

MrSID™ GeoViewer 2.1 User Guide

Introducing MrSID

The MrSID Imaging Language™ integrates seamlessly with your favorite GIS software from ESRI®, Intergraph®, ERDAS®, MapInfo®, Bentley®, Smallworld™ and others. Creating MrSID images is effortless with the MrSID Geospatial Encoder. And, with the free MrSID Viewers available on the LizardTech Web site at www.lizardtech.com, any computer user can enjoy the benefits of MrSID imagery. Suddenly, massive images of unlimited size can be instantaneously panned and zoomed locally and over networks. Zooming with MrSID is unlike anything you've zoomed before because with each click of the mouse the image quality gets better instead of worse. MrSID's speed is attributed to LizardTech's patented Selective Decompression™, delivering only the exact number of pixels necessary to display or print the portion of the image requested at the optimal resolution of the monitor or output device. This optimizes your workflow by eliminating wasted data transfer, speeding up transfer times and dramatically decreasing storage requirements. Now, a 16-gigabyte image will fit on a single CD allowing imagery to be easily used in field situations. MrSID is much more than a simple compressor, it is a comprehensive imaging language that will enhance your workflow from beginning to end. No longer is high-resolution imagery synonymous with huge data files. Now you can create, display, explore, manipulate, distribute, archive and print high-quality imagery in a truly portable format using the MrSID Imaging Language.



Introducing The MrSID GeoViewer

The MrSID GeoViewer starts viewing an image with the smallest resolution view, and allows you complete control to zoom, pan, and navigate through larger and smaller zoom levels. The GeoViewer uses Selective Decompression to decode only the portion of an image necessary for viewing. This makes rapid viewing of large images possible, while maintaining maximum image quality.

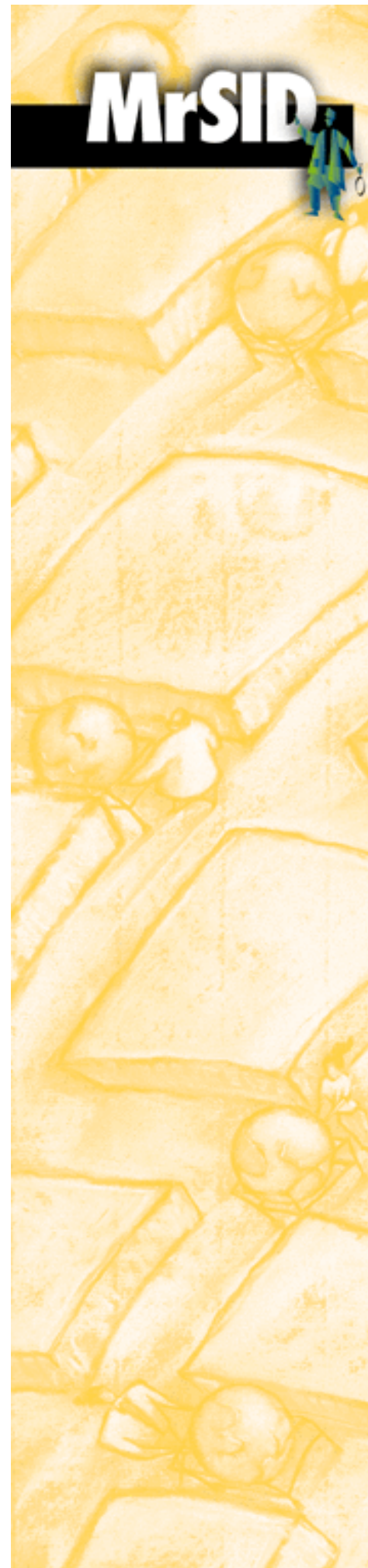
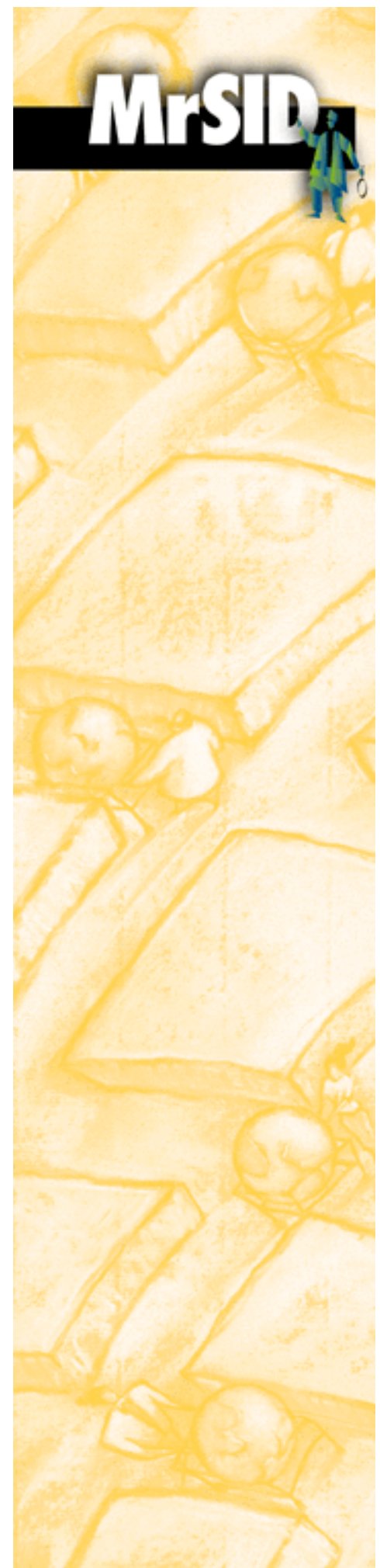


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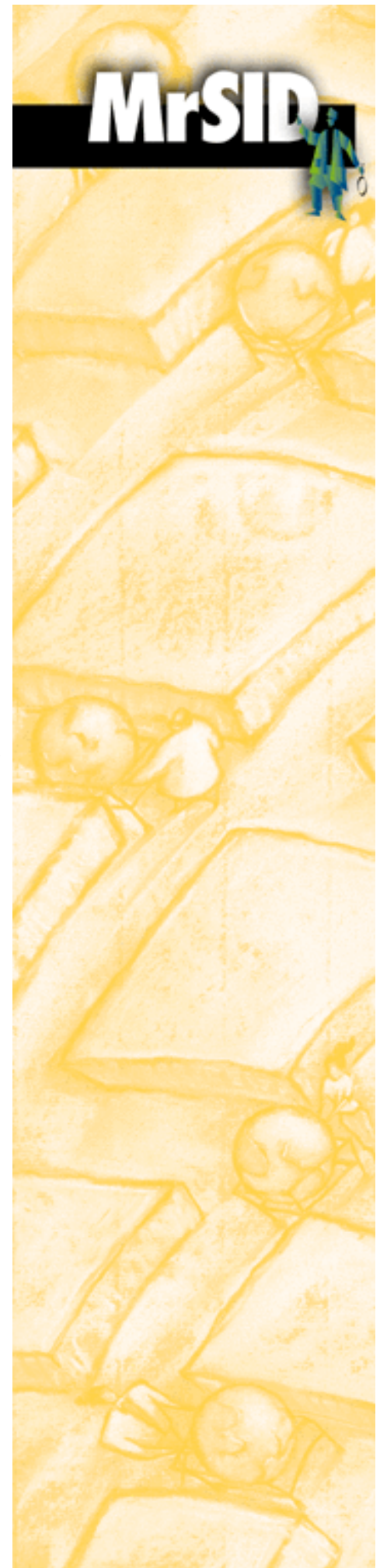
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GeoViewer 2.1 Release Notes

MrSID GeoViewer 2.1 includes many new and modified features, based on feedback received on earlier versions of the program and customer requests:

- Improved user interface & functionality
Improvements include more right-click menu options and changes to make the product easier to use.
- Ability to view, save and print MrSID metadata
*One click of the **Data** button displays the MrSID metadata for an image. Metadata may be copied to the clipboard, saved to a text file, or printed to your desktop printer.*
- Measure distance and area using the **Ruler** tool
*Use the **Ruler** tool to select an area of an image, and the distances of the segments as well as the area of the selection will be displayed.*
- Identify map or pixel coordinates in your imagery using the **Inquire Cursor** tool
Click anywhere in an image to see that location's pixel or map coordinates.
- Export to GeoTIFF & TIFF with TAB file
Create TAB files for your MrSID image for use in MapInfo; or, export your MrSID image to a GeoTIFF image and retain all of the metadata tags from your original GeoTIFF image.
- New custom printing options
Select the print scale, and add a title or comments to your print out.
- Select a custom viewing background color
Specify the background color to use when viewing imagery, for the best possible display of images in various formats and the best possible print output of your MrSID images.



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Getting Started

System Requirements

This version of the MrSID GeoViewer requires:

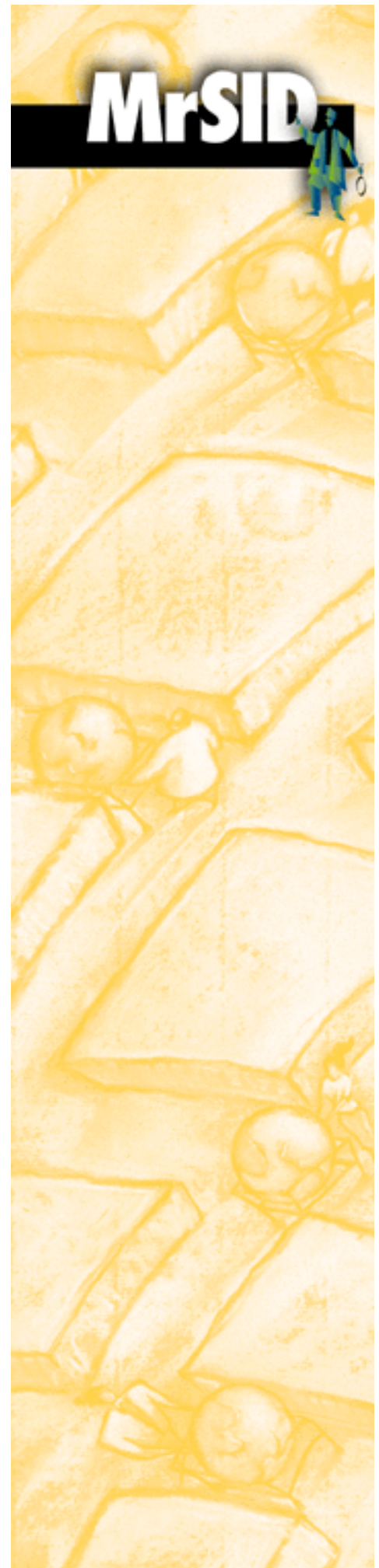
- Windows® 95/98 or Windows NT® 4.0
- 2 MB of available disk space
- Minimum of 16 MB RAM; 128 MB of RAM is recommended.

