

JACIE: A MODEL PARTNERSHIP

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The Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation (JACIE) Team has announced that its 2014 Commercial Civil Imagery Evaluation Workshop will be held in conjunction with the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) Annual Conference in Louisville, Kentucky on March 23-27, 2014. The announcement was made by the JACIE team and keynote speaker Roberta Lenczowski (ASPRS Past President) during the JACIE meeting in Saint Louis, Missouri in April.

The 2014 JACIE Workshop will be held Wednesday through Friday, March 26-28 as a separate track at the ASPRS meeting. The program planning for JACIE and ASPRS will integrate key speakers and highlights into a General Session and established ASPRS special sessions. In addition, ASPRS will provide attendees to the JACIE Workshop the opportunity to register for a combined JACIE ASPRS experience that will allow JACIE attendees to visit the ASPRS Conference Exhibit Hall, as well as ASPRS General and Technical Sessions during the week of the JACIE Workshop. This is a win-win situation for ASPRS and for JACIE both technically and programmatically. Please look for future announcements from JACIE and ASPRS related to the JACIE Workshop.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the United States Geological Survey (USGS), and their associates and partners, are directly responsible for establishing and leading a unique interagency team of scientists and engineers who work together to evaluate and enhance the quality remote sensing data for commercial and government use. This team is called "the Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation (JACIE) team". The team works together to define, prioritize, assign, and assess civil and commercial image quality and jointly sponsors an annual JACIE Civil Commercial Imagery Evaluation workshop with participation support from the remote sensing calibration and validation science community.

Why JACIE?

Quality image data is crucial to the Federal Government to aid in decision-making for global problems, such as climate change, food supply monitoring, and deforestation; as well as specific problems, such as the management of federal lands, defense and homeland security, and others. Ensuring the acquisition and delivery of quality remote sensing data requires independent characterization and validation; this is the true JACIE "trademark". JACIE serves as a model for how government should characterize remotely sensed data that it purchases in the future.

Each of the JACIE agencies brings its own unique resources and the talents of its people to this task. The JACIE team has a strong focus on geospatial and radiometric calibration, accuracy, and resolution. Image interpretability, feature extraction capability and the imagery's applicability to problem solving are core areas. The relationship that developed between the government and industry has resulted in a spirit of cooperation and trust that is key to JACIE's non-biased assessment of the data. JACIE fills an important role in providing government users with understanding of the many new sources of Earth observing data. It has also allowed the industry partners to better understand the myriad needs of the federal government and potential uses for their data. The cooperative effort of the JACIE team and industry has resulted in improved product quality for all commercial remote sensing data users. The interagency collaboration -- combined with openness and involvement with industry -- has been especially successful.

In addition to the partnership between the four federal agencies, the JACIE team has invested in partnerships with state and local governments, as well as universities, who bring their diverse expertise, needs, and insights to the table. This extended partnership has been encouraged and funded by all four agencies and helps to promote and expand the usefulness of this

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Louisville Kentucky



We've heard your suggestions and **BIG** changes are happening! Join ASPRS at the 2014 Annual Conference and experience the excitement. Here are some of things you will see:

- **New sessions & track topics** – The Conference Planning Committee has been working hard to implement new and topical tracks geared toward your everyday business needs. With roundtable discussions, panel sessions and exciting speakers the NEW presentations will be more engaging, interesting and applicable for all attendees!
- **New exhibitors** – Recruitment Way & the UAS Showcase will debut at this year's Annual Conference. The UAS/UAV Showcase in the Exhibit Hall has been a great success and we are excited to offer this specialty area again in Louisville. Recruitment Way is another specialty focus bringing a recruiting component to our conferences. Recruitment Way is sure to bring together our fantastic supporting companies and attendees looking for the next step in their career.
- **The Exhibit Hall Passport Contest** has been a successful event for exhibitors and attendees at the past two conferences. The exhibit hall game will continue for 2014.
- **Going Digital** – We are moving into a more digital age and the conferences are following suit! Now you will be able to review each abstract before the conference. All presenters will be listed on the conference web site and linked to their abstract instead of being listed in a static printed preliminary program. This is an exciting move and we hope everyone will take advantage of the new digital opportunities.
- **Reduced number of overall technical sessions** – The Annual conference will welcome three technical papers per session in most sessions and a reduced number of overall concurrent sessions. This will allow each presenter more time to speak and give attendees additional time to ask questions during the presentations. As well as allow for a more relaxed atmosphere for attendees.
- **Lightening Talks** – Brief, concise and informative 5 minute presentations from all Poster presenters. Don't miss the Lightening Talks scheduled during the regular technical presentations.

See you in Louisville, Kentucky, March 23 – 28, 2014 for the ASPRS 2014 Annual Conference! Submit your presentation today at <http://www.asprs.org/Conferences/Louisville-2014>.

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government research while simultaneously giving the federal partners key insights into the capabilities and needs of other entities.

The JACIE team effort is a model partnership that integrates the unique abilities, strengths, and particular interests of its members to produce a meaningful set of studies on all aspects of satellite data quality. JACIE supports several of the Administration's emphasis areas, such as the U.S. Commercial Remote Sensing Policy, the United States Land Remote Sensing Policy, National Land Imaging Programs, the United States Group on Earth Observations (GEO), and the team members' agency requirements, in terms of commercial government partnerships and building a foundation for acceptance and understanding of new technologies.

The JACIE team fosters growth in the use of remote sensing within civil agencies as well as the broader commercial marketplace. The methodologies, techniques, and science used and developed by JACIE have application in evaluating many remote sensing technologies, such as optical satellite and airborne imagery, lidar, hyperspectral, radar, and science techniques and applications. The JACIE team is continuing to evolve its characterization methodologies and is extending its calibration and validation work to future satellites and other technologies from the U.S. and around the world. Much of the work done by JACIE partners is new and directly supports many organizations' science needs. The JACIE team is also currently supporting international satellite system characterization in support of a medium resolution Global Data Gap (i.e., Landsat). With the strong climate of government reliance on data from commercial systems versus government owned and operated systems, the work of JACIE becomes extremely relevant.

The JACIE Workshop

The annual Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation (JACIE) workshop event began in the year 2000, allowing partners from, NASA, NGA, NOAA, USDA, USGS, other Federal, State, Local government, academia, and industry, and guests from across the public and private sectors to work together. The JACIE workshop represents the U.S. government's continuing commitment to remote sensing technology as an important tool in providing information to address critical science issues.

The 2013 JACIE workshop ("*Data Quality: The Gateway to Remote Sensing Applications.*") had an exceptional line-up of industry and government speakers chosen by the JACIE team. Those who attended from the U.S. and seven different countries are involved in imagery characterization, and associated science and applications research. The focus for the workshop is exchange of information regarding calibration, characterization, and validation information and associated applications of civil and commercial imagery used by the government, including visible, infrared, radar, sensors from airborne and spaceborne platforms.

These workshops continue to be voted one of the best technical workshops for discussing remote sensing systems and their calibration and validation aspects, and a rare opportunity of important face-to-face knowledge exchange among a highly specialized group of people. Current and past JACIE workshop information including presentations and reports are available at: http://calval.cr.usgs.gov/collaborations_partners/jacie/.