Using Satellite Data to Improve Dust Storm Forecasts

Dust storms can affect people's health, especially the elderly, the young, and those with breathing problems.
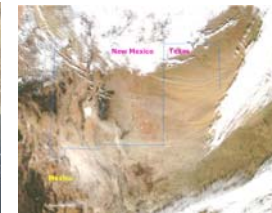
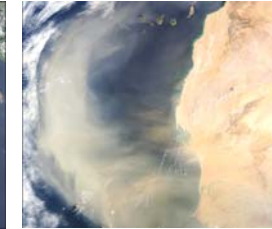These storms can be seen from satellite images for anywhere on Earth.

Gulf of Oman

NM - Texas

N. Africa - Italy

West Africa

Satellites also provide data that help scientists improve dust storm forecasts.
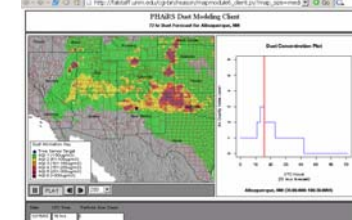
Land Cover

Surface Roughness

Elevation

These data are inserted into a dust forecast model to produce information important to public health officials.

This information is used in a web mapping tool to help public health officials make decisions for issuing health alerts to the public.