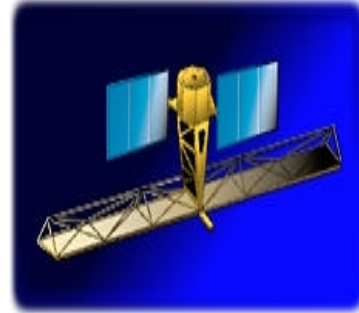


Canadian Space Agency Procurement of Radarsat II Satellite System

Preamble. The Canadian Space Agency is a Government Crown Corporation with a mandate to oversee the development of the space program of the Canadian Government. The \$400M Radarsat II project is a key element in the program that focuses on exploration of Earth's resources and studies of the environment. ERGO, TEC's Technology Evaluation Support System (TESS) predecessor, was used as the reporting engine and assisted greatly in group facilitation procedures.



In September 1997 the Canadian Space Agency was in the process of procuring a \$400 Million satellite system as a major cornerstone of their space research based facilities for studying the Earth's environment. Three major satellite design, manufacturing and assembly vendors were considered for the contract. The complexity of the problem required a clear, formal process, and a system capable of handling the large procurement process, and would integrate in with existing procedures. As well, the process had to meet stringent review processes and meet possible challenges to the decision. The Canadian Space Agency selected ERGO as the main reporting and modelling tool for the RFP. The agency has made the following comments on ERGO's performance and utility in their process:

"The Radarsat II project has gone through a very intensive process to evaluate contractual proposals which had been submitted in response to a Canadian Space Agency RFP. These proposals contained about 3000 pages each, covered technical, business, IRB and management requirements, and were reviewed by over 40 technical evaluators. The evaluation process involved very sophisticated procedures and tools which needed to be efficient and very well integrated. One of those tools was the ERGO software. It significantly helped the project staff to organise and evaluate many criteria (more than 450), determine the applicable weights in an orderly fashion, to run sensitivity analysis, to quickly enter the ratings assigned by all evaluators, and for each proposal to obtain results and analyse them, and to track and retrieve any information at will. In addition, all this data could be presented by the software in indented tree, table or powerful graphics format. The data could also be exported to word processing software for specific reporting purposes, and it could only be accessed by authorised people (via password)."

"The ERGO software greatly enforced the formality of the evaluation process, while also providing the flexibility for rapid tracking of data and fast calculation and analysis. It also provided a clear and visible process for all concerned on the project. The addition of ERGO to our suite of tools reduced the time of the selection process by a significant amount."

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