**CASE STUDY**

Intermap Technologies® exceeds accuracy requirements for the Alaska Mapping Initiative

**Challenges**

The state of Alaska, which covers over 1,480,000 km² and is larger than Texas, California, and Montana combined, did not have an adequate digital base map, and was the only US state not mapped to National Map Accuracy Standards. Persistent cloud cover, vast remote wilderness and the nation’s tallest mountains were just a few of the technical challenges that had to be overcome to update Alaska’s base map.

In 2008, Intermap engaged with the state of Alaska, United States Geological Survey (USGS), and federal partner agencies to assess user and program requirements to map the entire state in alignment with the USGS 3D Elevation Program (3DEP). In 2010, Intermap was selected to perform this complex mapping project for the USGS and their Alaska Mapping Initiative (AMI) partners. Intermap’s portion of the project entailed the use of Intermap’s proprietary interferometric synthetic aperture radar (IFSAR) digital mapping technology to produce a highly accurate, cost-efficient elevation model of the entire state, including a coincident cloud-free, high-resolution orthorectified radar imagery layer and detailed hydrographic vector files.

**Solution**

The Alaska Mapping Initiative, a collaborative effort of the USGS, federal agencies, and the state of Alaska, required an accurate and current state-wide base-line bare earth and reflective surface elevation dataset that would meet the needs of federal, state, and local Government agencies and satisfy a 6-meter contour accuracy requirement. After an extensive review of available technical approaches to mapping Alaska, USGS and the AMI stakeholders selected Intermap to provide baseline elevation data and orthorectified radar imagery acquired with airborne IFSAR. The objective was to produce a 5-meter resolution digital surface model (DSM) as well as a bare earth digital terrain model (DTM), created by carefully

*Intermap DTM showing terrain from the Gates of the Arctic Park & Preserve*
Intermap has successfully acquired over 1,171,000 km² of Alaska IFSAR data, and have consistently exceeded contract specifications on both accuracy and schedule.”

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Associate Vice President

Intermap Technologies is an industry leader serving a diverse geospatial marketplace. We provide highly accurate geospatial information to help commercial enterprises and government agencies make better location-based decisions.

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