



Editorial

As we enter 2011, it looks to me to be an exciting year in prospect certainly for me and I hope for EARSC and its members too. I really look forward to the challenge to help this young and dynamic industry grow. As you will have read, I have a long association with Earth Observation from designing satellites to creating programmes (GMES). I also have a long association with EARSC being an early chairman when it was just getting going and a director up until last year.

[Keep reading...](#)

Summary

Issue 24 Winter 2010 / 2011

► EARSC Activities

[EARSC Board appoints Secretary General](#)

Following a good year for EARSC, with significant achievements spreading the voice of the geo-information services industry, the Board of Directors is delighted to inform you that 2011 will start from a position of further strength: It is our great pleasure to announce the appointment of Mr. Geoff Sawyer as the new Secretary General of EARSC.

[EARSC Evolution & eoVox-2 Status](#)

EARSC members will recall the successful eoVox-1 study conducted in 2006 by EARSC, with ESA support (Several of the outputs of that study helped to define the EARSC evolution strategy for 2007 and beyond)

[EARSC Membership: Strengthening the voice of Geo-information Industry](#)

EARSC is a non-profit-making organisation created in 1989. The mission of EARSC is to foster the development of European Geo-Information Service Industry. Our main objective is to stimulate a sustainable market for geo-information services using EO data, which is openly accessible to all members.

[How to publish your articles/events at EOMag?](#)

Content for publication is welcomed and can be submitted at any time for consideration. Let us help you bring your article to the world

[Mission and Vision](#)

The European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC) is the European organization which – on a non-profit basis – coordinates and promotes activities of their members in the area of services based on the delivery of geo-information products on customer demand.

[EARSC interview with Christine Berg, Head of](#)

▶ Interview

[EARSC Interview with Christine Berg, Head of the GMES Bureau, DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission](#)

In the next issue of EOMAG, EARSC had the opportunity to discuss with Ms. Berg some relevant questions about the European Earth Observation Programme (GMES).

▶ Industry Profile

[A look at the secrets of the earth's surface with GIM](#)

GIM is an internationally operating EO and GIS services company based in Heverlee near Leuven in Belgium. The company provides consultancy, software development services and products in the geo-spatial domain. GIM specializes in remote sensing services and GIS applications as well as value adding data services and geo-spatial web applications.

▶ Member News

[Adrian Bohane appointed CEO at TRE Canada](#)

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Adrian Bohane as CEO of TRE Canada.

[Aratos Technologies News](#)

SEOCA project Conference, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, April 2011

[Assimila](#)

Assimila Projects

[Astrium and the French Development Agency \(Agence Française de Développement\) sign an agreement to provide satellite imagery to protect forests in the Congo Basin](#)

Paris, December 3, 2010 – France honours its commitment made last year in Copenhagen to provide high resolution satellite imagery to favour sustainable forest management in the Congo Basin countries.

[Astrium fully integrates Spot Image and Infoterra into new GEO-Information business division](#)

Paris, 1 December 2010 – In January 2011, a single operational management structure will be implemented, bringing together the imagery and services experts Spot Image and Infoterra to form the new GEO-Information division of Astrium Services.

[Astrium Looking for U.S. Earth Observation Firms To Acquire](#)

LES MUREAUX, FRANCE — The head of Europe's Astrium space hardware and services provider on Jan. 12 said his company is hunting for Earth observation services acquisition targets in the United States.

[Beginning of the Satellite Cryosat-2's operational life](#)

(26/11/2010) With the commissioning of ESA's CryoSat-2 now complete, the mission has been officially transferred to the operations team. This milestone marks the beginning of the satellite's operational life delivering ice-thickness data to understand the impact of climate change on the polar environment.

[Brockmann Consult news](#)

... 'Monitoring of Water Quality for Lakes' Project Kick-off Meeting

[Critical Software News](#)

Role in EarthCare Missions. Certified in Research, Development and Innovation

[Cubbie Station, Queensland, Australia](#)

...floodings in Australia...

[DEIMOS Imaging Starts Using Its New Mission Planning System](#)

PlanEO

[Eneco selects BMT ARGOSS to deliver accurate weather forecasts for its onshore and offshore wind production](#)

BMT ARGOSS, a subsidiary of BMT Group Ltd, has secured a contract with Eneco, one of the leading energy companies in the Netherlands to deliver accurate wind forecasts for the Dutch energy provider's onshore and offshore locations.