When using the **Export** function, additional RAM may be necessary. Display speed is fastest using monitors set to 16- or 24-bit color. Monitors set to 8-bit color will have a slower response time due to MrSID image enhancement, and may display a lower quality image.

Installation

Double-click on the MrSID GeoViewer install icon.

Follow the instructions presented by the installation application.

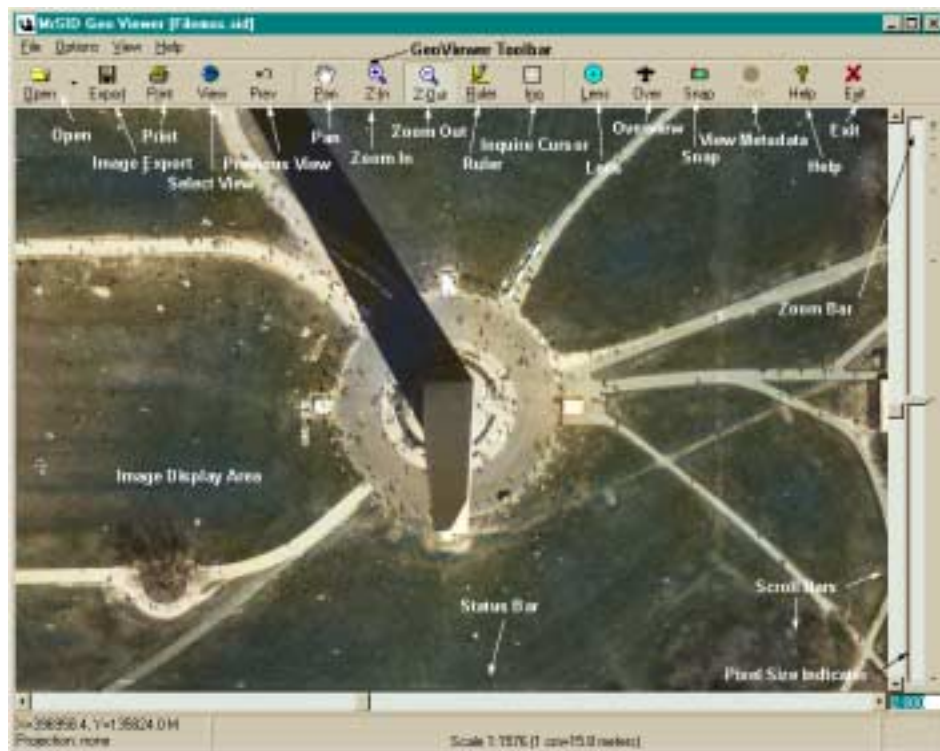


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Using the MrSID GeoViewer

The MrSID GeoViewer Window

The image below outlines the key sections of the MrSID GeoViewer window.



The Image Display Area

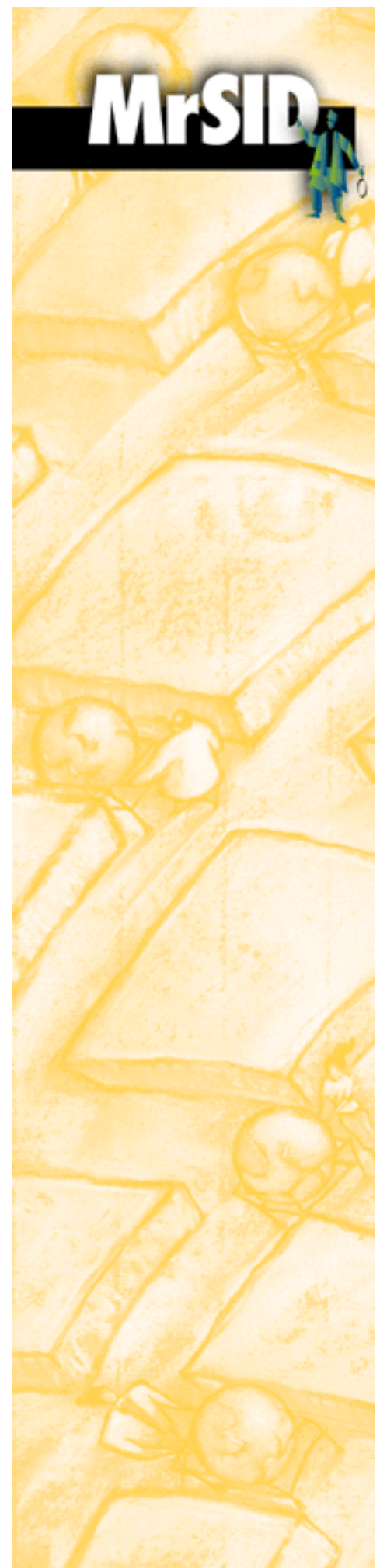
The **Image Display Area** is the part of the window that displays your MrSID image. The display updates in near real-time as you pan and zoom.

The GeoViewer Toolbar

The Toolbar runs along the top of the MrSID GeoViewer Window. Each button offers a separate image-viewing function.

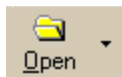


If you prefer, you can select **Small Icons** from the **Options** menu to display the toolbar with small icons.



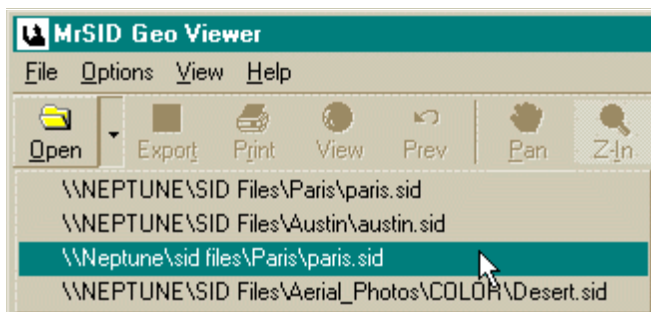
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The Open Button



The **Open** Button allows you to select a MrSID (*.sid) image to view. When you click the **Open** button, the standard Windows **Open File** dialog box appears. Navigate to the drive and directory where a MrSID image is stored. Select a MrSID image (.sid extension) and click **OK**. You can also open a MrSID image by double-clicking the image icon, or by dragging a MrSID image from the Windows Explorer into the MrSID GeoViewer window.

Open Recent

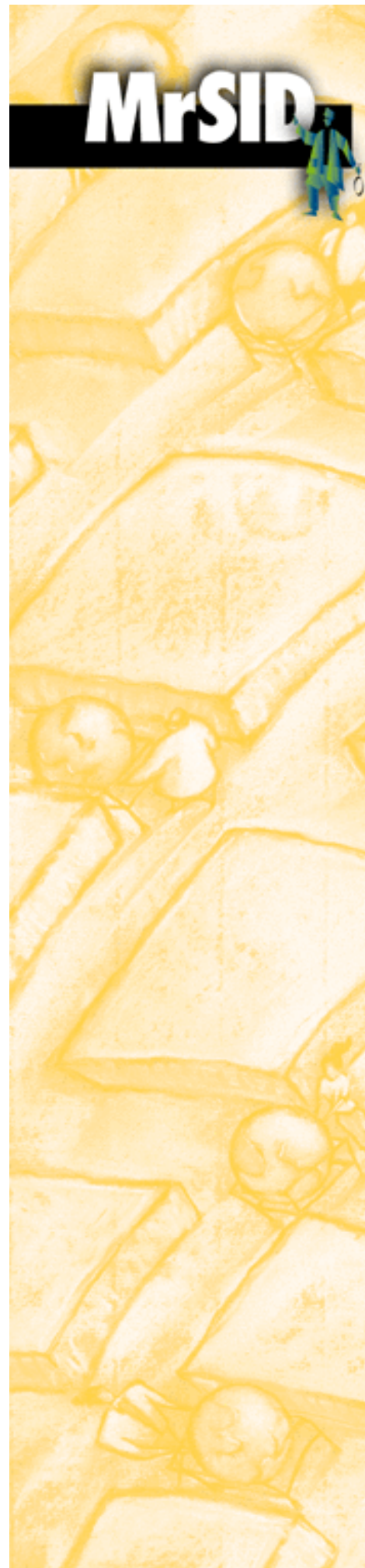


You may open recently viewed files by clicking on the down-pointing arrow on the **Open** button, and selecting the file you wish to open from the menu.

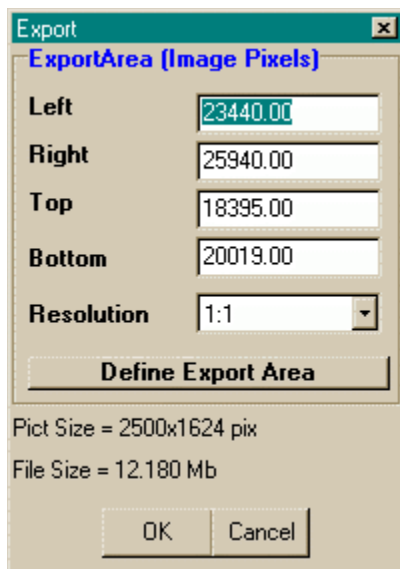
The Image Export Button



The **Export** button calls up the **Export** dialog box, which allows you to export data from your MrSID image to TIFF World, GeoTIFF, and MapInfo TAB format. You can also choose **Export** from the **File** menu.



