Clouds

There are two types of cloud ratings currently in use:

NUMERICAL-- A cloud rating is manually assigned to each quadrant of the scene. 0 is used for 0-10 percent clouds visible in a quadrant; 1 is used for 10-25 percent clouds visible in a quadrant; and 2 is used for over 25 percent clouds visible in a quadrant. The ratings read left to right from top to bottom.

Here is an example of a Scene ID with a numerical cloud cover rating. The table below shows the corresponding cloud ratings in each respective scene quadrant

Scene ID	Incidence Angle	**Cloud Cover Rating**
5 294 275 030308 025815 2 A	13.722E	**0121**

0	**1**
2	**1**

ALPHABETICAL -- A more recent system of manual/automated cloud rating. Each scene is divided into eight quadrants, four to the eastern and four to the western side of a bisected image. Again the ratings read left to right and from top to bottom (e.g. NW corner, NE corner, NW upper middle, NE upper middle, SW lower middle, SE upper middle, SW corner, SE corner). A cloud system (A through E) is used to better distinguish cloud cover. Each letter can be interpreted in the following manner: A represents 0% clouds; B represents 0-10% clouds, C represents 10-25% clouds, D represents 25-75% clouds, and E represents 100% clouds.

In either scene identification, the * asterisk means that an error has occurred in the scene acquisition. Any quadrant represented by this symbol cannot be produced. It is possible in many cases to "downshift" a scene to avoid these bad spots.

Here is an example of a Scene ID with an alphabetical cloud cover rating. The table below shows the corresponding cloud ratings in each respective scene quadrant.

Scene ID	Incidence Angle	**Cloud Cover Rating**
5 294 275 030308 025815 2 A	13.722E	**ABDCBAEA**

A	**B**
D	**C**
B	**A**
E	**A**