US Army Corps
of Engineers
Engineer Research and
Development Center

Fact Sheet

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Interim Terrain Data (ITD)

Description and Background: ITD is a standard National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) digital terrain analysis product designed to support systems fielded in the 1990s, until Digital Topographic Data (DTOP) becomes available in volume. ITD data sets are composed of attributed and unsymbolized feature information.

Key Capabilities: Product Specifications: MIL-I-89014, Interim Terrain Data, 30 November 1990. Whenever these specifications are intended to support software development/programming, users must obtain the following additional documents: 1) Defense Mapping Agency Feature File (DMAFF) [DRAFT], PS/DMF/200, Second Edition, August 1989; 2) Digital Production System (DPS), Standard Linear Format (SLF) for Digital Cartographic Feature Data, 17 November 1988; 3) Changes to EIF15034B [DRAFT], RFC E20-015J R-1, 15 August 1990 (This document contains changes to the DMAFF and the DPS-SLF specifications.)
Content: ITD consists of six thematic feature files, including surface materials (soils), surface configuration (slope), surface drainage, vegetation, transportation, and obstacles. A terrain elevation file, consisting of NIMA-produced Digital Terrain Elevation Data (DTED) Level 1, is provided separately.
Structure and Format: The six ITD files are in vector chain-node structure. Feature and attribute codes for most cells are from the DMAFF and the format is 2-D SLF. A recent effort has been made to produce/convert a number of ITD cells into Vector Product Format (VPF) using the NATO-approved Feature Attribute Coding Catalog (FACC). (See "Current Status").
Coordinate Reference System: Geographic coordinates (i.e. latitude/longitude).
Horizontal Datum: World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS 84) or a local datum, where no conversion to WGS 84 exists.
Vertical Datum: Mean Sea Level.
Media: 9-track, 1600 CPI or 6250 CPI, ½-inch magnetic tape and 8mm magnetic tape. Recent limited CD-ROM production.
Standard File Size: Six megabytes. Actual file sizes will vary with geographic location.
Accuracy: Generally the same as 1:50,000-scale Topographic Line Map (for Tactical Terrain Analysis Data Base (TTADB) source ITD) and 1:250,000-scale Joint Operations Graphics (for Planning Tactical Terrain Analysis Data Base (PTADB) source ITD). However, cells may be cartographically (carto) or photogrammetrically (photo) controlled. Recent studies identified an average accuracy of 29 meters for carto ITD cells and 14 meters for photo ITD cells.
Production Information: Production time for new cells is approximately 9 months to 1-year depending on data density and source materials. Production for crisis support runs 12-24 hours per day, 7 days per week until requirement has been satisfied.

Current Status: NIMA has produced more than 1,000 cells of ITD, with coverage of Europe (Germany, Czechoslovakia and Bosnia); the Persian Gulf (Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia); Korea (both north and south), and training areas in CONUS. ITD cells in VPF/FACC (VITD) on CD-ROM currently are available over Korea and the National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin, Calif. More than 200

VITD cells in the Persian Gulf will be available by 4Q, FY98. Subsequent VITD production will be on a cell by cell basis keyed to CINC or service requirements. Wholesale conversion of NIMA's remaining "off the shelf" stock of ITD/SLF cells is not anticipated in the near future although it remains a long-range NIMA milestone.

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July 2001