The Export Dialog Box

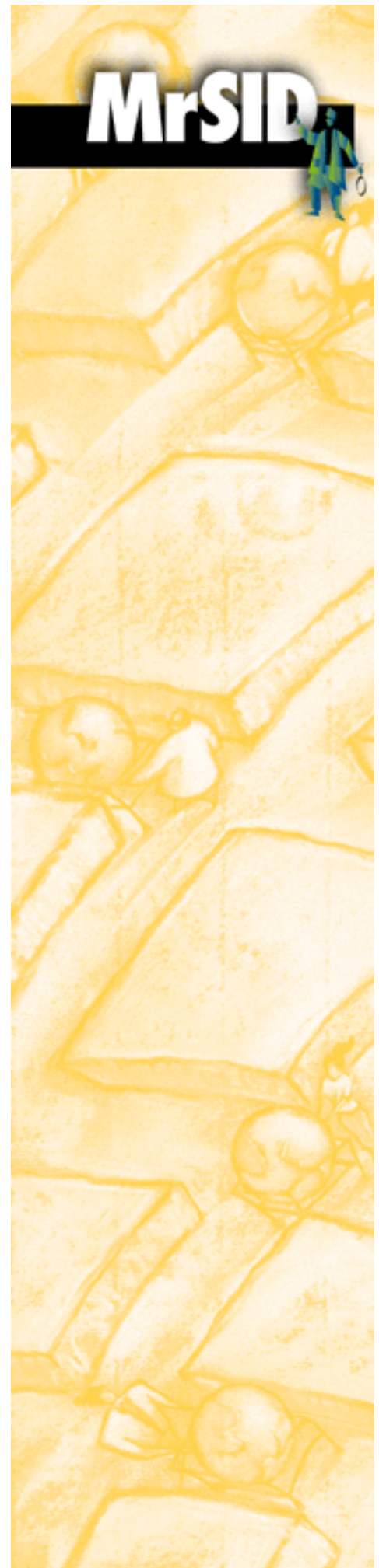


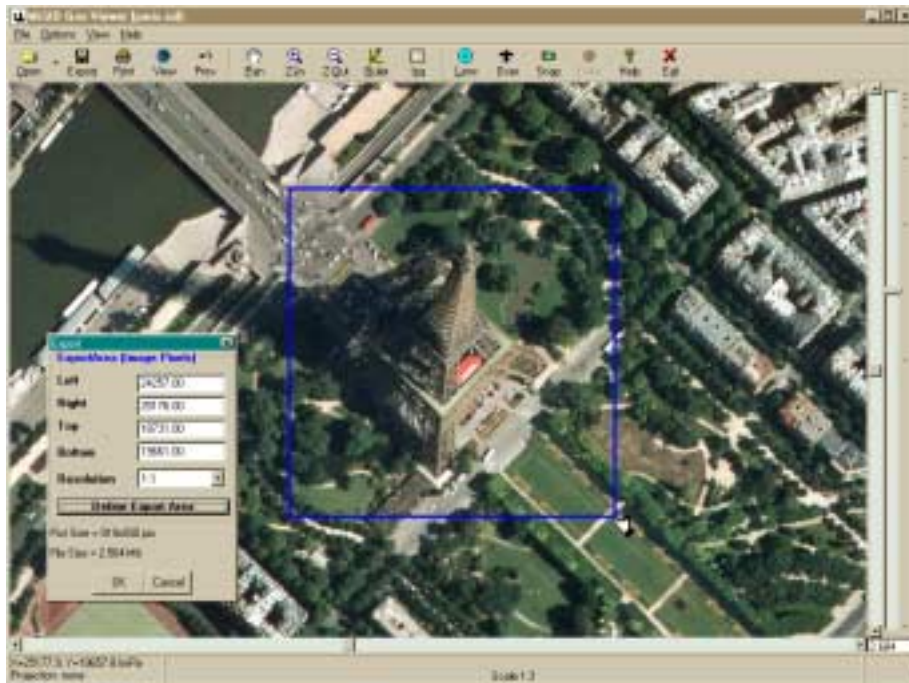
While the **Export** dialog box is open, you may continue to move around the image normally with the **Pan** and **Zoom** controls.

If your MrSID dataset has an associated georeferencing file (world file, *.sdw) or a MrSID metadata header, the boundaries of the export area are given in this file's coordinate system. If your MrSID dataset does not have an associated world file, the boundaries of the export area are given in pixel coordinates.

The **Export Area** section of the **Export** dialog box has fields for defining the area of your image that you wish to export. In the **Left**, **Right**, **Top**, and **Bottom** fields you may enter the coordinates of the area to be exported. The exported image will contain all data within these boundaries.

You may also use the mouse to select the area you wish to export. Click on the **Define Export Area** button and the cursor will change to a hand.





Drag a rectangle surrounding the area you want to export. A blue line shows the boundaries of the **Export Area**, and the **Export Area** coordinates update automatically. The **Left**, **Right**, **Top** and **Bottom** fields update automatically.

Use the **Resolution** pull-down menu to select the resampling ratio for your exported file.

The **Pict Size** information field shows the size of the exported image in pixels, in the form (width x height).

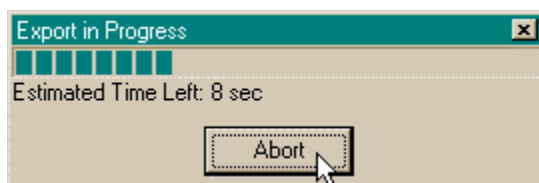
The **File Size** information field shows the size of the exported image.

Push the **OK** button when you have selected the area you wish to export. The standard Windows **Save As** dialog box will appear.

Select a path and filename, and choose TIFF (*.tif), GeoTIFF (*.tif), or TAB (*.tab).

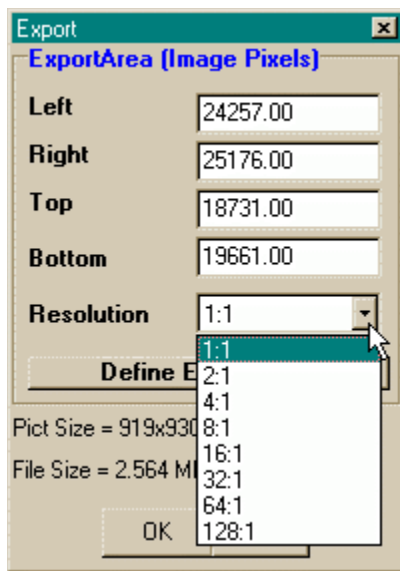
Note: A TAB (*.tab) file is used when placing an image using MapInfo. If you generate a TAB file, you must also generate a TIFF version.

Click **Save** and the export will begin.



Press the **Abort** button to stop the export while it is running.

The Resolution pull-down menu



Use the **Resolution** field pull-down menu to select the resampling ratio for your exported file. The values in the **Resolution** field are the number of pixels in the original MrSID image, which will be resampled into a single pixel of the exported TIFF file.

1:1 resolution exports the data pixel-for-pixel with no resampling. 1:2 resolution gives you one pixel in the exported file for every two pixels in the original MrSID image, etc. Different resolutions will affect the file size and detail of your exported image.

Export Results

When the MrSID GeoViewer successfully exports an image, it creates a TIFF file in the directory specified in the **Export Save As** dialog box. Accompanying the TIFF file will be a georeferencing file, or world file, with the extension .tfw.

If you export from a MrSID image which has a georeferencing file (a world file with the extension .sdw), the coordinates in the exported .tfw world file will be given in the coordinate system of the original .sdw world file.

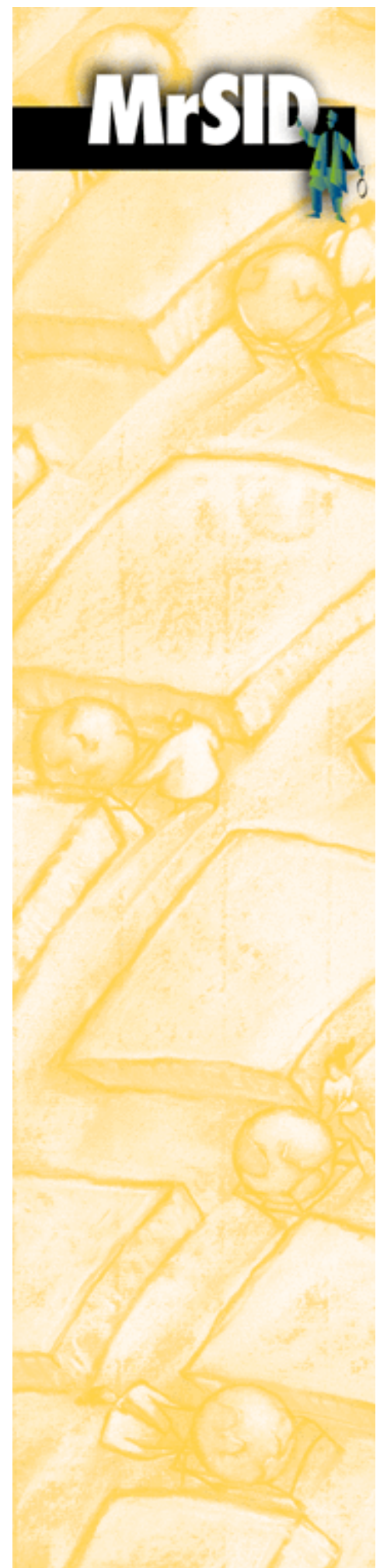
If the original MrSID image has no world file, the coordinates in the exported .tfw world file will be in pixels, with an origin of (0,0) in the upper left corner of the image.

Creating a TFW or TAB File When Exporting

The GeoViewer allows you to create a TFW file or a TAB file for your .sid imagery. To do so, select **Save Metadata** from the **File** menu. The standard **Save As...** dialog box appears, and you may choose the file format you wish to save as, and your file name, in that dialog. If there is no georeferencing information associated with a particular file, the **Save Metadata** option will be grayed out.

You may also use the **Print Metadata** option in the **File** menu to print the file's georeferencing information.

Save Metadata and **Print Metadata** may also be accessed from the **Metadata Viewer** window.



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The Print Button



Pressing the **Print** button selects the portion of the image currently in the GeoViewer window for printing.

