



## ANNOUNCEMENT

### IAGT Wins the 1<sup>st</sup> International Digital Earth Grand Challenge 3D Visualization Contest

*'SERVIR Viz' : IAGT's open-source, freely available, 3D Earth exploration tool part of ongoing effort to support NASA's SERVIR project in Central America.*

**IAGT/Cayuga Community College, Auburn, NY, May 2007:** The Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technology (IAGT) has been selected as a winner in the [International Digital Earth Grand Challenge 3D Visualization Contest](#). A panel of international judges selected IAGT's [SERVIR Viz](#) application from a global pool of 51 entries, representing every continent on earth (except Antarctica), underscoring IAGT's position as an innovative and leading provider of geospatially-enabled visualization technology solutions. IAGT will be recognized along with five other award winners, representing England, Denmark, Austria, and the United States, at a gala awards ceremony during the [5th International Symposium on Digital Earth \(ISDE5\)](#), at the University of California at Berkeley, on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

The work acknowledged by this award is the result of IAGT's efforts in Central America, providing enhanced mapping and 3D visualization capacity to seven countries: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, which define a region referred to as Mesoamerica. The decision support system deployed by IAGT, called SERVIR Viz, provides access to, and visualization of satellite imagery and other geospatial data sources used for environmental management, monitoring, and natural disaster recovery in Mesoamerica.

Bob Brower, CEO of IAGT said, "I am so very proud of the IAGT staff and the work they have done on this project, particularly our employees Jessica Coughlin and Dan Deneau. The overwhelmingly positive response from project participants throughout Central America has been humbling and gratifying at the same time. I had the privilege of meeting and talking with many of them personally when we came together here last winter for a project workshop. To be recognized now by an international organization that is not a project participant is just a very wonderful occurrence. On a more practical level, it will also mean that the work of IAGT will be known to more people and that raises the potential to be in service to a larger community of NASA affiliates. We are so pleased to be a part of NASA's earth science enterprise initiatives. "

#### **Project Background:**

The [SERVIR Project](#) is the result of an international collaboration effort that includes the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), the Environmental Ministries of the Mesoamerican Countries, NASA, the Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, and other partners. NASA and its partners strive to enable expanded use of earth science observations and predictive capabilities for managing the important natural resources of our planet. The enhanced visualization and mapping capacity brought to this project by IAGT will assist policy makers, scientists, educators, international organizations, and the general public in understanding and addressing the complex and dynamic environmental and ecological issues in Mesoamerica. The end result of IAGT's efforts will help foster data analysis and information exchange throughout Mesoamerica in ways previously unavailable.

**Technical Background:**

[SERVIR Viz](#) is IAGT's open-source, web-enabled, freely available 3D earth exploration tool, which was developed to support the SERVIR program. SERVIR Viz, which utilizes NASA World Wind core technology, provides a visualization framework that provides users with customized data access functionality through the ability to view remotely-hosted geospatial data layers, maps, real-time satellite images, and other SERVIR products relevant to the Mesoamerica region.

**More Information:**

To find out more about IAGT's SERVIR project work, please visit: <http://www.iagt.org/servir> or contact Jessica Coughlin at: [jcoughlin@iagt.org](mailto:jcoughlin@iagt.org).

For more information about IAGT, please visit us at:

**[www.iagt.org](http://www.iagt.org)**