



SNET

BRINGING JAPAN DAILY IMAGING INTELLIGENCE



Planet helps Japanese defense keep pace with rapid change



CHALLENGE

Enable more frequent monitoring of areas of interest for greater responsiveness in a changing world

SOLUTION

Planet Monitoring for Defense and Intelligence

RESULTS

- Image collection at near-daily frequency for key areas of interest
- Continuous, 24/7 access to Planet satellite data for rapid analysis
- Unprecedented availability of complete imagery even in cloud-prone regions
- Earlier detection of relevant intelligence to inform quick decision-making
- Efficient integration of data and analysis into workflows and systems

In today's increasingly interconnected and complex world, any nation or defense agency faces the challenge of understanding a shifting international landscape. That challenge is critical for an island nation like Japan that obtains many of its resources from trade with other countries. It is essential for the Japanese government to monitor the supply sources and infrastructure important to the life of the nation. In addition, Japanese intelligence must maintain situational awareness in an ever-changing world to support the national security.

Today, these tasks often rely on satellite imaging. "The defense sector of the government has used Earth observation satellites for years," says Kei Shibuya, of Satellite Network (SNET), which frequently works with Japanese government agencies. "They have mainly been very high-resolution satellites that can capture small areas of interest in detail, but with limited frequency."



CREATING A COMPLETE AND CURRENT PICTURE OF GLOBAL CHANGE

The Japanese government wanted to increase the frequency of image collection to supplement its capabilities. "However, purchasing more satellites to allow continuous coverage would be expensive and involve risk," says Shibuya. "Planet provided a reliable, subscription-based means of increasing Japan's global imaging capabilities."

As the leader of SNET's New Business Development Department, Shibuya tried to find out new technologies all over the world and finally encountered Planet and its technology. "Planet has a large and growing constellation of small satellites that enable continuous coverage of the Earth every 24 hours," says Shibuya. "And Planet is unique in sending that data directly to the cloud where their clients can rapidly access it."

When it comes to improving domestic monitoring, Planet's high cadence coverage increases imaging opportunities over the cloud-prone island nation. With more frequent imagery, SNET can deliver more complete and timely information for Japan's defense to derive actionable insights.



Broad and targeted areas are frequently monitored.



“The global coverage and daily collection provided by Planet makes it a great addition to the defense and intelligence sector’s evolving capabilities.”

KEI SHIBUYA, Earth Observation Satellite Project Leader, SNET



ENSURING EFFICIENT INTEGRATION OF SYTEMS

SNET now contracts with Planet for satellite imagery that Japanese defense and intelligence agencies can access easily from the cloud through Planet’s application programming interfaces (APIs). SNET also maintains a 24/7 call center to support the solution in collaboration

with Planet. In addition, SNET serves as a Planet imagery advisor and trainer for Japanese defense. “It’s a completely new service for the defense personnel,” says Shibuya. “So we help them perfect their knowledge of how to utilize the Planet imagery effectively.”



Japanese defense and intelligence agencies use Planet satellite imagery to monitor areas of interest on a daily basis.



DELIVERING CONTINUOUS COVERAGE FOR TIMELY DECISIONS

With Planet, defense agencies are now receiving near-daily imaging over some target AOIs. One result has been to eliminate the problem of cloud coverage. “If clouds obscure one image, you don’t want to wait days to see the next one,” says Shiauya. “Planet collects images so often that a fresh one will quickly be available for timely insights.”

Japanese defense continuously monitors Planet’s data. If something gets their attention, they can then task their higher-resolution satellites or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to take an even closer look. “The global coverage and daily collection provided by Planet makes it a great addition to the defense sector’s evolving capabilities,” says Shibuya.

Ultimately, timelier intelligence can provide early warning and enable faster, more coordinated responses. “Good situational awareness reduces the uncertainty and complexity in situations that may have many interconnected parts and variables,” says Shibuya. “By informing quick decision-making, it can lower tensions and volatility.”



Continuous monitoring enables change detection that informs intelligence and facilitates coordinated responses.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Planet Monitoring for Defense and Intelligence, visit: www.planet.com/markets/defense-and-intelligence

To discover more about SNET, visit www.snet.co.jp



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