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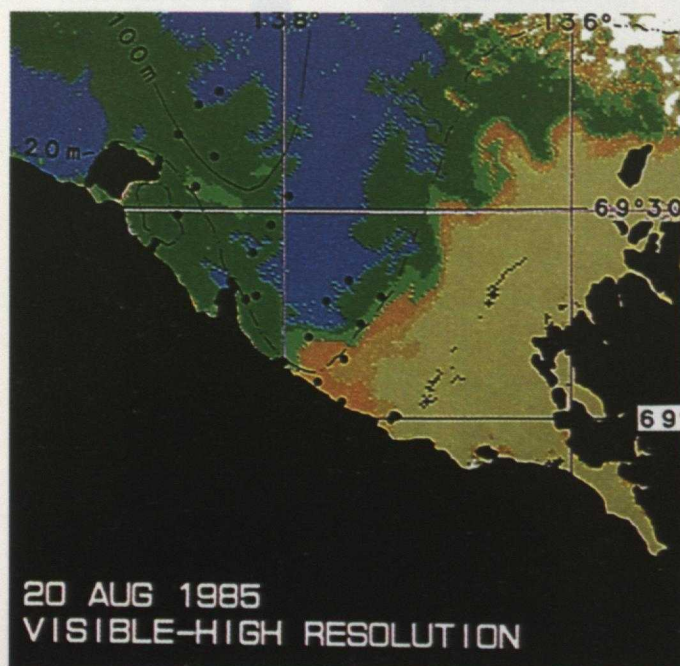
Company background.

Aménatech inc. is a firm of development and environment consultants employing more than 50 chemists, geomorphologists, urban planners, remote sensing specialists, agronomists, engineers and other professionals. In its consulting and research activities, remote sensing methods are used for cartography and resources evaluation in the fields of agriculture, forestry and energy. Aménatech has technical resources for data treatment and cartography (DMAS and GICS systems), and laboratories for work in the chemical, microbiological and geotechnical fields. As a corporate subsidiary of the S.M. Consulting Groupe inc., Aménatech inc. can call on

more than 200 other specialists and has taken part in projects in Algeria, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Britain, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, the United States and Zaïre.

Services. Aménatech offers consulting services in the areas of design and implementation of remote sensing programs, with practical matching of data needs and available technologies; and evaluation and monitoring of remote sensing programs. The company provides image interpretation and mapping services in the fields of agriculture, energy, forestry, oceans, environmental analysis, land use, map making, terrain analysis, water quality and cartography.

Typical visible- and thermal infrared-band imagery products give convenient, easy-to-interpret representations of surface water reflectance and temperature. (Photos from Arctic Sciences Ltd.)



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Company background. Arctic Sciences Ltd. specializes in analytical and technical services for the marine environment.

A subsidiary, Oceanprobe Systems Manufacturing Inc. (OSMI), facilitates the generation and marketing of commercial products derived from the parent organization's R&D programs. Most of these products currently involve the application of acoustics to environmental parameter measurement at distances as great as several kilometres.

Research. The company's involvement in satellite-based remote sensing began in 1977 when it pioneered the use of satellite imagery and satellite-tracked drifters to study sea-ice and iceberg behaviour in Baffin Bay, Lancaster Sound, the Arctic Archipelago and in the Beaufort Sea. Its research programs have been directed at problems of both practical and environmental significance, i.e., oil spill trajectory prediction, as well as at addressing funda-

mental questions on the large-scale properties of sea-ice and ocean circulation.

Projects. Typically, company projects use remote-sensing data to provide answers to specific questions about the marine environment. Recent projects have involved (1) the mapping of surface-water temperatures and suspended-sediment levels to test theories of marine mammal behaviour; (2) the derivation of a new method of predicting low-latitude iceberg severity from mid-winter satellite imagery of northern ice packs; and (3) the evaluation of the possible impacts of upstream dam construction on the clearance of coastal ice.

These studies have been carried out with satellite imagery in its original computer-compatible magnetic tape medium as well as from degraded, but much more numerous, hardcopy imagery products. Company R&D efforts have led to particularly economical and accurate techniques for processing the latter imagery forms.

