



## *Hurricane Harvey Flooding Demands Rapid Response, Surdex Delivers*

In August of 2017, Hurricane Harvey caused an immense amount of flooding in Texas. The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC), a Surdex client comprised of several counties in southeastern Texas, was right in the middle of the worst flooding. To enable civil authorities to take action as soon as possible, H-GAC reached out to us for post-hurricane imagery, requesting delivery as soon as possible.

### **Surdex Moves Resources to Provide Imagery ASAP**

Because of ongoing atmospheric conditions, typical acquisition specifications were loosened, and Surdex captured over 10,000 square miles of 12" GSD imagery over the flooded area. Basic, rapid processing was performed on the imagery, and it was uploaded to an imagery web service within one week of acquisition. Uploads occurred incrementally in order to allow emergency response planning to begin as soon as imagery became available.

### **Rapid Imagery Delivery Enables Corps to Act Quickly**

H-GAC provided post-Harvey imagery to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) personnel using the H-GAC office in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Harvey for their study of navigable waterways impacted by flooding. Flood control is a primary mission of the USACE, and imagery is a valuable tool for their analysis. The USACE was able to begin its time-sensitive flood response much faster than it anticipated.

### **Exceptional Preliminary Imagery Aids Emergency Response**

When clients have a time-sensitive, urgent need for imagery, Surdex has the ability to allocate resources and shift schedules to meet their need. Relaxed acquisition specifications, limited processing of imagery, and incremental uploads to a web service enable us to provide imagery to emergency response groups as soon as possible. We perform global balancing, which generates more uniform color across the project even for our preliminary imagery, and our automated seamline generation tools are also particularly advanced. When timelines are extremely short, we are still able to provide exceptional imagery.

Post-weather event imagery has numerous potential uses, including insurance assessments, rescue route planning, submerged road detection, mapping and response for waterway flooding, improvement of future response plans, and more. Surdex is well-equipped to meet clients' needs during these critical situations.



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