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### Landsat Data Continuity Mission (LDCM)

The Landsat Data Continuity Mission (LDCM) is the eighth satellite in the Landsat series that began in 1972. The development of LDCM is a partnership between NASA and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) is responsible for the development of the overall mission. USGS is responsible for ground system development and will operate LDCM after post-launch checkout. The LDCM satellite is being developed by Orbital Sciences Corporation and will accommodate two instruments, the Operational Land Imager (OLI) built by Ball Aerospace and Technologies Corporation (BATC) and the Thermal InfraRed Sensor (TIRS) built by NASA GSFC. The NASA Kennedy Space Center is responsible for the Atlas V launch vehicle. The USGS Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS) Center will receive, archive, and distribute LDCM data.

The Landsat Program was the first series of unmanned spacecraft to be specifically designed to acquire data about the Earth's resources and is a national asset. Landsat provides a repetitive collection of multispectral data of the Earth's global land surface at a scale where human and natural change can be differentiated, and constitutes the longest record of the Earth's continental surfaces as seen from space. The Landsat data archive is unmatched in quality, detail, coverage, and value. LDCM will continue Landsat's legacy of important contributions to science, climate, agricultural, environmental, economic, and national security interests.

[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)  
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