What's New?
ERDAS Image Web Server 2009 R2 (v9.3.2)

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ERDAS Image Web Sever speeds up your GIS by working with your existing GIS infrastructure and alleviating it from the heavy load of image serving.

ERDAS Image Web Server is a high-speed, specialized application that efficiently distributes massive amounts of geospatial imagery to thousands of users, all on a single server. Solving the infrastructure congestion problems traditionally associated with deploying large amounts of image data, users quickly access the information they need. With ERDAS Image Web Server, individuals may access imagery using CAD, GIS, mobile, web and desktop applications.

Persistent cache in web browser plug-in [save time and bandwidth]

When viewing imagery in a web browser, using the high-speed ECWP streaming protocol, the browser is able to cache the image data. This makes the image display faster the more you look at the image. It also reduces the amount of bandwidth you consume.

This browser cache now persists over different browser visits. For example, when viewing an image on Friday, you can use the cache memory you stored last Monday. This is particularly valuable for those professionals that often concentrate on the same areas.

These client-side data caching features are configurable. You can increase or decrease the amount of space that the cache consumes. Data that is secured with ECWPS encryption or other security models is not cached.

Optimized Tile Delivery [save hardware costs]

Recently, public websites have begun to offer geospatial map data via a "tiled view." That is, a complete image or map made up of a number of smaller image tiles rather than a single image.

Geospatial web applications use a tile based delivery because it provides:

- A faster, more interactive user experience (roam and zoom) compared to "single image delivery" like WMS.
- Works with just a web browser (does not require a browser plug-in).
- Ability to cache data on the client.

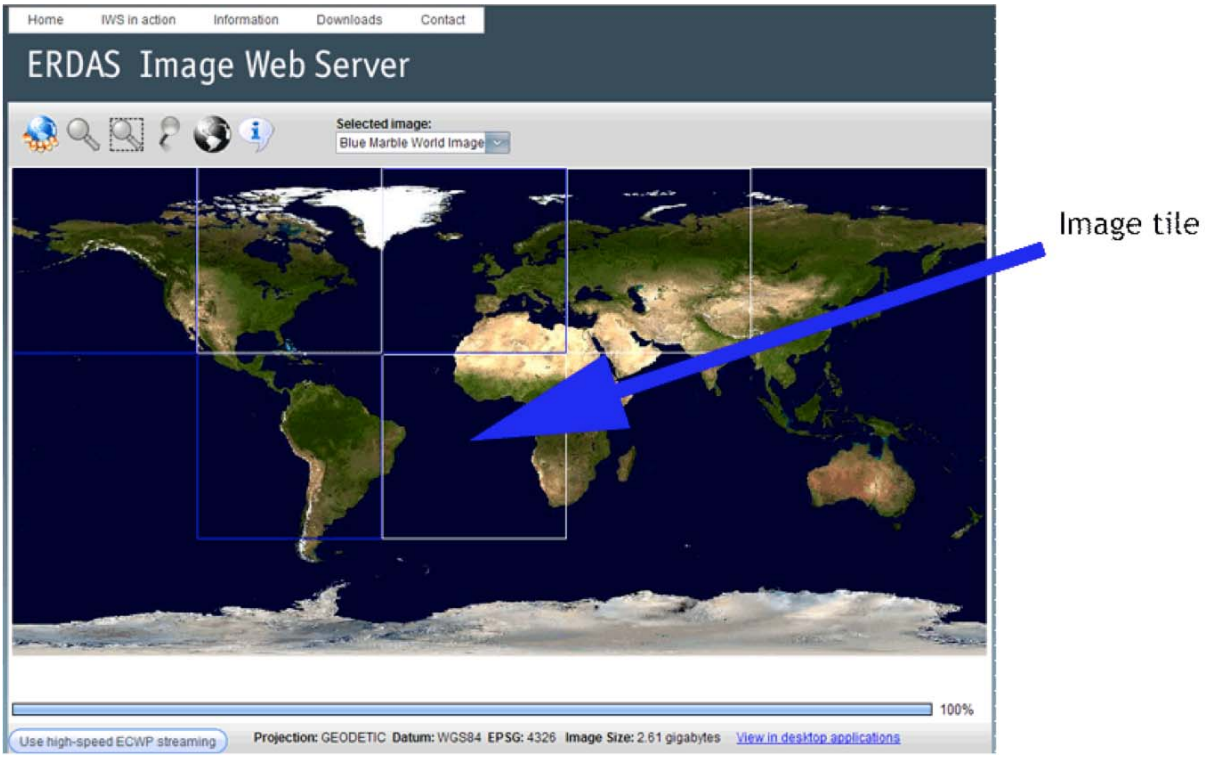

Figure 1: The above image view is created with ERDAS Image Web Server delivering separate image tiles. You can view this website, which includes many ERDAS Image Web Server examples, at http://iws.erdas.com/.

This type of delivery is "hardware intensive" requiring many servers to satisfy data requests for popular websites. These servers are supplemented with "cache systems."

Optimized Tile Delivery lets a single ERDAS Image Web Server replace an entire server farm and / or caching system when providing this sort of data.

ERDAS Image Web Server has many advantages over other tile delivery technologies:

- More cost-effective
- Easier to set-up and manage
- Fewer components to manage
- No cache management
- More scalable

ESRI ArcGIS Server 9.3 ECW Connector [increased flexibility]

ERDAS Image Web Server now provides access to ECW (ERDAS Compressed Wavelet) files to any ESRI ArcGIS Server that is installed on the same physical system. ECW files are able to represent terabytes or raw imagery whilst being incredibly fast to access.

With ERDAS Image Web Server, ArcGIS Server can consume ECW files when delivering its services such as producing "print quality maps." The two servers work in tandem to provide optimal delivery of geospatial information – with both servers taking advantage of the powerful ECW format.

Other enhancements [save time]

- Administration console improvements
- Support for 8bit PNG files in the WMS / ImageX services

Bonus: Website Creation Wizard [save time]

A free wizard to create your own ERDAS Image Web Server enabled website is available at http://iws.erdas.com/. This wizard lets you integrate your imagery served with ERDAS Image Web Server with a WMS server. The wizard takes only a few minutes to run through and further simplifies deploying geospatially rich web applications.