

ATSR Core Group

Summary of the 17th meeting, held on 20 January 2000 at the Southampton Oceanography Centre

Present:

Prof D Llewellyn-Jones (Univ. of Leicester) - Chairman	Dr G McFadyen (DETR)
Dr P Goryl (ESRIN)	Dr C Mutlow (RAL)
Dr A Harris (UKMO)	Dr R Saunders (UKMO)
Mr N Houghton (RAL)	Dr H Tait (ESTEC)
Dr R Houseago-Stokes (SOC)	Dr S Wilson (NERC)
Dr B Maddison (RAL)	Dr A Jolly (NERC) - Secretary

Apologies:

Dr I Barton (CSIRO)
Mr T Guymer (SOC)
Dr S Laxon (UCL)
Dr J Settle (ESSC)
Mr A Underwood (NRSC)

ESA Status Report

AOCS campaign As 3 of the 6 gyroscopes on ERS-2 are not working correctly, a software modification to the Attitude and Control System (AOCS) has been developed to allow it to use just one gyro and the digital earth and sun sensor. This should extend the spacecraft life by allowing successive use of the working gyros. To apply this modification, the instruments will be switched off for 3 days from 8th February (dates to be confirmed), and testing will take place until 21st February. After this, ERS-2 will be operated using 3 gyros until the quality of the products is fully assessed, and a decision is made on which software to continue using. RAL will be kept informed of AOCS data during this time.

NRT Y2K transition took place with no problems. From October to December, about 18GBytes GBT were downloaded, and about 150MBytes ASST. Very few GSST have been downloaded (about 20 products). 50 users are registered (including several in US).

Y2K transition No major problems to report. SADIST was upgraded at TSS/UK-PAF and ESRIN in December. A small problem on the ABS will be fixed in February.

ATSR ASST server is regularly updated with the TSS and RAL ASST.

LRDAF status 4280 orbits have been transcribed, up to 18 February 1993 from April 1992 (phase C). The schedule for the 2nd system to become operational is still for March 2000.

AATSR Processor development A new contract will start with ELCA to finalise the processor (including improved cloud clearing scheme and new algorithm). Performance problems detected during the integration phase are now solved. ESRIN Envisat team is pleased with the cooperation between RAL and ELCA, and convergence between the processor and the prototype is well on the way.

Promotion Following the work on fire detection and burnt surface detection, CEOS GOFCC (Global Observation Forestry Cover) recommended that the World Fire Atlas be continued and to create a World Burnt Surface Atlas. Validation of the World Fire Atlas by 25 scientists is almost completed, and a final IGBP report will be issued soon.

Volcano Monitoring by Infra Red (VOMIR) system is in acceptance phase by ESRIN and will be installed at TSS in February.