

Boulder County Business Report
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NGA signs up for DigitalGlobe service
By Business Report Staff

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LONGMONT - The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency has entered a one-year contract to use Longmont-based DigitalGlobe Inc.'s Crisis Event Service.

Digital Globe (NYSE: DGI) a provider of high-resolution earth images, created the service last year to provide timely and accurate pre- and post-event satellite imagery to aid in emergency planning, response and recovery.

Terms of the contract were not disclosed.

Satellite imagery has proven to be a useful decision-support tool when on-ground accessibility is difficult or dangerous. Providing fast, Web-based access to pre-and post-event imagery, DigitalGlobe's Crisis Event Service supports emergency preparedness risk and planning analysis as well as damage assessment and recovery efforts for local, civil and federal governments, defense and homeland security, insurance and reinsurance agencies, and multinational and humanitarian agencies.

The service has proven to be a critical tool for organizations and agencies looking to better understand the extent of damage following a disaster and inform decisions for relief efforts.

The service was used in the aftermath of January's earthquake in Haiti to assess damage and identify areas of need. The service has also been in effect during the Gulf of Mexico oil spill crisis, providing before and after imagery that offers insight into the impact of the spill.