



NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Corporate Communications

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NGA purchases \$14 million subscription to utilize small satellite capabilities

SPRINGFIELD, Va.—The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency announced today a \$14 million, one-year subscription to Planet, a commercial imagery provider.

The purchase takes advantage of the new NGA and General Services Administration (GSA) partnership for Earth Observation Solutions that can be acquired via GSA schedules. The subscription, made through Planet's GSA Information Technology Schedule Contract (GS-35F-309GA), enables the Department of Defense and the Intelligence Community to access Planet's imagery of over 25 select regions of interest, ranging from portions of the Middle-East, Asia, and Africa to Central and South America.

The global scope of coverage and high-temporal frequency of collection from Planet provides NGA with new data sources to support the agency's many missions, including foundation GEOINT, intelligence and humanitarian assistance.

"Our second contract with Planet demonstrates NGA's continued pursuit of commercial GEOINT where it has demonstrated mission utility," said John Charles, NGA's senior GEOINT authority for commercial imagery. "At the same time that Planet has continued to mature their capability to where they can now offer weekly global coverage, NGA and our many customers have been learning how to use it across our varied mission sets in numerous locations so we truly understand where we get the bang for our buck. Those lessons learned are reflected in the structure of this new contract."

NGA's introductory contract with Planet (Planet Feed Pilot) spanned seven months, from September 2016 to March 2017, and explored how persistence and global coverage capabilities could most effectively support the NGA mission.

"Part of our job as an intelligence agency is to assess regional stability and we determined last year through our seven-month contract that persistent coverage could help us do this more effectively than ever before," said Michael Applegate, NGA Planet program manager. "For example, Planet imagery has been valuable in determining activity trends in ports, military garrisons and road networks."

NGA analysts and mission partners will continue to capitalize on the operational success experienced during the Planet Feed Pilot contract period, as well as explore new ways to utilize

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Planet imagery and data. In addition to its imagery, NGA will also have access to historic images in Planet's archive, which will assist NGA analysts in their ability to produce change-detection products and reference imagery for historical context.

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About NGA

NGA delivers world-class geospatial intelligence that provides a decisive advantage to policymakers, warfighters, intelligence professionals and first responders.

NGA is a unique combination of intelligence agency and combat support agency. It is the world leader in timely, relevant, accurate and actionable geospatial intelligence. NGA enables the U.S. intelligence community and the Department of Defense to fulfill the president's national security priorities to protect the nation.

For more information about NGA, visit us online at www.nga.mil, on [Facebook](#) or on [Twitter](#).

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