technology will be to replace the Apple-built application for Google Maps in IOS. C3 Technologies, a former unit of Saab AB, was a leading provider of 3D mapping solutions, offering photo-realistic models of the world for search, navigation and geographic information systems. Since 2007 venture-backed C3 has redefined mapping by applying previously classified image processing technology to the development of 3D maps as a platform for new social and commercial applications. The C3 automated software and advanced algorithms enable will enable Apple to rapidly assemble extremely precise 3D models, and seamlessly integrate them with traditional 2D maps, satellite images, street level photography and user generated images, that together are forever changing how people use maps and explore the world. See the links below view the Apple/C3 technologies. (Source: 9to5mac.com)



See the c3
Technology in
Action!



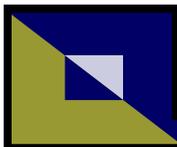
**Student Achievement
and Travel Awards
Applications Now
Available!**

The SW Region of ASPRS is pleased to announce that the application materials for the student achievement and student travel awards are now available via the SW Region website. There are two separate awards programs: for academic achievement in an imaging or GIS related college program and also for travel stipends to attend the ASPRS national meetings. The programs are competitive and this year the applications can be completed digitally and submitted to the review committee. The applications are due February 1, 2012. Announcements for the award recipients will be made on Friday, February 10, 2012 via e-mail notification and posting on the ASPRS region website.

2012 SW Region Regional Election Key Dates

Nominating Committee prepares slate	14-Jan-2012
Nominating Committee reports slate to Treasurer	20-Jan-2012
Treasurer informs Membership of slate	31-Jan-2012
Members submit additional names to Treasurer	15-Feb-2012
Final day to vote	02-Mar-2012
Last day to report results	18-Mar-2012
Last Friday to report results	16-Mar-2012
Members interested in running for a SW Region Office or nominating another active member for office should send their or their nominee's names to the Nominating Committee before the January 20, 2012 deadline.	

See your name here: Send your 250 word profile to Editor@SWASPRS



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