



The Geology of the Alps from the Air

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The Geology of the Alps has interested Earth Scientists for centuries. No other mountain belt on Earth has been mapped, studied and interpreted in this much detail. Despite this long study, many questions have remained unanswered until recently and substantial progress in the geological interpretation has still been made in the last decade (Schmid et al., 2004; Froitzheim et al., 2010; Handy et al., 2010). However, although many research articles and a series of books are dedicated to the geology of the Alps, no pictorial illustration of the spectacular geology and geomorphology of this fascinating mountain belts exists. For this contribution we have spent two summers photographing the entire mountain belt from the air. A data base of some 4000 images of the geology of the Alps is now available through www.alpengeologie.org. This contribution presents highlights of this catalogue.