



## Editorial

I noticed that ESA has recently published an interesting call for commercial partners in space exploration. [Calling new partners for exploring the moon and Mars](#). The announcement was for a call for ideas to assess how companies could join forces with ESA in novel partnerships. I welcome this approach by ESA and look forward to developing similar ideas for the EO services domain. This will mean taking some difficult decisions but together we can all benefit. In this respect, we recently participated with Eurospace to co-organise a workshop addressing priorities in future calls for the space part of the H2020 programme. For those unaware, H2020 is the research programme of the European Union replacing the Framework programme as it was previously known. Calls are issued approximately once per year under different thematic priorities which define the research activities which shall be undertaken.

[Keep reading...](#)

## Summary

## Issue 41 Spring 2015

### EARSC Activities

### [EARSC / OGEO Server migration & Maintenance](#)

### [EU Legislation to \(un\)control dissemination of High Resolution Imagery](#)

extracted from Geoff's Blog (06March2015)

### [More thoughts about GEO/GEOSS](#)

extracted from Geoff's Blog (14Feb2015)

### [OGEOzine n.7](#)

The 7 edition of Ogezine has been launched. It brings two interesting success stories on Surface geological mapping: Gulf of Suez, Egypt and Oilfield performance study: Ghawar oilfield (Saudi Arabia)

### [Survey on the European Earth Observation sector](#)

The European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC) is updating the survey to provide stakeholders with up-to-date information on the activities carried out by the EO sector and an assessment of its effectiveness

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## Interview

### [Interview with Pierre Bahurel](#)

Director General from [MERCATOR OCEAN](#)

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## Industry Profile

### [TerraNIS – From precision to decision](#)

TerraNIS is designing, developing and selling geoinformation services based on Earth Observation in the field of agriculture and environment. The arrival of Sentinel images will drastically change the paradigm for the development of such services. TerraNIS is anticipating this change by preparing its production chain to these new data and by creating a network of SMEs across Europe (so called EUGENIUS network) in order to share each SME know-how, among the partners, with the objective to address new regional markets in a cost effective manner.

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## Member News

### [510 Smallsat Launches Planned Over Next Five Years. Small satellite market value estimated at \\$7.4 billion through 2019.](#)

© Euroconsult. Paris, Washington D.C., Montreal, Yokohama, February 26, 2015 – According to Euroconsult's newly released research titled Prospects for the Small Satellite Market, a total of 510 small satellites, or smallsats (meaning nanosats, cubesats, microsats and minisats) are to be launched in the next five years, a two-third increase in the average number of smallsats per year versus that of the past decade. This total includes 14 constellations of different sizes and capabilities that represent a total of 140 satellites.

### [Airbus Defence and Space delivers Street Factory 3D urban mapping solution to Rolta](#)

Airbus Defence and Space has installed its Street Factory 3D urban mapping solution at Rolta's facility in Mumbai, thereby completing its processing capacities,

based on two Pixel Factory processing suites already in use.

### [BlackBridge Partners with FarmLogs to Provide Precision Farming Information in the U.S.](#)

Arlington, Virginia, March 16, 2015 — BlackBridge announced its partnership with FarmLogs, a leading farm management software and data-science company, to use RapidEye imagery of the U.S. in crop health and field performance analysis.

### [BlackBridge Signs Mongolian Partner MonMap](#)

Berlin, Germany, February 25, 2015 — On Friday, February 13, BlackBridge signed its 111th partner, the Mongolian geospatial company [MonMap Engineering Service Co., Ltd.](#)

### [CGI to provide support for UK Ministry of Defense FC BISA](#)

UK: CGI has been awarded a contract by the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD) to provide ongoing support services for the Fire Control Battlefield Information System Application (FC BISA) and the Fire Control Application (FCA) system.

### [COPERNICUS EMS](#)

SERTIT, Service Régional de Traitement d'Image et de Télédétection, of the University of Strasbourg, within an international consortium led by e-GEOS an Italian company, and comprised of GAF, Ithaca, SIRS and the DLR, has won the Copernicus Emergency Management System (EMS) Rapid Mapping contract with the European Commission to provide satellite derived maps for crisis management.

### [Coral Sea bathymetry mapping published](#)

(25th February 2015) A James Cook University researcher in Cairns has completed detailed 3D depth maps of Australia's Coral Sea reefs, shedding new light on the likely distribution of coral diversity and sea life in the area.

