



imagecommander

Frequently Asked Questions

(REV 2011-1123)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 What is Image Commander?

Image Commander V1.2 is a common operational picture (COP) tool for the fusion of disparate imagery-based sensors using standards-based interfaces and provides rapid field adaptation that stays in step with mission tempo. Image Commander V1.2 enables the aggregation and display of multi-source and multi-media data from disparate imagery sensors and facilitates rapid and effective sharing of information such that "edge entities" or those that are conducting military, homeland defense, and law enforcement missions, can "pull" information from ubiquitous standards-based repositories. By aggregating disparate systems into a single cognitive interface, mission teams can mitigate the "information stovepipes" created by having to monitor multiple discrete systems and displays.

2. IMAGERY

2.1 Does Image Commander support streaming video?

Yes. Image Commander supports any streaming video format supported by Windows Media Player. When entering a sensor, simply enter the URL of the streaming source, flag the source as a video source, and assign the sensor to an "image window".

2.2 Where does Image Commander pull images from?

Image Commander consists of four tabs that each house six (6) image windows. Each window can be configured to show a single image (which can be updated at a periodic interval) or can display multiple images in a mode we call "image flipper". Regardless of mode, Image Commander can display any static image that can be addressed by a URL. A URL can point to an image on a web site, a server, or a local disk. Images sources are entered once as a "sensor" and sensors may then be assigned to "image windows". URL examples are as follows:

- Web site or server: <http://www.hostname.gov/imageloc/imagenam.jpg>
- Local disk: file:///c:/path/to/theimage.jpg

2.3 What are the image viewing options?

As described above, each image window may be configured to portray a single image, single video stream, or multiple images (“Image Flipper”).

- **Single Image:** Displays a single image, but reloads the image file at a periodic interval. This is useful if you have a process that overwrites the SAME file with updated images. Image Commander will reload this static file and display the image as updated. The Single Image mode can also display a streaming Windows Media source which does not force a URL refresh.
- **Image Flipper:** Displays multiple images (up to 6) in a single window. The window “flips” between the images according to the timer as designated by the user.

2.4 What image formats are supported?

Image Commander image windows support JPG, BMP, GIF, or PNG

2.5 Can images and video be paused?

Yes. There is a STOP/START link above the upper right corner of each window. The first click STOPS the image rotation and the label will flip to START. Clicking START will restart the flipping.

2.6 What happens if I click on an image?

The image that was clicked will launch within the designated web browser for the device (i.e., Internet Explorer, Firefox, other). Our next software version will have an image viewer that will allow image manipulation when an image is launched via the window “click”.

3. SETTINGS

3.1 Can the Image Commander configuration file live on a fileserver such that we can create a standard view for everyone?

Yes. While the default configuration file lives on the local drive of the machine on which Image Commander was installed, the application can indeed point to a common “Settings” file which can live on a network server. The only requirement for use of this feature is that the settings file can be pointed at using a drive letter (i.e., z:\icV1.2\settings\user.settings).

3.2 Can I customize the names of the tabs that run along the top of the windows?

Yes. Click on the “gear” button along the top of the Image Commander user-interface which will launch the “Settings” window. Tab names may be customized using the Settings window.

4. OTHER MISSION FEATURES

4.1 Can the links along the bottom of the UI be customized?

Yes. Click on the “gear” button along the top of the Image Commander user-interface which will launch the “Settings” window. On the “GENERAL” tab (tab1) look for the “Jump Links” settings near the bottom of the window. You may change the name of the link and also point the link to the internet URL of your choice (i.e., <http://www.yoursite.com>).

4.2 Can I choose the content for the newsticker?

Yes. The newsticker displays any content that is formatted as an RSS feed. Click on the “gear” button along the top of the Image Commander user-interface which will launch the “Settings” window. On the “GENERAL” tab (tab1) look for the “RSS Marquee” settings near the top of the window. Here you may enter the URL of the desired RSS feed as well as designate the number of stories for the ticker to display. The newsticker will go out and fetch the designated RSS feed every 60 minutes, or, whenever the “Refresh” button is clicked.

4.3 What happens if I click on the newsticker?

Image Commander will launch the designated RSS newsreader specific to the device and load the designated RSS feed for consumption. Most PC’s will default to the news reader in Internet Explorer.

4.4 How does the Map Tab work?

The Map Tab was included to allow teams to load a map and overlay KML and/or GeoRSS content specific to the mission. Click on the “gear” button along the top of the Image Commander user-interface which will launch the “Settings” window. On the “GENERAL” tab (tab1) look for the “Map Tab” settings near the middle of the window. Enter the URL of the KML or KMZ overlay and it will appear as a layer on the map.

5. SECURITY

5.1 How is Image Commander secured?

A core assumption behind the development of Image Commander is that the product will be in a physically secured location. For times when this is not the case, Image Commander, by default, requires a login and password to enter the system. This was done to safeguard against improper access, but to also deny visibility to the logical locations where sensor data is originating.

5.2 Does Image Commander secure the settings that point to the logical locations of the target images?

Yes. All “at rest data” is encrypted using an AES-256 bit cipher.

6. SERVICES

6.1 What is the support level that comes with the product?

Image Commander is offered on an annual subscription license. This annual license entitles the users to telephone support between 0900A and 1800 hours Monday through Friday (Eastern Standard Time). 24 hour, 7 day a week support is available, but as an add-on service. Contact sales@blueforcedev.com for more information.

6.2 Does Blueforce offer services to help us integrate Image Commander into our TTPs or CONOPS?

Yes. Blueforce offers services that include Mission Planning, Mission Preparedness, Mission Support, and actual physical deployments in support of the task. Please email us at sales@blueforcedev.com for more information.

