

A. SIPA would have functions in the fields of processing, analysis, management and dissemination of data, organized as follows.

(a) The data processing subsystem (DPS) would, where appropriate, convert raw input data (in digital or photographic form) into data meeting the user's needs, and for that purpose would perform the following operations:

Conversion of photographic and cartographic data into usable digital data;
Conversion of satellite data into usable form, specifically after correction of various radiometric and geometric errors introduced during the acquisition phase.

The processing subsystem should also check the validity of all the scene identification parameters and, where necessary, determine such parameters (in particular, processing of remote maintenance data for the preparation of calibration tables).

(b) The data management subsystem (DMS) would be responsible for:

Reproduction of data;
Data storage, archiving and cataloguing;
Security of data, where necessary.

Data quality control would be an important function of the DMS, and the size of its facilities would depend in large part on SIPA's data dissemination policy (and specifically on whether the agency would disseminate raw data to all its members).

(c) The data analysis subsystem (DAS) would be responsible for converting non-analysed data into information capable of being used by SIPA and by the users. It would combine manual (visual) techniques of photointerpretation and computer-assisted interpretation, which would make it possible to perform a range of functions such as:

Contrast accentuation;
Noise elimination;
Linear filtering;
Utilization of false colours;
Production of composite images;
Analysis of scenes using auxiliary (cartographic or other) data.

(d) Data dissemination subsystem (DDS). Data for dissemination would be produced in the form of permanent images (films, tracings) or in the form of magnetic tapes. Dissemination would be restricted or unrestricted, as the case may be.