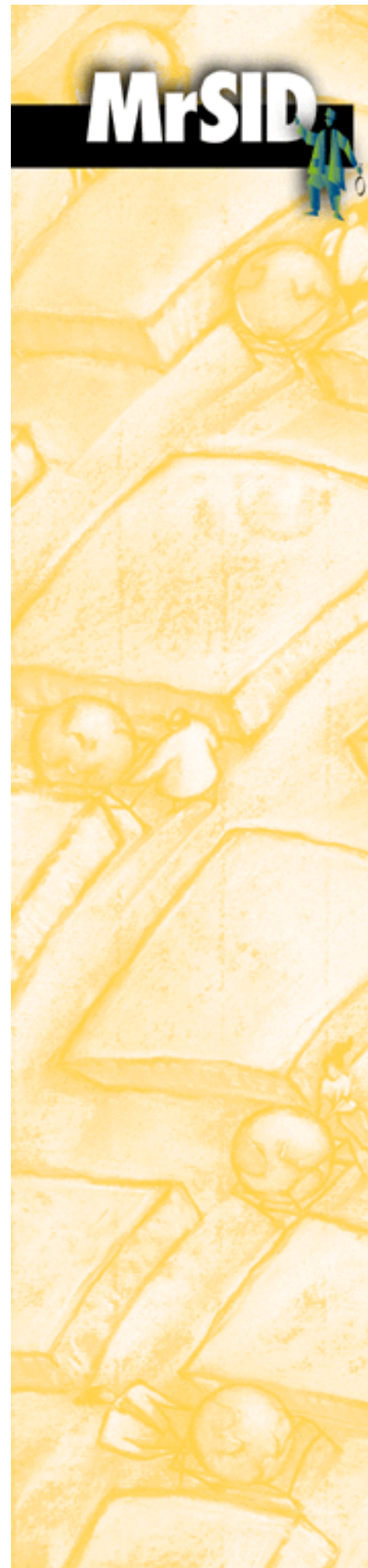


The **Print** dialog allows you to access your **Print Setup** settings, as well as to select the **Print Scale** and add a **Title** or **Comments** to your printout. To do so, type your text into the **Title** or **Comments** fields, and select the font you would like to use by clicking on the **Set Font** buttons.

The Select View Button



When you press the **Select View** button, you may select the zoom level at which you would like to view the image. **FullView** zooms the image out, fitting the entire image in the display window.



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Set View/Scale allows you to select your own viewing area and scale. If your image has associated georeferencing information that specifies the unit, that unit will be set in the **Set View/Scale** dialog. Otherwise, if the unit is not set but a world file exists, the GeoViewer sets the unit to meters by default. If there is no world file, the coordinates are shown in pixels.

You may change the units using the **Scale Units** menu.

The Previous Button



When you press the **Previous** button, the MrSID GeoViewer reverts to the previous view of the displayed MrSID image. You may move backward up to five views.

The Pan Button



The **Pan** button changes the mouse cursor to pan mode.



With the cursor in pan mode, click and hold the mouse button; you can drag the image data in any direction. When you release the mouse button, the new location will come into focus.

This is an alternative to panning with the scroll bars.

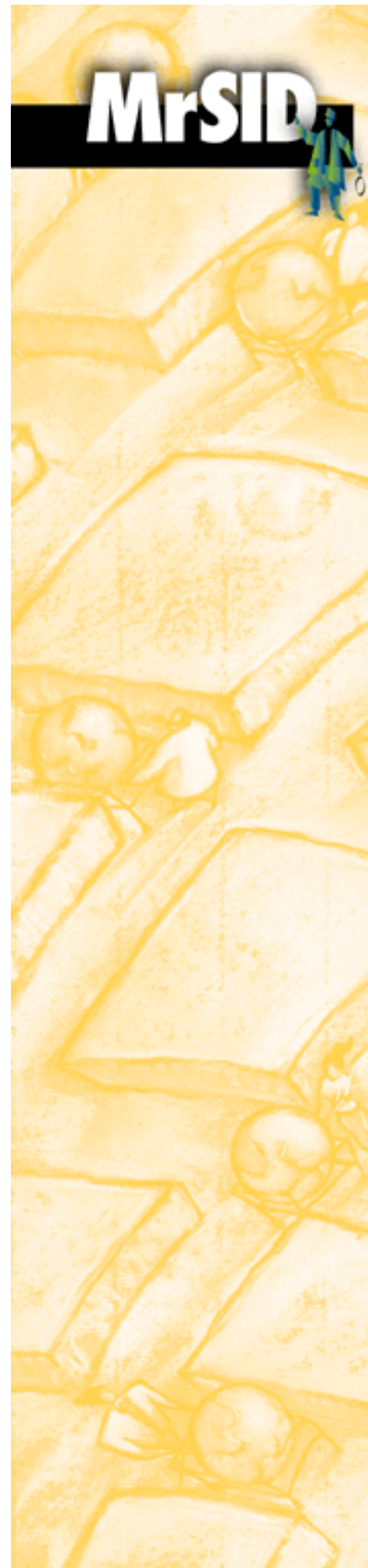
The Zoom In Button



The **Zoom In** button changes the mouse cursor to zoom-in mode.



With the cursor in zoom-in mode, click-and-drag over an area of your image; the selected area will be brought into focus in the GeoViewer window. In addition, you can click on a point of your image; the display centers on the point you clicked, and zooms in one resolution level.

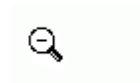


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The Zoom Out Button



The **Zoom Out** button changes the mouse cursor to zoom-out mode.

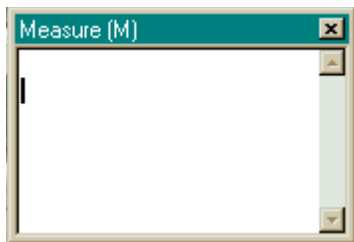


With the cursor in zoom-out mode, click on any point on your image. The display centers on the point you clicked, and zooms out one resolution level.

The Ruler Button



The **Ruler** button changes the cursor to measurement mode and calls up the **Measure** window.

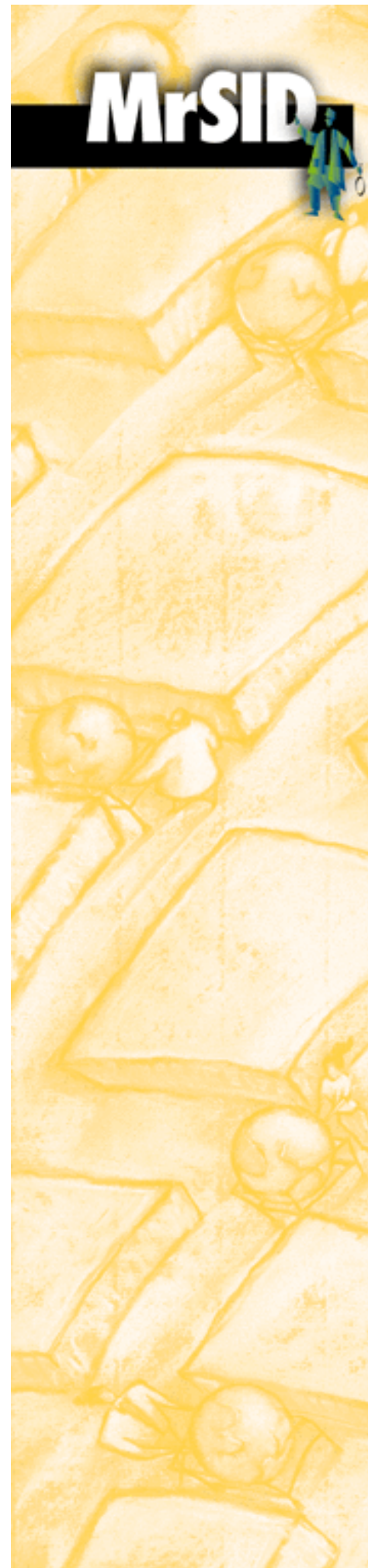


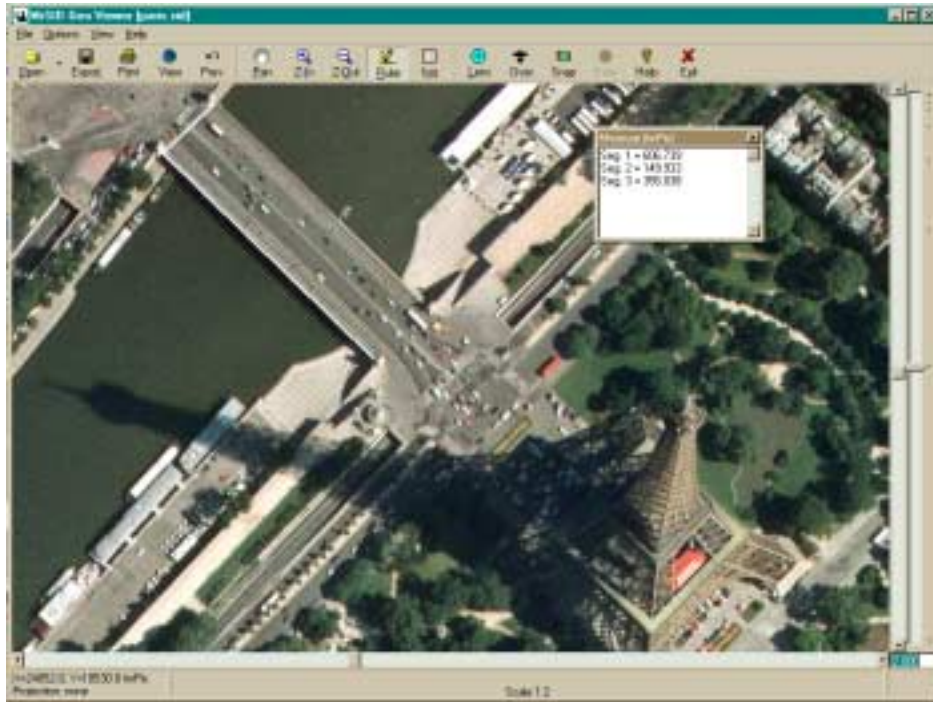
With the cursor in measurement mode you can draw a polyline (a series of linked line segments) and the **Measure** window will display the length of each of the lines you draw, as well as the area if there is an associated georeferencing file.

Note: To obtain accurate measurements, set **Units** in the **Georeferencing** menu, and the **Scale Units** in the **Option** menu to the appropriate unit.

Click once to begin measuring.

Move the mouse, and a rubber-band line will track the cursor, with one end anchored at the first point you clicked. The **Measure** window shows the length of the line segment.





Click on a second, third, or additional points to measure additional segments of your polyline. The **Measure** window shows the length of each line segment in turn. Click twice on the last point in your polyline to finish measuring. The **Measure** window shows the total length of the polyline and the area, if available.

You can select the text in the **Measure** window and copy it to the clipboard.

