Dundee Satellite Receiving Station
Interesting Images

We have a small collection of images that may be of interest.

Weather | Volcanic eruptions | The sun & moon | Natural disasters | Other phenomena

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**Weather**

A MODIS image of approaching depression and associated winds of the west coast of the UK, received on 31 January 2002 12:05. A very high resolution image is available but is very large (~2Mb).

A beautiful image of *haar* (sea fog) off the east coast of the UK, received on 26 April 1984 15:00.


**MODIS** image showing extensive *flooding*, 1 November 2000. *(41 kbytes)* This image was produced from the red and near infrared MODIS 250m bands using the NDVI algorithm. The flooded areas show up as dark patches on the NDVI image as the vegetation is covered with water. Vegetation normally reflects the near infrared light strongly, however water absorbs near infra red light.

Comparison **MODIS** image showing *non flooded* area, 1 September 2000. *(42 kbytes)*

**MODIS** image showing extensive *snow cover over Scotland*, 8 February 2001 *(339 kbytes)*. An *alternative image* using a different combination of channels clearly distinguishes between snow and clouds *(316 kbytes)*.

**Von Karman cloud formations** seen from Meteosat (visible) 30th January 2001. (Ref: 1 | 2)

**Mountain waves** created by the Azores viewed by MODIS on 20 May 2003.

**Square cloud** (fog in the North Sea off Denmark)

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http://www.sat.dundee.ac.uk/interesting.html 2/11/05
The first ever recorded Hurricane in the Southern Atlantic viewed by Meteosat on 26 March 2004.

An example of Actinae in cellular convection in the Southern Atlantic viewed by Meteosat on 17 August 2004.

Other interesting weather features: 2 May 1990 (cloud-free Europe) | 6 June 2000 | 7 June 2000 | 22 August 2000 (Hurricane) 31 August 2000 (Depression)

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**Volcanic Eruptions**

Mount Etna, a volcano on the island of Sicily, erupts frequently. The resulting cloud can be clearly seen on satellite images.

The smoke from volcano Hekla in Iceland can clearly be seen on the channel 4 image on 26th February 2000 19:43.

On 3rd October 1996 a volcano erupted under the Vatnajökull glacier in Iceland. The ash cloud can clearly be seen, even on the quicklook images. The best quicklook image is 03 Oct 1996 at 1425 where a cloud can be seen in the south east of the island. A description of the eruption can be found at http://norvol.hi.is/bard3.html

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**The Sun & Moon**

27th August 1999 the moon appeared in a GOES-West satellite image (see the bottom left corner).

On 11th August 1999 a total solar eclipse was observed from parts of Europe. See our eclipse page for images.

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**Natural Disasters**

On 13th May 2000 a warehouse containing tons of fireworks exploded in the Netherlands. The smoke can be seen clearly by satellite.

On 15th February 1996 an oil tanker Sea Empress discharged 70,000 tonnes of oil into the sea around Milford Haven. A description, including satellite image, can be found at http://www.swan.ac.uk/biosci/empress/oil/oil.htm

Gas explosion cloud, Ukhta, 27 April 1995.

On 9th December 1997 a meteorite fell onto Greenland, landing near the east coast of the southern tip. A large cloud can be seen on both the visible and infra-red channels from the quicklook on 9 Dec 1997 at 14:24. However, it is now thought the cloud is a Föhn-storm, see Holger Pedersen's pages for more details, also ScienceWeb's daily news page for 18 December 1997.

http://www.sat.dundee.ac.uk/interesting.html
Other Phenomena

Aircraft condensation trails (contrails) can be seen in visible and thermal images.

Circular contrails from an AWACS aircraft, 15 April 1993. See also Holger Pedersen's collection of contrail images or more contrails. (Some people think they are seeing chemtrails.)

Racetrack-shaped contrail, 3 December 2002.

Ship trails, off the west coast of Ireland, visible on the 13:19 and 15:00 passes of 12 November 2001, caused by enhanced cloud droplet nucleation on particles associated with diesel oil smoke. See also EarthObservatory.

Sea surface temperature patterns produced by mixing of cold and warm water in the Straits of Gibraltar, 27 May 2003.

We don't regularly receive images of the North Pole but an example pass was received on 14 August 1986.

The following images also appear on the Example Images document.

- Spitzbergen showing sea ice and cloud streets. 2 December 1994. (110 kbytes)

Purchasing

Photographic enlargements from any of our quickooks may be purchased. Please see our photographic products page for more details.

External links

Other sites also maintain collections of interesting images.

- NASA's Earth Observatory
- Satellite's Eye Art Galleries from the National Climatic Data Centre
- SeaSpace Satellite Imagery (Phenomena)
- PlanetCam from SeaWiFS imagery
- Tromsø Satellite Station gallery
- SeaWiFS gallery

http://www.sat.dundee.ac.uk/interesting.html 2/11/05
Orbimage

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