

# THE 9<sup>th</sup> ASIA/OCEANIA METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE USERS' CONFERENCE

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## **Visualizing Himawari and GOES-R imagery with the Satellite Information Familiarization Tool**

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The Satellite Information Familiarization Tool, or SIFT, is a meteorological satellite imagery visualization software application with a graphical user interface designed to run on mid-range consumer grade computers and notebooks for scientists and operational users. Windows, Mac, and some Linux operating systems are supported. SIFT is open source, freely available, and based on Python.

The United States National Weather Service (NWS) originally funded the development of SIFT for use as a training application for Himawari-8 imagery at the forecast offices in Guam and Honolulu, Hawaii, but SIFT's capabilities have expanded to handle imagery from the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite R-Series (GOES-R) Advanced Baseline Imager (ABI). Today, SIFT is the primary learning software for the foundational and applications training exercises on geostationary weather satellites as part of the formal NWS training program. SIFT is actively used for the review of meteorological satellite data following events.

This presentation will introduce SIFT and its capabilities, and cover where to download the software and readable data. SIFT handles files in gridded binary, GRIB2, and specific NetCDF4 formats. A free converter is available for Himawari imagery. More information about SIFT, including technical specifications, is accessible at <http://sift.ssec.wisc.edu/>. A user guide is in preparation.