If your image has associated georeferencing information that specifies the unit, the **Measure** window shows distances and area in the coordinate system specified. Otherwise, if the unit is not set, but a world file exists, the GeoViewer sets the unit to meters by default. If there is no world file, the distances and area are shown in pixels.

You may change the units using the **Scale Units** menu.

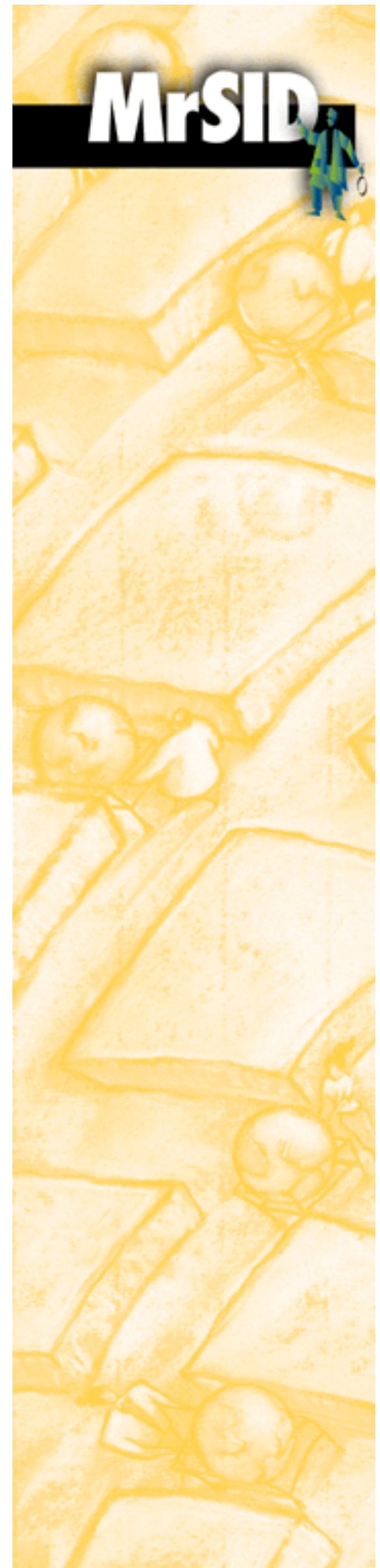
If you measure with the **Lens** tool selected, the area around the cursor is magnified, so you can see detailed imagery around the point you are measuring.

Note: You may select the **Measure** tool's polyline color by selecting **Measure Color** from the **Options** Menu. Select the color of your choice from the standard Windows color palette.

The Inquire Cursor Button



The **Inquire Cursor** button allows you to view map coordinates (using the unit defined by the *.sid file's metadata) or X, Y coordinates (pixel location). A crosshair-style tool snaps to the cursor on the image display. You may use your mouse to move and place the crosshair tool anywhere in the image. Click in the image display area and the **Inquire Cursor** dialog box will interactively update the map coordinate or X, Y pixel information.





You may also modify the X, Y coordinates within the **Inquire Cursor** dialog box.



Enter a new X, Y coordinate, and select the **Apply** button. The crosshair indicator will snap to the appropriate map coordinate location. If you enter a coordinate that is outside of the *.sid file's data area, you will receive an error indicating that the input coordinate is outside the extent of the image.

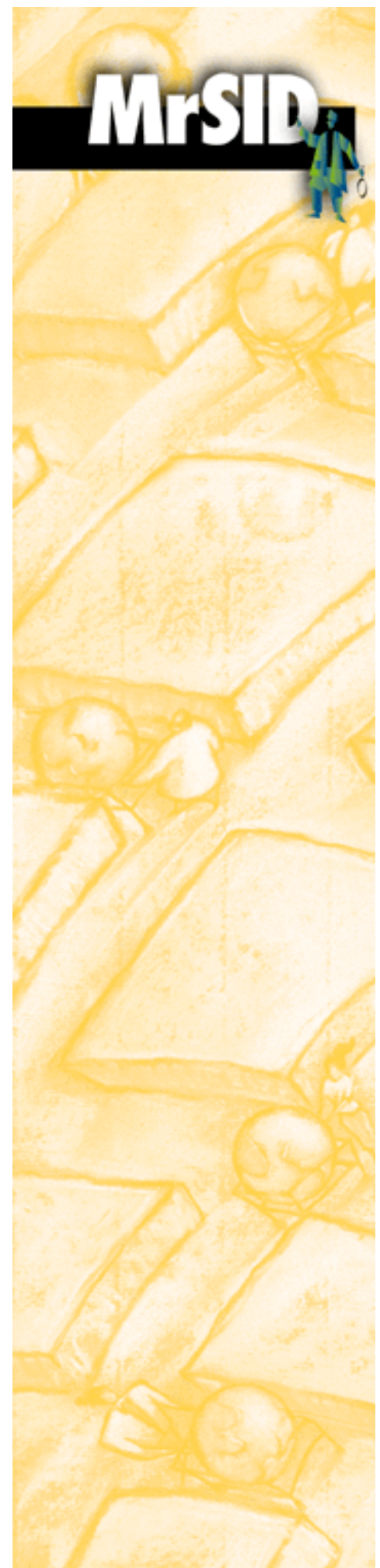
If your image has associated georeferencing information that specifies the unit, the boundaries of the export area are given in this coordinate system. Otherwise, if the unit is not set but a world file exists, the GeoViewer sets the unit to meters by default. If there is no world file, the boundaries of the export area are given in pixels.

You may change the units using the **Scale Units** menu.

The Lens Button



The **Lens** button displays a round cursor with crosshairs in the center. This cursor enlarges the area around the mouse pointer by two zoom levels and tracks in near real-time as you move the mouse. For example, if you are viewing an image at 4:1, the **Lens** cursor shows the area around the mouse pointer at 2:1. If you are viewing the image at 1:1 resolution, the magnification is created by enlarging the actual pixels in the image.





If you measure using the **Ruler** tool with the **Lens** tool selected, the area around the cursor is magnified, so you can see detailed imagery around the point you are measuring.

The Overview Button



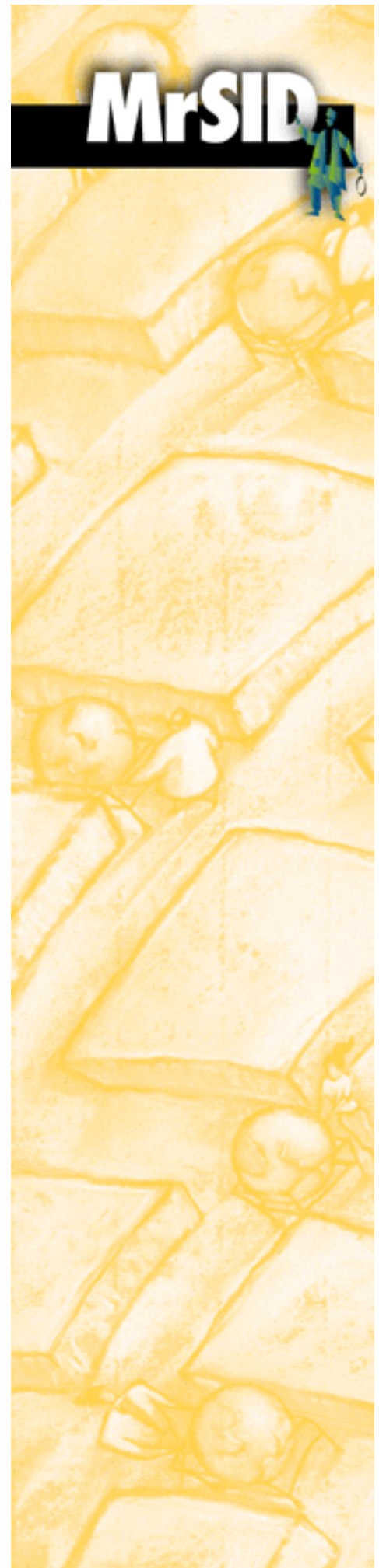
The **Overview** button opens and closes the **Overview** window, which displays a thumbnail overview of your entire MrSID image for quick navigation.

The **Overview** window shows an overview of the entire image with white crosshairs indicating the area currently displayed in the viewer window.



You can resize the **Overview** window to any size you wish.

With the **Zoom In** tool selected, you can click anywhere in the image to zoom in on that location.



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With other tools selected, if you put the mouse cursor inside the **Overview** window, the cursor changes to a hand.



Click once to **Pan** the image. The clicked point will then be displayed in the main viewer window. The zoom level will not change.

The Snap Button



The **Snap** button copies the current image display to the Windows clipboard. You can then paste the imagery into other applications.

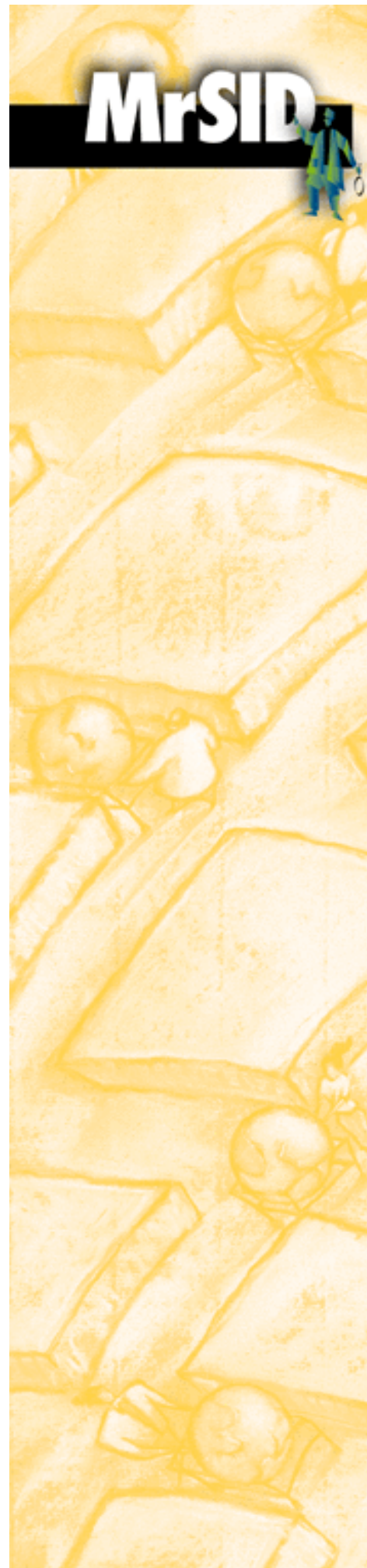
The View Metadata Button



The **View Metadata** button launches a separate **Metadata Viewer** window, to display the MrSID metadata text.