[EO Operators Serving Defense Need To Add Commercial Customers](#)

By Euroconsult

[EUROSENSE contributed to the EC-Framework Program 8 \(FP8\) Space Research Hearing event.](#)

The EUROSENSE presentation at the EC-FP8 Space Research Hearing event held on the 8 December 2010 in Brussels was entitled "Increasing European security in addressing International human risks by combining remote sensing data with socio-economical information". EUROSENSE demonstrated that Space technology should address two specific questions: "where are people?" and "are they vulnerable to specific risks?"

[EUROSENSE is applying EO services for a better integration of Small-scaled Hydropower Plant development in water resources use and environment planning in Vietnam.](#)

Vietnam boasts potential for about 30,000MW power generated by hydroelectric plants. The number of approved small-scaled hydroelectric projects in Vietnam has risen from 340 in 2005 to over 880, with a total capacity of over 5,880MW. However, the booming construction of Small-scaled Hydropower Plants (SHP's) is gaining more and more critics due to its large impact on the direct environment (deforestation) and the area down-stream (impact on land use and floodings). In a new ESA-funded project called HYDREO, EUROSENSE is demonstrating the application of EO services to study the impact of SHP's on the environment and the water resources.

[EUSI & Indra Espacio successfully complete multi-year supply project to the Spanish Ministry of Defense](#)

(November 24, 2010) European Space Imaging, a leading provider of very high-resolution satellite imagery, and Indra Espacio, a leading company in the Spanish space sector today announced that the two companies successfully completed a multi-year supply project to the Spanish Ministry of Defense.

Ministry of Defense.

[Export and strong partnerships are the keys for development](#)

Grace News

[Forest Monitoring Inputs for National Greenhouse Gas \(GHG\) Reporting - Polish Service Case 2009 / 2010](#)

Polish forests cover almost 30 % of the country's area, which is over 90 thousand sq km. State forests constitute about 78.2 % of the total forest area.

[Fugro NPA](#)

World leading satellite mapping specialists, providing unparalleled expertise, products and services into a diverse range of market sectors. Our remote imaging, exploration, surveying and monitoring services are tailored to meet client requirements and are proven to enhance knowledge and reduce costs.

[GAF AG News](#)

News from November and December

[Geoville News](#)

News about project on nature, biodiversity and land use, LISA or GMFS...

[INSA has been selected by ESA for the "Space Assets for Demining Assistance" project](#)

INSA leads a Consortium with EXPAL and HISPASAT that has been selected by ESA for the "Space Assets for Demining Assistance" project in the framework of the Integrated Applications Programme (IAP). Remote sensing information is useful in identifying minefields and determining their boundaries. The satellite solution proposed by INSA will improve the minefield clearing process, thus helping to save lives and to improve the socio-economic impact in target areas. But Mine Action is more than just clearing, it is also survey, research, resource allocation, tool selection etc. and this study will cover the whole range of aspects.

[Latest Aerodata News](#)

from Nov to Dec 2010

[PCI News](#)

News from November and December

[RapidEye News](#)

... US and Turkish distributors, German mosaic, Collaboration with EFTAS, Images in France, ...

[ReSAC is finalizing the Bulgarian Wetlands and Standing Water Bodies Database – First complete database for Water Bodies in the country prepared by EO data](#)

Remote Sensing Application Center – ReSAC finalized the first step in creation of database for wetlands and standing water bodies in Bulgaria. Digitalisation of more than 10 500 objects is completed and the database is the first in the country which uses EO data for mapping and

the country which uses EO data for mapping and monitoring water resources. The prepared database could serve as a reference layer in different national activities, as well as in EU programmes such as GMES.

[Special offer for GeoEye-1 and IKONOS data renewed throughout 2011](#)

Eurimage and e-GEOS are pleased to inform you that the special offer for GeoEye-1 and IKONOS Very High Resolution data has been renewed for the whole of the year 2011.

[TanDEM-X is ready for Operations](#)

On December 14, 2010 the TanDEM-X mission has reached another important milestone: fully on schedule, the commissioning phase could be finished in less than six months.

