

# **ASPECT**

## **Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology**

Nation's only 24/7 Airborne Stand-off Chemical and Radiological Detection, Infrared and Photographic Imagery Platform





#### Aircraft

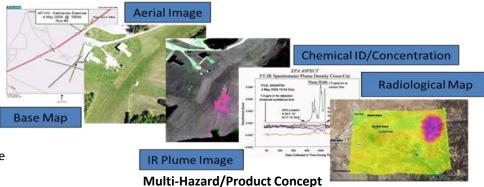
- Cessna 208B Super Cargo Master Platform based in Addison, Texas
- Aircraft Crew: Two Pilots, One Operator, All Commercial/ATP Rated
- Speeds: Data Collection at 100 kts; Cruise at 170 kts
- Range/Aloft Time: Range 1,200 NM; Aloft Time 4 6 hours
- Range: Can be anywhere CONUS collecting data within 9 hours
- Coverage: 4-hour coverage within a 800 mile radius
- Service Altitude: Data Collection at 300 to 5,000 ft AGL
- Ground Needs: Standard FBO, ISP with high speed internet

#### **ASPECT Team**

- Scientists and engineers all with advanced degrees with over 75 years of collective airborne remote chemical and radiological detection experience
- Derived from collaborative research, development, testing and implementation with the interagency, academia, states, and the private sector
- Provides onsite support to first responders, performs data analyses, and makes adjustments and repairs to the system and/or data products per the customer needs
- Provides time critical information while maintaining a budget conscious response
- Designs the chemical detection hardware and develops software applications;
  commercially available hardware is used for the radiological applications

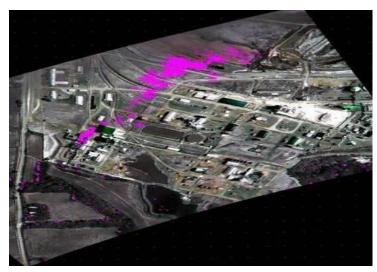
#### **ASPECT Program**

- 24/7/365 Readiness with 1 hour wheels up capability
- Provides secure information to the **First Responder / Incident Commander** that is **timely, useful, and compatible** with numerous software applications
- Promotes coordination and communication with all stakeholders regarding operational data and products
- Multi-role responses (homeland security, emergency response, and environmental characterization)
- Provides infrared & photographic images with geospatial chemical (including oil) and radiological information
- Products and data formats are customer driven and can be provided to the customer within minutes to hours depending on the mission



## **ASPECT Technologies:**

- An Infrared Line Scanner to image chemical plumes
- A High Speed Infrared Spectrometer to identify and quantify the composition of the chemical plume in the ppb to ppm range
- Gamma-Ray Spectrometer for radiation detection and isotope identification
- Neutron Detection System for enhanced radiological detection
- High resolution digital cameras (aerial & oblique) with ability to rectify for inclusion into GIS
- Broadband Satellite Data System (SatCom)



Methane Plume IR image

#### **Chemical Capabilities**

- ASPECT uses the principles of remote passive infrared detection via a Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer (FTS) to detect and quantify gaseous constituents present in the air column between the aircraft and the ground
- Chemical detection software is designed to filter out common atmospheric constituents as it automatically searches for 78 chemical compounds in near real-time (5 in the air column below the aircraft
- Hundreds of other chemicals can be processed by the team post survey

## **Deployment History**

- Over 170 responses and deployments since 2001
- National Special Security Events (NSSE) and Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR) level events (e.g., DNC, RNC, Inauguration, Super Bowl)
- Natural Disasters (e.g., Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, and Sandy)
- Environmental Emergencies (e.g., Deepwater Horizon/BP Oil, West Fertilizer, Gold King Mine, site characterizations for Superfund sites)



Radiation Exposure Contour Map

#### **Radiological Capabilities**

- The only airborne remote sensing system in the country that provides Nal & LaBr and neutron detectors
- Improves the US EPA airborne gamma-screening and mapping capability of ground-based commercially available state-of-the-art hardware
- Applies IAEA, DOE, and EPA processing algorithms
- Near real-time product development based on customer input
- Possess NRC licensed gamma and neutron sources for use in exercises and training activities

## **Photography**

- High resolution geo/orthorectified visible digital aerial images
- Geo/orthrectified infrared images
- Georeferenced oblique images
- Customizable display engines (ESRI, Google)

Website: http://www.epa.gov/emergency-response/aspect

#### **Primary Contacts**

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