

Top 10 Reasons to use...

The ECW Imagery Format

The Enhanced Compression Wavelet (ECW) Imagery Format is a purpose-built, high performance imagery format created by ERDAS.

ERDAS provides technology for creating, reading and dissemination of the ECW imagery format to web clients or third party applications. This technology is the fastest, lowest load and lowest cost gridded data delivery solution available on the market today.

1. You **SAVE TIME** using the fastest imagery compression available. The ECW technique does not require immediate tiles to be stored to disk and then recalled during the Discrete Wavelet Transformations (DWT). Its linear and unidirectional data flow is actually done through the DWT process.
2. You **EASILY TRANSFER IMAGERY** on standard media or the internet. Working with extremely small files, you reduce your required disk space. For example, compressing 1 Terabyte of raw imagery at a 1:25 target compression ratio results in less than 40 Gigabytes of imagery. Multi-resolution level of detail is built into the file, eliminating the need to generate or distribute “pyramids” or “overviews.”
3. You can **QUICKLY VIEW** your imagery in any client application. ECW is supported in traditional desktop GIS, CAD and remote sensing packages (i.e. ArcGIS Desktop, AutoCAD, ERDAS IMAGINE, ERDAS ER Mapper, FalconView, Microstation), thin web clients (ImageX, ECWP, WMS) and mobile devices.
4. You have an **EXTREMELY LOW LOAD** and can distribute to a very large number of users. Using standard hardware, you can disseminate huge quantities of imagery data to the largest number of users possible (more than any competitive product can handle).
5. You have the **FASTEST IMAGERY WMS AVAILABLE**, implementing interoperable standards. The WMS service in the ECW format enables you to deliver the most imagery to the highest number of users.
6. You **DELIVER A RICH USER EXPERIENCE** over the internet using streaming imagery protocol. Enhanced Wavelet Compression Protocol (ECWP) is the fastest imagery protocol available, delivering massive volumes of gridded data to thousands of users on standard server hardware (8 or less core sever).
7. You **LOWER YOUR ADMINISTRATION**, as ECW imagery is easy to manage, requiring minimal maintenance. Using the ECW format greatly reduces the quantity and scale of “servers” required, as well as the amount of physical storage space needed for delivery.
8. You **SAVE MONEY** with extremely low IT costs for software licensing, maintenance and less hardware required. In addition, users do not need to have existing knowledge of the geospatial domain.
9. You have an **IMMEDIATE RETURN ON INVESTMENT (ROI)** that can be measured right away in hardware savings and continuous reduced software costs.
10. You have **FREQUENT UPDATES** with an annual major and minor release, as well as timely bug fixes, ongoing feature and performance improvements.

For more information on ECW, please visit <http://www.erdas.com/tabid/84/currentid/2508/default.aspx>.