International Mapping

Map of Athens 2004 Olympics

For this view of the main Olympics area of Athens, cartographers Bruce Daniel and Alex Tait of International Mapping utilized Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) 90 meter digital elevation data draped with Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus (ETM+) Landsat imagery. *Sports Illustrated* magazine published the image and accompanying locator maps in their August 2nd, 2004 issue.

Alex and Bruce downloaded Landsat imagery from the Global Land Cover Facility Earth Science Data Interface (http://glcfapp.umiacs.umd.edu:8080/esdi/index.jsp) at the University of Maryland. The Athens image uses Landsat-7 ETM+ data collected from the 20th of May 2000

to 24th of August 2000. Working with Tom Budge at the Earth Data Analysis Center at the University of New Mexico, they merged the Landsat tiles using Erdas Imagine software. All seven Landsat channels were saved as TIF files and brought into Adobe Photoshop software for advanced color manipulation. Using a combination of channel manipulation and tweaking of file color space, Bruce created a final composite RGB image to drape on the digital elevation model.

To create the specialized view of Athens for this piece, Bruce loaded the SRTM elevation data into Natural Scene Designer Pro software from Natural Graphics. He then added the prepared drape image and set the desired camera attributes. The final map image is a single high-resolution render from Natural Scene Designer.

Bruce and Alex finished the map work in Adobe Illustrator, incorporating the locator maps, textual elements and annotations to the main image.

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