

2MASS Observations of the Carina Nebula  
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I will present a discussion of how the Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) is ideal for studying embedded massive star formation over the entire Galaxy. The 2MASS objective has been to carry out a highly uniform, digital imaging survey of the entire sky in three near-infrared bands (J, H, and K<sub>s</sub>). The observational phase of 2MASS is now complete. Processing of the nearly 24 TB of raw digital data collected by the survey will continue through 2001 and early 2002, and the final extracted data products will be released at the end of 2002. The release Catalogs will consist of accurate photometric and astrometric information for over 300 million point and 1 million extended sources. As an example of the power of 2MASS, I will show the results of the observations of the entire Carina Nebula and what they may indicate, and will also show results for other embedded massive star formation regions, especially those discussed as part of the Workshop. All of these data were obtained during routine 2MASS operations.