### [Decision Support and Real Time EO Data Management' \(DREAM\)](#)

(Feb 2015) NLR makes satellite data more easily accessible

### [DEIMOS-2 is now a Copernicus Contributing Mission](#)

DEIMOS-2, the Very High Resolution fully private Spanish satellite, is now a Copernicus Contributing Mission in the new Data Warehouse phase of the Copernicus Space Component Data Access, coordinated by the European Space Agency. On February 27, the Copernicus GIO Emergency Mapping Service was activated following the Ebro River flooding events, near the town of Zaragoza, Spain. Elecnor Deimos delivered DEIMOS-2 acquisitions from 25th and 26th February over the affected area, less than 4 hours after the emergency activation, at a resolution of 75 cm. Elecnor Deimos fast response and reactivity, coupled with the capabilities of DEIMOS-2 satellite, demonstrated the suitability of the mission for Copernicus users.

### [DEIMOS-2 satellite monitors the floods of the Ebro River through Aragon region \(Spain\)](#)

(06/03/2015)Over the last few days, the DEIMOS-2 Earth Observation satellite, launched by Elecnor Deimos in June 2014, has monitored the evolution of river Ebro's flooding affecting the Aragón region in Spain.

### [Development of Suitability Coverage Engine \(SUCE\) has been awarded to GISAT](#)

The principal objective of the SUCE project is to define a concept and architecture, and provide the prototype permitting to retrieve an optimal EO image product sets suitable for user defined mapping and monitoring activities avoiding both manual filtering and transfer of useless data.

### [DigitalGlobe webinar "Saving Time and Resources in Global Dredging Activities"](#)

Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 12:00 PM CEST

### [DMCii Revisit Japan 4 years after the 2011 Earthquake and Tsunami](#)

DMCii have gone back to Japan after the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake.

e-GEOS (ASI/Telespazio) wins tender of the

## [European Commission to provide satellite maps for emergency management](#)

(Rome, 20 February 2015) e-GEOS, a company established by Telespazio (80%) and the Italian Space Agency (20%), has been awarded a contract from the European Commission worth 12 million euros, to provide satellite maps for emergency management. The contract, identified as Copernicus Emergency Management Service – Rapid Mapping, will be active in the period 2015- 2019.

## [Exelis Visual Information Solutions partners with CloudEO](#)

BOULDER, Colo., April 7, 2015 – Exelis (NYSE: XLS) Visual Information Solutions (Exelis VIS) has entered a new partnership with CloudEO to offer ENVI® image analysis software in a virtualized, cloud environment.

## [FORSAT – A satellite processing platform for high resolution forest assessment](#)

FORSAT is a software platform for the extraction of 3D geometric information and automatic change detection from high resolution (HR) and very-high resolution (VHR) imagery from satellite optical sensors.

## [GAF Completed Extensive Fieldworks Campaign in Darfur, Sudan](#)

(Munich, Nyala, Khartoum, March 2015) GAF AG has successfully accomplished the extensive fieldwork programme in its Darfur Natural Resources Mapping and Database Project carried out for the Darfur Land Commission (DLC). It is the so far largest comprehensive and most up-to-date inventory and capacity-building project on the natural resources and ecological potential of this 500,000 sqkm Saharian/Sahelian region.

## [GAF to implement its electronic mining cadastre framework eMC+ in the Republic of Tajikistan](#)

GAF is pleased to announce the acquisition of a contract to design and implement a new mining title-cadastre and registry system for the Republic of Tajikistan. The client and beneficiary is the Department of Geology under the State Committee for Investments and State Property Management.

## [Geostorm as a future European & Open Engine for Copernicus](#)

CS experts are recognised by both the French and international scientific communities and they bring adapted technical solutions to every need or evolution in the fields of Earth Observation.

### [GPU4EO Challenge 2015](#)

Improving the performance of Earth Observation software processing using the capacity of GPU

### [Higher Resolution Satellite Imagery Now a Highly Competitive Alternative to Aerial Imagery for Global Applications](#)

(Munich, 18.03.2014) European Space Imaging announced today that they are now able to supply 30 cm imagery from the WorldView-3 satellite for European and North African customers wishing to use the most sophisticated very high-resolution satellite imagery on the market. This is made possible through their strong partnership with DigitalGlobe and the WorldView Global Alliance.