All of the metadata tags from the image's *.sid file header are included. You may print or save this information using the **Print Metadata** or **Save Metadata** options in the **File** menu, or by clicking on the **Save** or **Print** buttons in the **Metadata Viewer** window toolbar.



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The Help Button



Select **Contents** from the **Help** button or menu to view the MrSID GeoViewer online help program.

The Scroll Bars



The MrSID GeoViewer has two scroll bars for panning the image data. The left-right scroll bar is located across the bottom of the image display area. The up-down scroll bar is located across the right side of the image display area. The scroll bars' indicators show the position of the current view within your MrSID image.

To pan left, right, up or down, drag the position indicators in the scroll bars in the direction you want to pan. You can also pan the image by using the mouse cursor in **Pan** mode.

The Zoom Bar



The MrSID GeoViewer has a zoom bar for changing the zoom level (magnification) of the image data. The zoom bar is the vertical bar on the right side of the viewer window. The zoom bar consists of a vertical track with a slider. Drag the slider up and down to change the zoom level.

The tick-marks on the zoom bar show the resolution levels actually stored in your MrSID image. If you select a zoom level in between two tick marks, the imagery will be generated by interpolation from the closest stored resolution level.

Drag the zoom slider downward to zoom in (magnify the image). Drag the slider upward to zoom out (reduce the image). As you drag, the viewer program zooms the image in near real-time. When you release the mouse button, the program redraws the image at the resolution you have set.

The Pixel Size Indicator



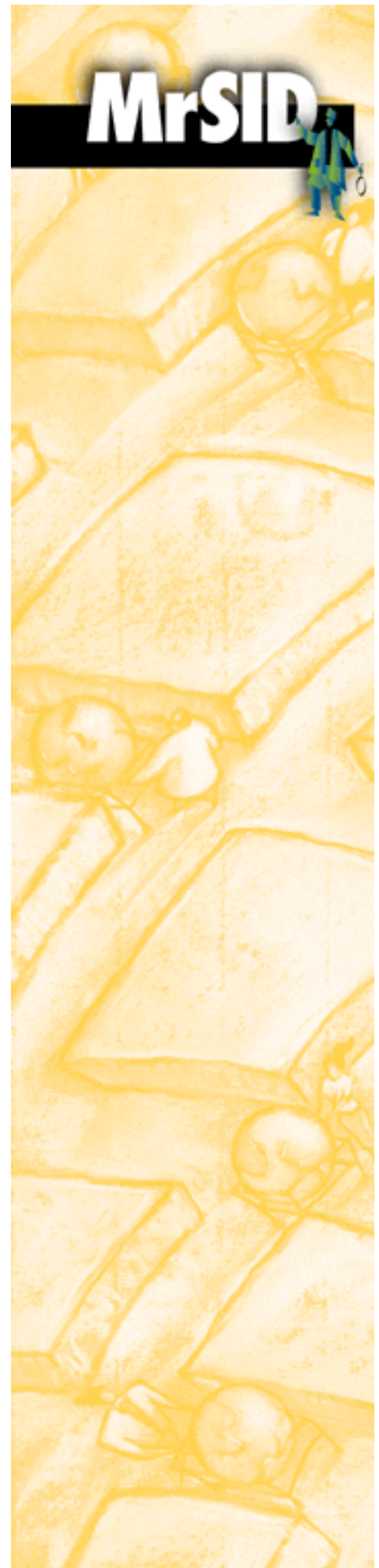
The relative pixel size of the image is displayed in a text box directly below the zoom bar.

A value of 1.000 indicates the imagery is being displayed at 1:1; a value of 10.000 indicates ten units in the original image are being resampled into one pixel in the display.

If your image has associated georeferencing information that specifies the unit, the **Pixel Size** indicator shows the pixel size of the current image display expressed in the specified unit. Otherwise, if the unit is not set but a world file exists, the GeoViewer sets the unit to meters by default. If there is no world file, the value is shown in pixels.

You may change the units using the **Scale Units** menu.

If the geographic pixel size is equal to or greater than the size of a single pixel, or if the resampling ratio is one or greater, the pixel size is shown in black. If the geographic pixel size is smaller than the size of a single pixel – if the image is zoomed in beyond 1:1 scale -- or if the resampling ratio is less than one, the pixel size is shown in red.



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To set a specific pixel size, enter the size in the text box and press **Enter**. The image will be redrawn at the pixel size you set. To zoom beyond 1:1 scale, type a negative number into the **Pixel Size** box.



The Status Bar

The **Status** bar shows redraw progress after panning or zooming.



When no redraw is in progress, the **Status** bar shows the coordinates of the mouse cursor, the current scale ratio, and the plain-text description of the scale.



The coordinates of the mouse cursor are displayed in the **Scale Units** set in the **Scale Units** menu.

The **Scale Ratio** shows the ratio of one screen unit to one scale unit.

If your image has associated georeferencing information that specifies the unit, all coordinates will be given in that specified unit. Otherwise, if the unit is not set in metadata, but a world file exists, the GeoViewer sets the unit to meters by default. If there is no world file, the value is shown in pixels with an origin of (0,0) at the upper left corner of the image.

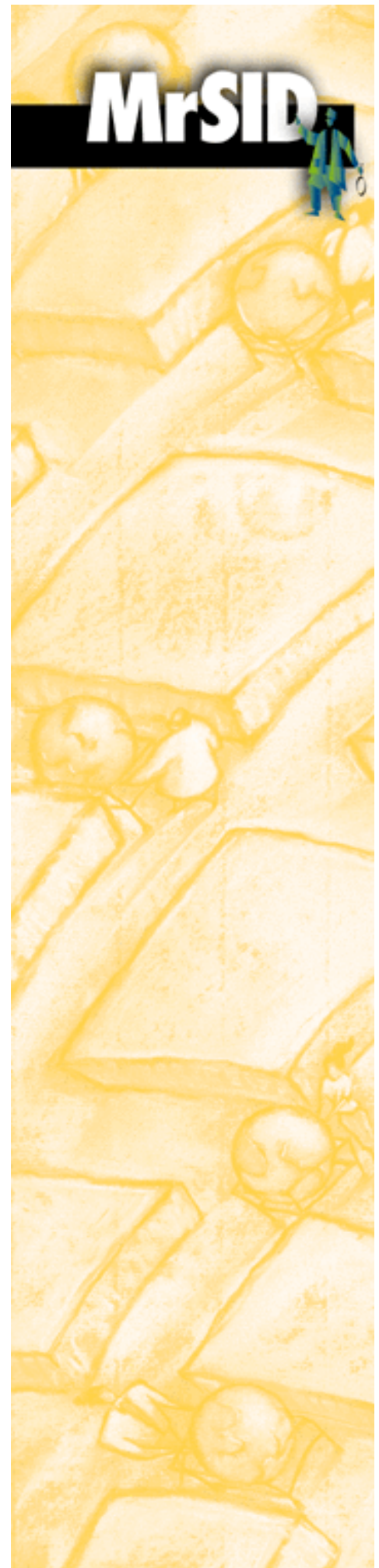
View Grid

Selecting **Grid** from the **View** menu turns activates the **View Grid** feature. The gridlines are displayed in the appropriate multiple-of-ten-meter increment for the current zoom level. The grid only displays in meters.

The Scale Units Menu



The **Scale Units** menu allows you to select or change the unit used to display your imagery. Select the appropriate unit from the **Scale Units** option in the **Options** menu.



Georeferencing Information



The **Georeference** dialog box displays the georeferencing information for the current image.

MrSID Support for Georeferenced Imagery

With the release of version 1.3.1 of the MrSID Encoder, the MrSID file format adopted an internal metadata structure. New versions of the Geospatial Encoder continue to produce MrSID world files. In addition, all georeferencing data present at the time the image is created is written into the image's internal metadata.

The MrSID GeoViewer reads geographic metadata in the following way:

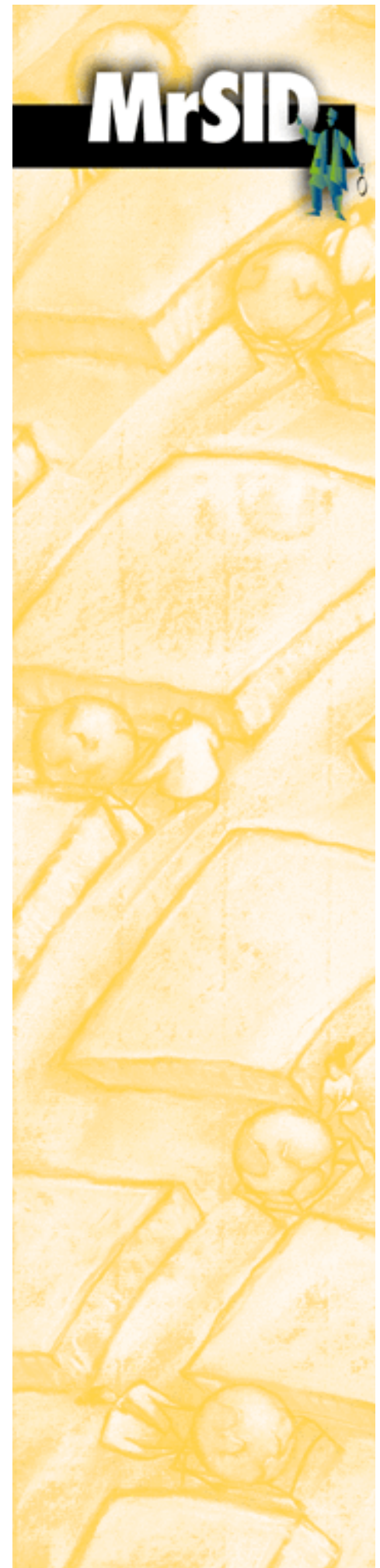
1. First, the GeoViewer looks for internal geographic metadata. If it exists, this data is used when viewing your image.
2. Next, the GeoViewer looks for external geographic metadata in a MrSID world file. If this data exists, the geographic information from the world file (pixel width and height, upper left X and Y coordinates) overrides the geographic data already in use. Only the pixel width and X, Y coordinates are affected, and the metadata in the original MrSID file is untouched.

