

use of the data we have just mentioned, as well as training of professionals and researchers in the area, as well as the interaction with other private or national Institutions, which may need of the existing capacity or the one which may be developed by the Satellite Radiometry Group.

The main research areas are directed to the following:

- Determination of the applicability of the NOAA-AVHRR systems for the monitoring of the areas covered by vegetation, water masses, coastal water and snow covered areas.
- Determination of the applicability of the data from Landsat TM and SPOT/HRV in the coast environment of Argentina.
- Computation of oceanic environmental parameters.
- Organization of a satellite or georeferenced data base for regional and global environmental studies.

The Satellite Radiometry Group is equipped with the following: COMPAQ DESKPRO 386/20 microcomputer with ERDAS image processing software and the Geographic Information System, high resolution monitor, Tape units, digitizer, Tektronix color printer and a microprocessor IBM PC 386/12 with the Geographic Information System IRDISI.

CAERCEM has a Cooperation Agreement with the National Meteorological Service to advice and collaborate with the performance of the reception antenna of Villa Ortúzar.

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This Institute has been created under an Agreement of the *Comisión Nacional de Investigaciones Espaciales* and the *Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas* in 1979. It started operating in the *Centro Regional de Investigaciones Científicas y Tecnológicas* in Mendoza in 1981. The main objectives are based in promoting the use of satellite data.