[Thales Alenia Space and OHB-System sign MTG contract with ESA](#)

(Nov 2010) Thales Alenia Space, the Prime Contractor, and its partner OHB-System, today announce the signature of an Authorization To Proceed (ATP) with the European Space Agency (ESA) for the Meteosat Third Generation (MTG) system.

[The Italian satellite COSMO-SkyMed 4 reaches its final orbit and is transmitting its first images. e-GEOS, a joint venture between the Italian Space Agency \(20%\) and Telespazio \(80%\), markets COSMO-SkyMed data and products worldwide](#)

The Italian COSMO-SkyMed constellation is now fully operational and complete with the arrival of the system's fourth satellite in its final orbit position. The satellite was launched on 5 November from the Vandenberg base in California, and came fully on-stream with the transmission of the first images to the ground stations.

► Earth Observation News

[2010 Earth Observation Handbook released](#)

The 2010 edition of the Earth Observation Handbook – just released and available online – provides the most up-to-date and comprehensive overview of existing and upcoming satellite missions, their instruments and measurements of more than 30 space agencies worldwide.

[Analyses Russia's Earth Observation activities and investigates the potential for an expanded cooperation with Europe in this field](#)

(November 2010) Issue 41 of the "ESPI Perspectives" series

[Climate Change On The Go](#)

(November 2010) GeoOptics has just released a new Climate Mobile app that is free to all. The app allows users to access worldwide climate information, from space satellites and surface instruments (which provide valuable information in their own right and also cross-checks of space data).

[Data flow from space to earth: application and interoperability](#)

A huge amount of data is already provided by satellites watching to the Earth and the new services that are going to be implemented, including high accuracy and high

reliability positioning and navigation systems, are offering new opportunities.

[DUE news](#)

[Earth Observation Market Prospects Shaped by Large Government Contracts](#)

NSR Report Forecasts EO Market Will Reach \$7.7 Billion by 2019

[ERDAS APOLLO 2011](#)

ERDAS announces the official release of ERDAS APOLLO 2011, now available for download on the ERDAS website.

[ESA unveils latest map of world's land cover](#)

ESA's 2009 global land cover map has been released and is now available to the public online from the 'GlobCover' website.

[ESA's Ice Mission Goes Live](#)

(November 2010) With the commissioning of ESA's CryoSat now complete, the mission has been officially transferred to the operations team. This milestone marks the beginning of the satellite's operational life delivering ice-thickness data to understand the impact of climate change on the polar environment.

[EU-funded study sets sights on high-tech environmental researchers](#)

The University of Leicester in the UK is leading a team of experts who will launch a research centre that will train a new breed of hi-tech environmental researchers to use the latest satellite technologies and tackle pressing issues arising from climate change.

[Express Map Delivery From Space](#)

(November 2010) Meeting the environmental needs of an ever-expanding Europe requires consistent and regularly updated information on its land cover and use. As part of ESA's GlobCorine project, a pan-European land cover and use map for 2009 is now available online.

[Financial Support to End-users Will Ensure Return on Investments in GMES, Galileo and Satcoms, Agree End-user Representatives](#)

Should part of the future Space Budgets be allocated directly to potential end-users of satellite services? This proposal and other measures to support demand creation were the focus of the Eurisy Conference "Securing the benefits of satellite services for European society", held ending November in Brussels.

[Fugro Updates Alaska Statewide Mapping](#)

Fugro EarthData announced last week it has delivered the first tiles of updated orthoimagery and digital elevation model (DEM) for the Alaska Statewide Digital Mapping Initiative's (SDMI) multi-year program to develop new mapping of the entire state

[Global insurance industry statement on Adapting to climate change in developing countries](#)

(November 2010) Four leading insurance climate change initiatives, whose combined membership includes more than a hundred of the world's leading insurers across Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America, and Oceania, have combined their members' expertise to present a Statement on Risk Management and Climate Change in the Developing World.

[GOCE mission extension approved](#)

November 2010

[HUMBOLDT project news](#)

Notes from the HUMBOLDT Project

[India Plans 30 Earth Observation Satellites](#)

BANGALORE, Dec 30 (Bernama) — As part of plans to strengthen geo studies and research, India is mulling to launch at least 30 earth observation satellites in the next one decade, reports Press Trust of India (PTI).