This allows you to adjust the geographic information in the MrSID world file if you need to make changes to the pixel width, height, or coordinates.

The View Properties Dialog Box



The **View Properties** dialog box allows you to modify the viewing window's background color and set your preferences.



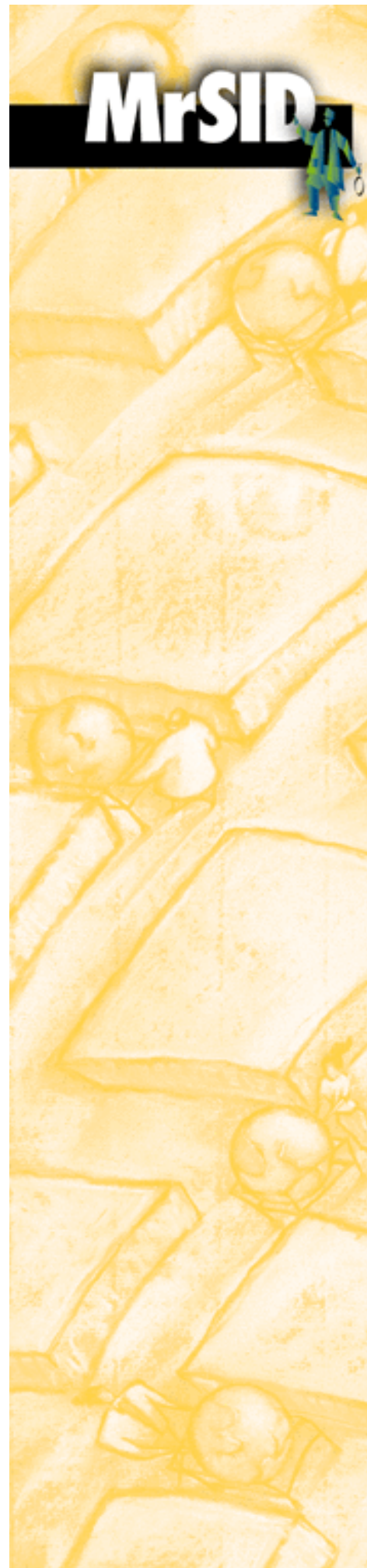
Background Color



The MrSID Geospatial Encoder and the GeoViewer both allow you to specify a custom background color. To specify your image background color in a color image, either enter an RGB value or click on the **Palette** button to select the color from the standard Windows color palette.



The GeoViewer does not support using a RGB background color when viewing grayscale images. For grayscale imagery, choose a shade of gray using the **G** arrow, or type a value into the **G** field in the **View Properties** dialog box. The other values will be adjusted to produce a gray.



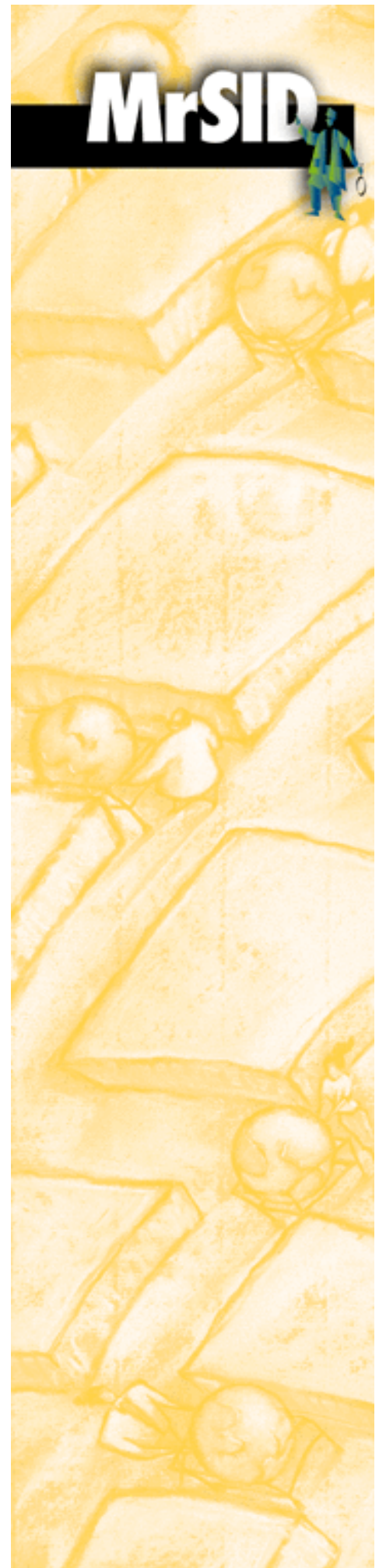
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Show Display Alerts

If you use CMYK imagery often, you may wish to suppress the CMYK alert dialog box that activates when you open a CMYK image in MrSID GeoViewer by selecting **Show Display Alerts**.



By default, this option is turned on. To deactivate this feature, deselect the **Show Display Alerts** option, or, select **Do not show this message again** in the **CMYK alert** dialog box.



Troubleshooting Guide

Installation Troubleshooting

Some systems may not allow the GeoViewer installer to properly install a required Microsoft DLL. This may result in a warning similar to the following:

```
Entry point not found - the procedure entry point_lc_collate_cp
could not be located in the dynamic link library MSVCRT.dll
```

Or, the toolbar icons may not appear. If you encounter either of these issues, the problem can be corrected by reinstalling Internet Explorer 4.0 or later. The Internet Explorer installer is capable of updating the MSVCRT.dll file. Once that file is updated, the toolbar icons will appear, and you will not receive the MSVCRT.dll warning.

Display Speed is Slow

If you are experiencing slow response times when viewing MrSID imagery, please check the following:

- **Is your display set to 8-bit color?**

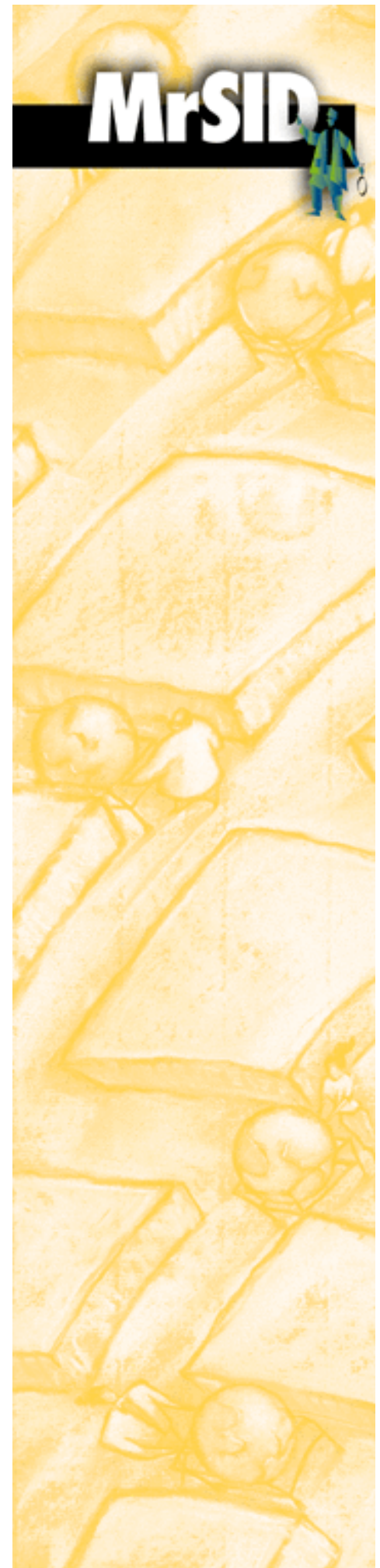
*Open your **Display** control panel by double-clicking on the **Display** icon in **Start/Settings/Control Panel**. Click on the **Settings** tab at the top of the screen. Is the **Color palette** setting in the **Settings** screen set to **256 Color**? If so, set it to **High Color (16 bit)** or higher. Click on **OK** and follow any additional steps given in the subsequent dialog boxes.*

- **How many zoom levels (n-levs) does your MrSID image have?**

When an extremely large file is encoded in the MrSID format with too few zoom levels included, the image may be very slow—to display, and when zooming and panning—because the thumbnail size of the image is so large. If you are experiencing a long lag while viewing MrSID imagery, re-encode the image using MrSID Encoder 1.3.1, and include a larger number of zoom levels (up to nine). See the MrSID Geospatial Encoder User Guide for more information.

Color Shift when Displaying CMYK Images

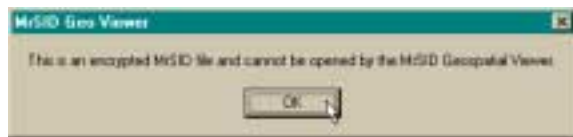
When you open a CMYK image in the MrSID GeoViewer, your display translates the image into RGB for display purposes. Because of this translation, you might experience a slight color shift when viewing CMYK images. Because of the way that the GeoViewer handles printing, printed output will also be affected. If you will be working with, and outputting CMYK images often, consider recalibrating your monitor so that the display is optimized for CMYK imagery.



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Unable to View Locked Files

When attempting to view a MrSID file, if you receive the following warning:



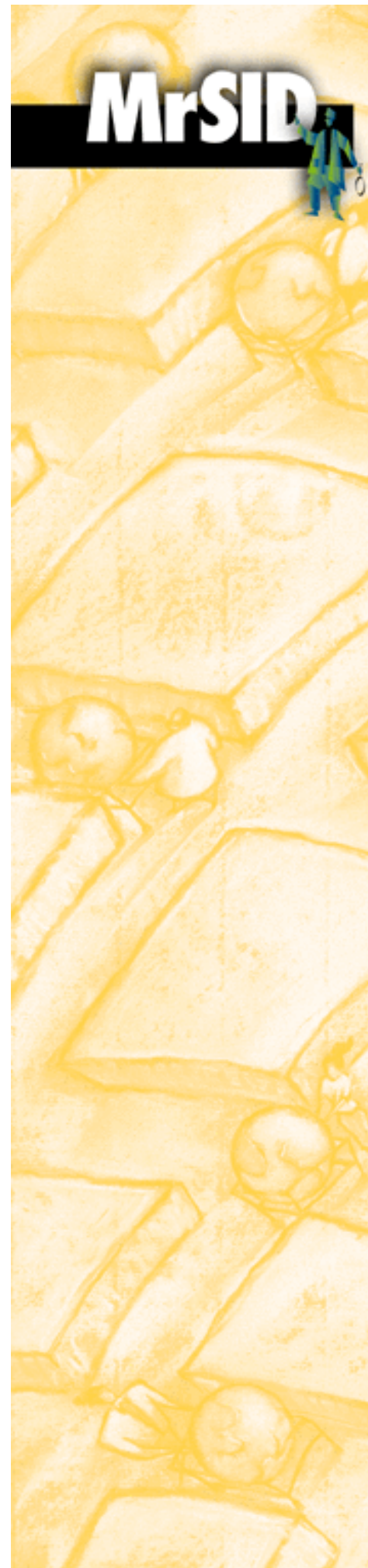
you are trying to access an encrypted file. The MrSID GeoViewer does not read locked files.

