

## **RADARSAT-2 an Operational SAR System for Ocean Monitoring**

Howard Edel

Edel StrategicInsights

howard.edel@rogers.com

RADARSAT-2, the second Canadian satellite system, provides enhanced operational SAR monitoring from a polar orbit, is scheduled for launch in early 2006. Radarsat International (RSI) the owner/operator will provide operational SAR data and derived information services to all Canadian and International users. The SAR system provides switchable right and left looking from the orbit, solid state on-board recording with selectable playback, cross-pole and fully polarimetric mode data acquisition. RSI has already demonstrated and continue to provide many operational data and derived information services to customers around the world with the RADARSAT-1 system. RADARSAT-2 will have additional capabilities for ocean and coastal zone monitoring. The phase information within the polarimetric mode will improve the accuracy of ice and coastal products. RSI serves international users through a network of international partners engaged in regional reception and distribution services.