

WINNER

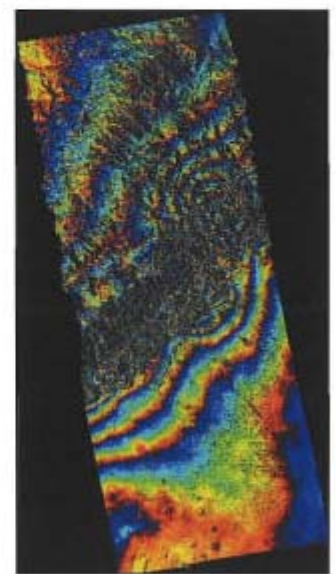
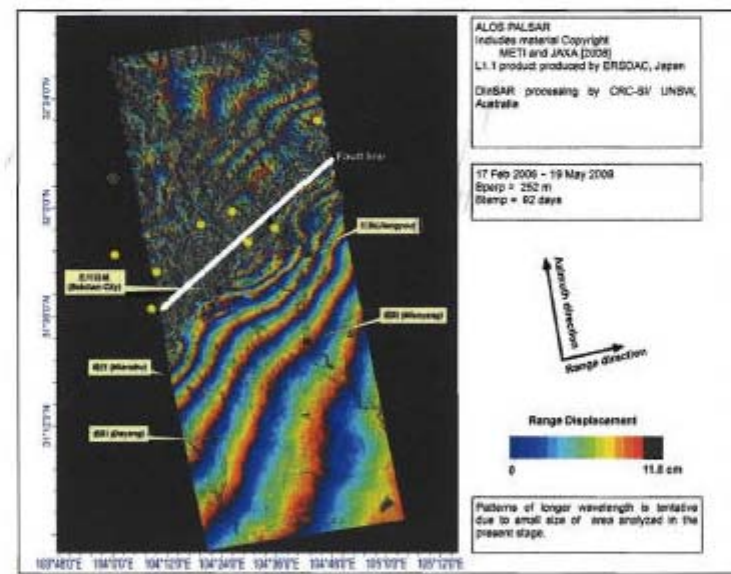
the JK Barrie Award recognises Keith Barrie's selfless contribution to the professional and business communities. It represents the pinnacle of achievement in the spatial industry and is the highest award the judges can confer. It is bestowed on any project drawn from any of the industry categories and that obtains, in the Judges' opinion, the highest level of excellence or achievement.

CRCSI Sichuan Earthquake Rescue Efforts Support CRCSI, UNSW, ERSDAC (Japan)

Researchers from the CRCSI and University of NSW have been honoured by Chinese authorities for their rapid response in providing highly-detailed satellite image analyses to assist rescue operations, and assess infrastructure damage, after the massive 12 May 2008 earthquake in Sichuan, China.

The magnitude 8.0 earthquake and ensuing human disaster prompted CRCSI project leader and deputy director of CRCSI-CEODE Joint Centre for Spatial Information (JoCSI), Associate Professor Linlin Ge of the University of New South Wales, to pool expertise from Australia and Japan, in a race around the clock to acquire satellite imagery and generate ground displacement maps of the quake zone (and 300km long fault line).

The UNSW/CRCSI InSAR team was amongst the first in the world to generate a ground displacement map of the earthquake zone, which showed upheavals in the Earth's surface of up to 5 metres.



Judges Comments

Good application of spatial research to meet an urgent need. Good demonstration of how Australian spatial information industry can assist our regional neighbours in a time of disaster. It also has human drama, not just from victims but the team itself.

A team that can come together at a moment's notice and work for the benefit of humanity does the spatial information industry proud.

An outstanding application of spatial data that incorporated various datasets, required R&D to be done quickly and applied the output in such a way that became crucial input to the ongoing rescue mission.

Possibly one of the most impressive and immediately useful applications of spatial data. Using the most sophisticated analysis techniques in almost real time, this project is a lifesaver. The magnitude of data that had to be processed under extreme time pressure leads one to imagine that the people involved are