

## ATSR Core Group

### Summary of the 19th meeting, held on 19th July 2000 at MRC, London

**Present:**

Prof D Llewellyn-Jones (Univ. of Leicester) - Chairman	Dr B Maddison (RAL)
Dr S Brown (DETR)	Dr C Mutlow (RAL)
Mr P Capp (NRSC)	Dr R Saunders (UKMO)
Dr P Goryl (ESRIN)	Dr J Settle (ESSC)
Mr T Guymer (SOC)	Dr H Tait (ESTEC)
Dr A Harris (UKMO)	Mr A Underwood (NRSC)
Mr N Houghton (RAL)	Dr S Wilson (NERC)
Dr S Laxon (UCL)	Dr A Jolly (NERC) - Secretary

**Apologies:**

Mr G McFadyen (DETR)

**ESA Status Report**

NRT 75 users are now registered, which is an increase of about 10 per quarter. During 1st April to 30th June 2000, 7443 GBT, 192 GSST and 4747 ASST products have been distributed. The Vomir (Volcano Monitoring by Infra Red) system has been accepted and installed at Tromsø and has started into a pre-operational period.

The ERS steering group has formally accepted a proposal for a NRT service in Canada. This took 3 attempts, and finally succeeded, partly with the help of a letter of support from the ACG.

LRDAF 6120 orbits have been transcribed on 437 tapes. Data has been processed up to 27th June 1993. The plan for reprocessing is as follows:

Date	Rough estimate	
Apr 92 - Dec 93	17/5/99	31/12/00
Dec 91 - Mar 92	01/11/00	31/1/01
Jul 91 - Dec 91	02/2/00	31/4/01
Apr 94 - Sep 94	01/1/01	31/3/01
Sep 94 - Mar 95	01/4/01	01/8/01
Jan 94 - Mar 94	01/5/01	01/8/01

So far data has been processed up to 27th June 1993, and the second system is expected to come into operation in October.

ERS-2 An anomaly occurred on the ICU A of the radar altimeter. This caused a complete switch off of the platform on 30th June 2000. The platform was switched on again very carefully, using ICU B, and none of the previous problems with the scan mirror were encountered. The instruments were fully back on 11th July 2000. This anomaly is still under investigation. A second, completely independent, anomaly occurred on the ICU B on 13th July ("single even upset") which lasted 14 hours.

Thanks were passed on from the ACG to ESA for their assistance in helping the Australian Science Team to overcome their data problems.

**RAL Progress Report**

An additional "Data Status" Chart was distributed at the meeting, showing what data has been processed and with which version of SADIST.

A sample CD has been produced, to check production, etc, and the team now await the decision of the PCB on the coefficients to use before going ahead with producing more. The web-interactive items have not yet been tested on CD. .

RAL will keep BNSC (via Steven Wilson) informed of exciting developments on their website, so that links can be added from the BNSC website, to promote their work further.

Chairman suggested that RAL should contact PPARC about their Classroom Space project to involve ATSR activity in this PUS initiative.

ATSR data is being further promoted by inclusion of auto-updating images of icebergs/ice shelf at the University of Wisconsin website - they have succeeded in updating more quickly than AVHRR images on this site!

Proposed modifications to SISTeR, and the opportunities that might arise if it were more automated. NERC have introduced a new funding mode for ship time, and the ATSR-2/AATSR community may be able to take advantage of this. An Indian Ocean campaign is planned for October 2001 through to April 2002, which could be useful for EO purposes, with the route there leading through the Mediterranean and Red Seas. Links might be sought with other sensor groups (e.g. Modis, RA). Proposals are required to reach NERC by December 1st.

Archive improvements and Population - It was agreed that good records must be maintained about losses resulting from missing data on LRDAF tapes due to MT deterioration.

### **Review of ATSR-2 validation results**

#### **a) RAL report**

A summary sheet was provided at the meeting, listing the campaigns on which SISTeR has been deployed (7, but validation points only from 3 of these).

The next stage for this work is to draw it together with meteorological data.

The Met Office would like bulk temperatures. RAL and Met Office will discuss how to make best use of the skin-bulk T data for Met Office purposes.

#### **b) Australian Report**

The ACG pass their thanks to Ian Barton for contributing this report (issued at the meeting and shortly before), and asked that he continue with such items.

The ACG like to see updates on validation work as a regular item at ACG meetings.

### **Promotion of ATSR**

An ATSR web page has been created on PODAAC by Jorge Vasquez, but public access has not yet been granted. Permission for it to be made publicly available will be given after 2<sup>nd</sup> August when ACG members have seen the pages. Collocated data will be added as it comes available.

ATSR leaflets have gone out with CLIVAR and WOCE newsletters.

SOC borrowed the ATSR model for the Tall Ships Event in April. 20000 people are estimated to have passed through the marquee in which it was displayed with other items from SOC.

BNSC will have a stand at the Farnborough Air Show which will display the ATSR mosaic.

Roger Saunders reported that the UKMO is keen to get NRT data on to the GTS, as the NRT user community is expanding.

The Gothenburg ENVISAT meeting should be a good place to promote ATSR data, especially by distributing the CD, and having a demonstration running.

RAL will not be attending PORSEC in Goa (December), but could send a poster and/or literature with Trevor Guymer .

It was reported that about 200 of the ENVISAT proposals intended to use AATSR data.

### **AATSR Current Status**

Risk of cooler failure (reported at last meeting) is still under investigation.

DETR will make AO in the autumn to tender for ground segment. Input would be appreciated, especially from NERC. DETR would also like to update the Flight Operation Data Plan (FODP), but need a better overview of potential user groups (at organisation level). They would also like to receive views on how useful are ungridded products.

There may be a pilot testing of the extended range mode on ATSR-2 with a view to implementing it on AATSR. RAL will coordinate with operations staff at ESA to arrange the extended range mode test at a suitable time.

Recommendations are requested on the land surface temperature project in order to figure how much effort should be given to it. It appears more difficult to implement than was originally envisaged, and is largely experimental. It is unclear who would wish to use such a product. The ACG felt that unless land cloud-clearing was implemented alongside it, then the product would have little use, and the errors are still of order 2K.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** at **Leicester (Space Research Centre)**.