[It's time for us to have our own eye in the sky](#)

An early warning system could increase our capacity to manage natural disasters.

[Japan to aid space projects in Vietnam](#)

The government has decided to provide yen loans of up to 40 billion yen in official development assistance to Vietnam for its space exploration program, The Yomiuri Shimbun has learned.

[NASA sends Glory satellite to West Coast launch site](#)

After a cross-country road trip, NASA's Glory climate monitoring satellite arrived at a California military base Tuesday in preparation for a Feb. 23 launch on a Taurus rocket.

[New breed of Hi-Tech environmental researchers to emerge from Leicester](#)

University of Leicester is hub of new €3.5m research centre using satellite technologies to tackle environmental issues.

[NigeriaSat-2, NigeriaSatX for launch](#)

The launch of NigeriaSat-2 and Nigeriasat-X earlier billed for this month has been rescheduled to the first quarter of 2011.

OBSERVE

The aim of the OBSERVE project is to collect and compile all the necessary information for delivering an integrated analysis on the current status of EO activities and networks in the Balkans regarding environmental monitoring, the potential benefit from the full exploitation of an integrated capacity development strategy and the prospect of creating a relevant permanent EO Community in the broader region.

[Second Earth Observation-Global Monitoring for Environment and Security Operational Capacity Workshop](#)

17 – 18 March 2011, Sofia, Bulgaria

[SSTL wins €10.69m \[PR\] ESA environmental monitoring payload contract](#)

Surrey Satellite Technology Limited (SSTL) has won a €10.69m contract from the European Space Agency (ESA) via Dutch Space to provide a Short Wave Infra-Red (SWIR) spectrometer as part of the TROPOMI instrument for the Sentinel 5 Precursor atmospheric monitoring mission.

[SWIFT E-News n°14](#)

10th December 2010

[Tech Transfer Seen as a Cost of Winning Business](#)

PARIS — The most successful Earth observation satellite builder on the global market, Astrium of Europe, is willing to accept that 20 percent of its contracts' value goes to transferring technology to customer nations and ultimately may undermine future Astrium business, a senior Astrium official said Nov. 24.

[What is driving the need for real-time geodata, and how does that impact the spatial information sector?](#)

from November issue Vector1 magazine

[Programmes](#)

[Cancun offers hope for forests and climate](#)

(13 December 2010). The climate summit in Cancun, Mexico, last week agreed a package that will set up a new green climate fund for adapting to climate change, transferring technology to developing countries and reducing emissions by avoiding deforestation and forest degradation.

[European Commission Vice-President publishes article on GMES](#)

On 12 January 2011, European Commission Vice-President Antonio Tajani (Commissioner for Industry and Entrepreneurship) published an article dedicated to the GMES programme on the Europa portal.

[GMES emergency management: Significant achievements after 2 years of intensive work](#)

During 2010, the GMES emergency management service developed by the SAFER project has been activated 50 times in response to natural disasters (e.g. earthquake in Haiti, floods in Pakistan and Central Europe) and to industrial accidents (e.g. toxic mud spill in Hungary).

[Hearing on Space Research in FP8 \(Dec 2010\)](#)

Preparation for the future of space research in Europe begins

[Hungarian Priorities on Climate Change](#)

According to the agenda of the Hungarian Presidency, the EU has to maintain its leading role in the global fight against climate change.

[Public consultation concerning a possible EU Space Programme](#)

This consultation is part of an impact assessment on a possible Commission proposal for an EU Space Programme concentrating on the protection of space infrastructures and space exploration. The objective of the consultation is to obtain the views of the European public, as well as concerned European stakeholders, on the adequacy and the scope of possible EU measures in these fields.

[Seventh Space Council Supports Strong European Leadership](#)

The recent Space Council again demonstrated the will of Europe to boost space policies. The member states praised ESA's good work over many decades, and reiterated the need to support the Agency as a source of Europe's excellence and leadership in space.

[Space Ministers emphasise priority to deliver Galileo and GMES](#)

ESA PR 2010-26 Ministers in charge of space activities representing the Member States of the European Space Agency and the European Union met in Brussels ending November for the Seventh Space Council.

[▶ Events](#)

[Events Winter 2010 / 2011](#)

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