

EARTH OBSERVATION SYMPOSIUM (B1)
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QUICK RESPONSE FOR DISASTER MONITORING FROM FORMOSAT-2 SATELLITE

Abstract

FORMOSAT-2 satellite possesses the features of daily repeat, high altitude, and large field of regard. The limit imaging up to the geographic poles enabled FORMOSAT-2 taking the first high-resolution satellite image of the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station with 888 km altitude and 46 deg field of regard on 2006.10.6, which demonstrated that it was the only one high-resolution imaging satellite to completely and daily cover the worldwide areas.

The daily repeat of FORMOSAT-2 simplifies operations, scheduling, and processing, and the users are easy to request imaging for urgent needs. FORMOSAT-2 has taken the first images and continuously monitoring after large disasters over the world to support the aftermath relief and precaution of secondary disasters, especially for the southern Asia tsunami on 2004.12.26, the Sichuan earthquake on 2008.5.12, the typhoon Morakot over Taiwan on 2009.8.8, the Honduras earthquake on 2009.5.28, the Haiti earthquake on 2010.1.12, the Chile earthquake on 2010.2.27, and the Jiashian earthquake in Taiwan on 2010.3.4. It is worth to remark that the satellite take images on the same day of the event in 7 hours for the Honduras earthquake and for the Chile earthquake in 8 hours.