Georeferencing in Images with TIFF World Files

Because TIFF world files do not specify a unit, if a TIFF world file is present, the image will be displayed with the unit set to meters. If you know the unit that should be used, you may change it using the **Select Units** menu.

Background Colors in Grayscale Images

The GeoViewer does not support using a RGB background color when viewing grayscale images. For grayscale imagery, choose a shade of gray using the **G** arrow, or type a value into the **G** field in the **View Properties** dialog box. The other values will be adjusted to produce a gray.



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Contacting LizardTech

If you have any questions regarding your MrSID viewing or encoding product, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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The National Building
1008 Western Ave • Suite 200 • Seattle, WA 98104
Phone 206-652-5211 • Fax 206-652-0880
<http://www.lizardtech.com>
techsupport@lizardtech.com

Technical support hours: 8am - 5pm Pacific time, Monday through Friday.

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This software is protected by U.S. Patent No. 5,710,835. Foreign Patents Pending.

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The MrSID GeoViewer was built by International Land Systems, Inc. (ILS) for LizardTech. For further information, visit <http://www.landsystems.com> or phone 301-587-7531.

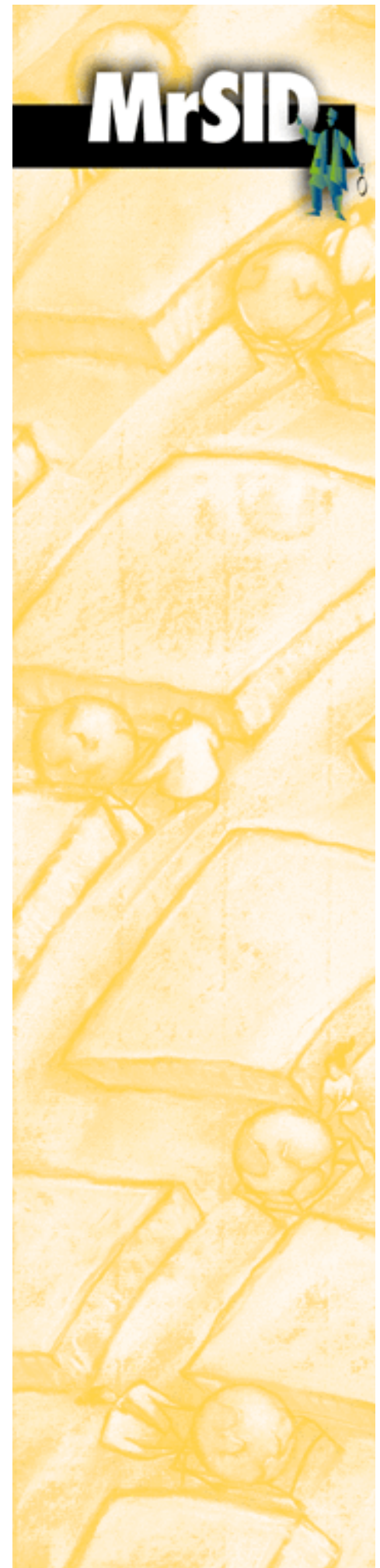
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The Washington DC sample imagery used in this documentation is a mosaic of 349 digital orthophotographs produced by the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) for the Washington Geographic Information System (WGIS). This imagery is available on CD from VARGIS LLC of Herndon, VA, an authorized distributor of the WGIS orthoimagery. Call (800) 834-0225 or fax (703) 318-7224 for further information.

Paris imagery courtesy of the GeoInformation Group, Cambridge, England.

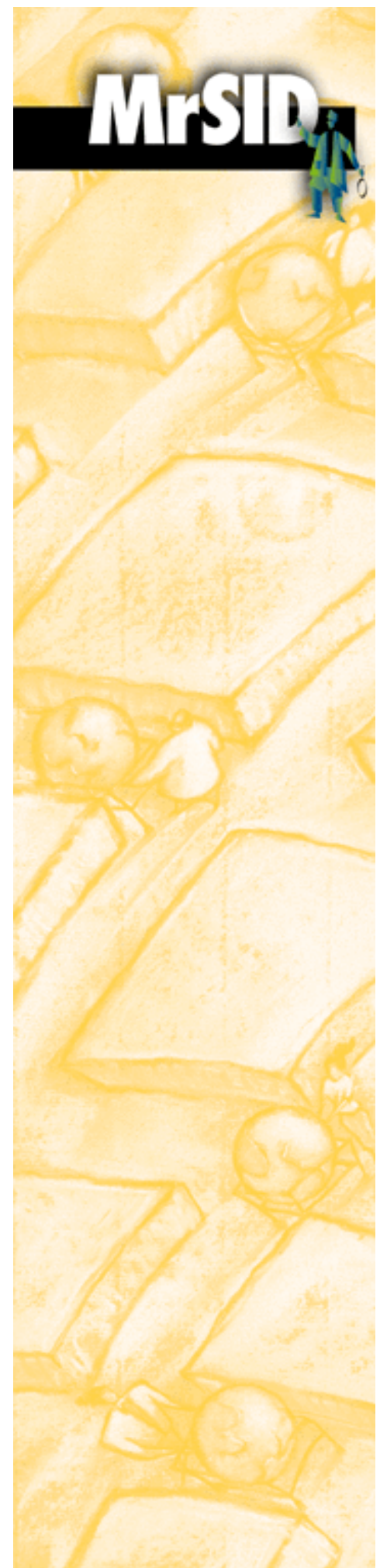
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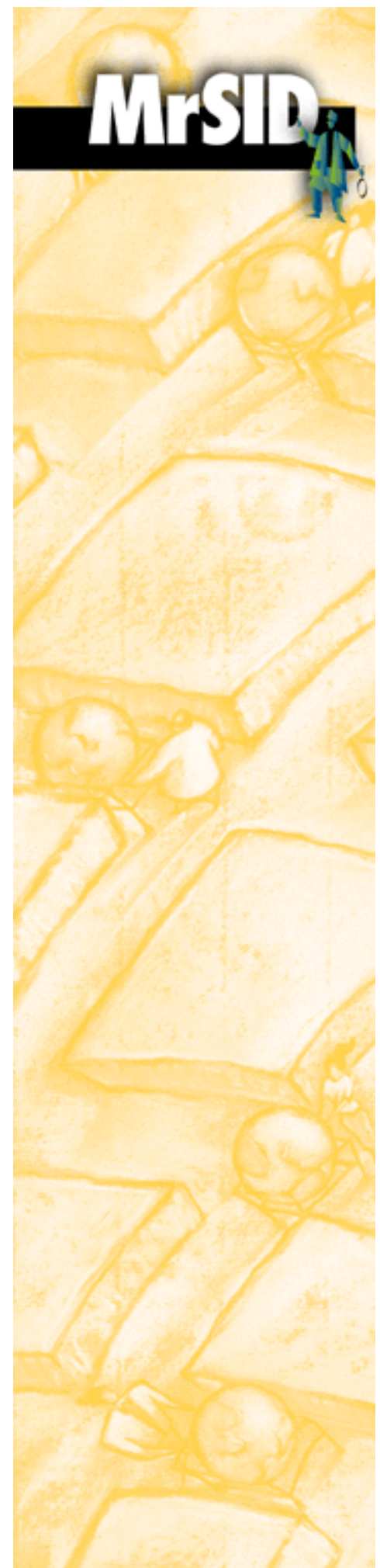
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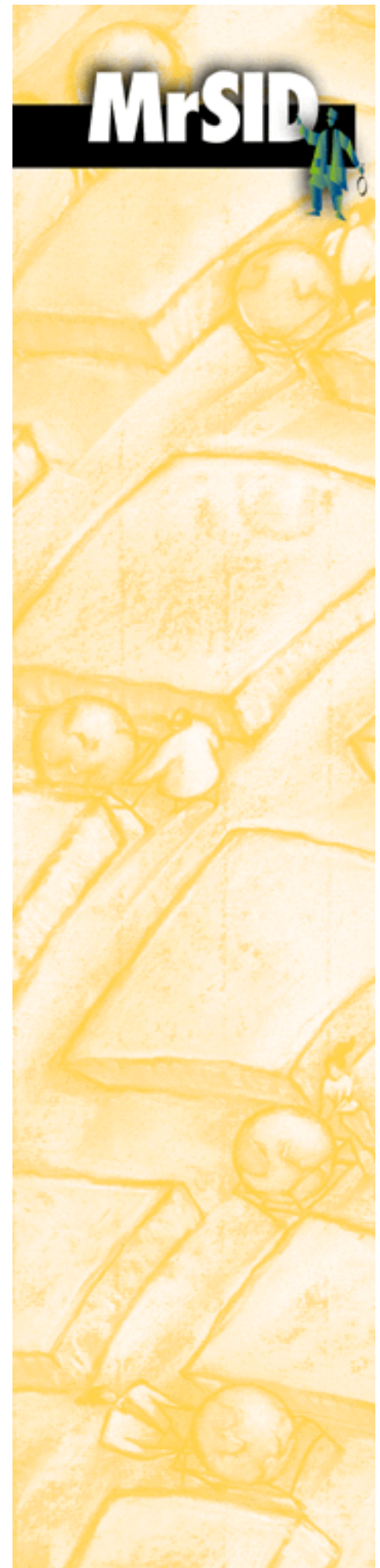
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