

Transition Schedule of Dissemination of Satellite Imagery

This paper reports on the transition schedule of dissemination of satellite imagery via the satellite and from the Internet.

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The Multi-functional Transport Satellite-1R (MTSAT-1R) has been operational since 28 June 2005. JMA started providing two kinds of imagery in new formats on an operational basis, the High Rate Information Transmission (HRIT) and the Low Rate Information Transmission (LRIT). JMA also started operational broadcasting service of the High Resolution Imager Data (HiRID), which is compatible with S-VISSR imagery. JMA will continue broadcasting service of both HiRID and WEFAX imagery towards the end of 2007 to facilitate users' preparation for the transition.

1. Broadcasting to Medium-scale Data Utilization Stations (MDUSs) via satellite

JMA has provided broadcasting service of HRIT and HiRID, compatible with S-VISSR, since the commencement of MTSAT-1R operation on 28 June 2005. Broadcasting service of HiRID will be continued toward the end of 2007 so as to give enough preparing time to users who had received S-VISSR and will receive HRIT. Both HRIT and HiRID are broadcast at the same radio frequency on the time-shared timetable of imagery dissemination.

The timetable of imagery dissemination from MTSAT-1R is found on JMA's website (http://mscweb.kishou.go.jp/operation/daily_sch.pdf).

2. Broadcasting to Small-scale Data Utilization Stations (SDUSs) via satellite

JMA has provided broadcasting service of LRIT since the commencement of MTSAT-1R operation on 28 June 2005. On the same date, JMA changed over from providing WEFAX imagery derived from GOES-9 observations to providing WEFAX imagery derived from MTSAT-1R observations. Broadcasting service of WEFAX will be continued toward the end of 2007 so as to give enough preparing time to users who had received WEFAX imagery and will receive LRIT. Both LRIT and WEFAX imagery are broadcast at the same radio frequency on the time-shared timetable of imagery dissemination.

3. Imagery dissemination via landline

JMA has been continuously provided satellite imagery (Infrared channel 1: 10.5-11.5 μ m) through the Internet for users of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) registered by JMA as a backup service of the direct broadcast via satellite. As for this backup service, JMA began providing HRIT imagery derived from MTSAT-1R

observations on 28 June 2005, while terminated, on 14 July 2005, provision of S-VISSR type imagery derived from observations of GOES-9.

The transition schedule of dissemination of satellite imagery is shown in Figure 1. The latest information on MTSAT series is available at JMA's website (<http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/jma-eng/satellite/index.html>).

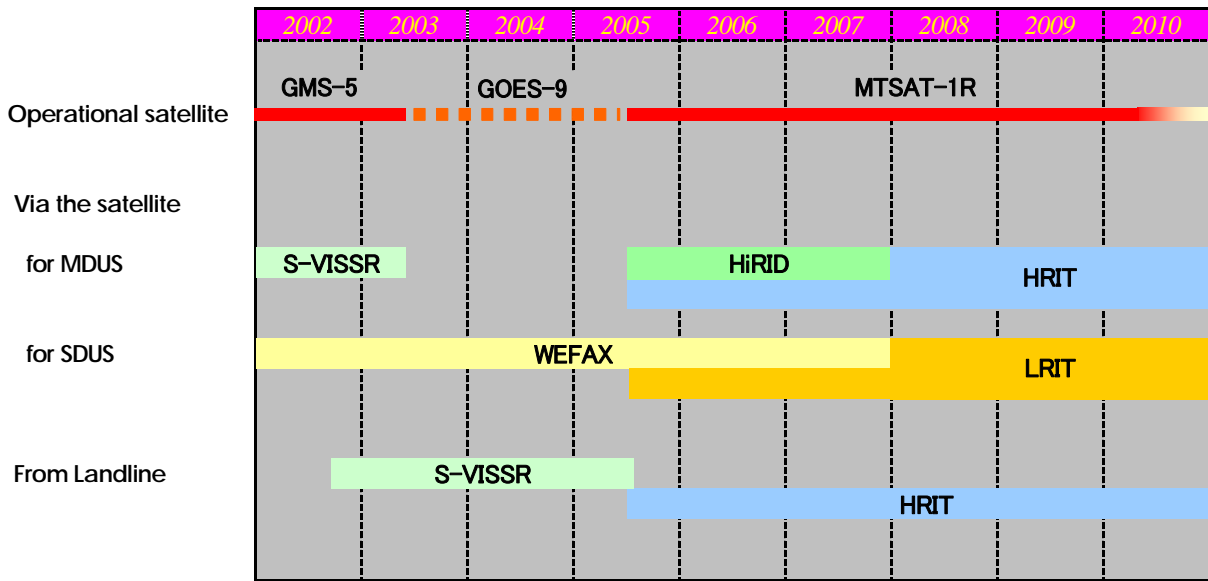


Figure 1 Transition schedule of dissemination of satellite imagery