### [Hisdesat exhibited its Satellite Services portfolio at IDEX 2015](#)

Madrid (Spain), February 2015. The Spanish government services satellite company, Hisdesat, informed that took part in IDEX 2015 as exhibitor in the Spanish pavilion of the exhibition area (A7). It has displayed its portfolio of services, including an innovative new generation of satellites to improve and provide greater flexibility and security to communications in the bands X and military Ka, through its satellites: SpainSat and XTAR -Eur, which provide communications coverage in more than two thirds of the Earth.

### [Kongsberg Spacotec \(NewsLetter 09\)](#)

### [KSAT at Space Symposium 2015](#)

KSAT present at the National Space Symposium in Colorado Springs 13th to 16th of April

### [Mapping Water Bodies from space](#)

SERTIT participated in the international conference “ Water Bodies Mapping from space “, organized by the European Space Agency , which took place on 18 and

## [Proteus Delivers Habitat Maps for Four Environmental Impact Assessments](#)

ABU DHABI, UAE, and BRISTOL, UK, 19 March 2015 – Proteus FZC, a provider of satellite-derived mapping and classification services, has delivered marine habitat maps for four Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA).

## [Radar satellites: future perspectives](#)

The recipe for successful InSAR projects also includes satellite data availability and frequency. In a global scenario of an increasing number of Earth-observing satellites, the availability of robust, long-term datasets opens new possibilities for monitoring services.

## [Remote Sensing data as a Cloud Service: PlanetObserver and CloudEO partner to simplify data access and reduce cost for their customers](#)

(Munich / Clermont-Ferrand, 11 March 2015) CloudEO and PlanetObserver announce a new partnership signed on December 16, 2014. PlanetObserver geospatial data are now available as streaming and OGC web services through CloudEO's cloud platform.

## [Romanian Mapping Agency updates the Romanian INSPIRE Geoportal](#)

Romania – The Romanian government's Topographic Military Directorate (DTM) recently implemented the portal for geospatial data based on Esri ArcGIS technology

## [TRE awarded ASI tender for small to medium enterprises](#)

(March 2015) The Italian Space Agency (ASI) recently announced a tender to stimulate industrial research programs in small to medium enterprises.

## [TRE celebrates its fifteenth birthday](#)

TRE is a commercial company dedicated to the development of InSAR technology, used to monitor surface deformation from space, and the delivery of commercial InSAR products and services.

## [UC San Diego granted access to DigitalGlobe commercial satellite imagery](#)

(19 March 2015) The DigitalGlobe Foundation has selected the University of California, San Diego to be one of two institutions of higher learning given open access to DigitalGlobe Basemap, an online map and database of current, high-resolution satellite imagery – of the entire planet.

## [World Bank PUMA to grow](#)

GISAT has got a new contract with the World Bank to provide further consultation services for its web based exploration platform PUMA – the Platform for Urban Management and Analysis.

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## **Earth Observation News**

## [5th Pavia Summer School on Data Fusion - Risk Assessment, 23-24 July 2015, Pavia](#)

The University of Pavia has built a relevant track in providing very successful and appreciated Summer Schools on Data Fusion in Aerospace.

## [Amazon Web Services Plugs In NASA Satellite Images](#)

(March 2015) Landsat 8 satellite images made available on Amazon Web Services in humanitarian aid and education drive

## [Argentina: Satellite images support flood damage mitigation](#)

(March 2015) The Argentinean National Space Activities Commission (CONAE) has been producing information about recent floods based on radar satellite images. In March, the provinces of Santa Fe and Santiago del Estero suffered from intense floods.

## [Canada Plans to Use Satellite Technology to Protect Its Arctic Sovereignty](#)

(April 2015) In the face of challenges to its sovereignty in the Far North, Canada is ramping up its claim to the Arctic with four active military exercises aimed at Russia, and, it appears, an upgraded satellite observation program.

## [Centre of Excellence for Earth Observation based monitoring of Natural Disasters in south-eastern Europe \(BEYOND\)](#)



The Center aims primarily at setting up leading edge integrated observational solutions to operate space-borne and ground-based monitoring networks in a complementary, unified and coordinated manner.

### [Citizen scientists map global forests](#)

New maps of global forest cover from the International Institute for Applied System Analysis (IIASA)'s Geo-Wiki team provide a more accurate view of global forests. The maps were published in the journal Remote Sensing of the Environment, and are freely available for exploration and download on the Geo-Wiki Web site.

### [Cloud computing and big data meet earth observation](#)

(2 March 2015) "Sparkindata", a Cloud platform developed by an Atos led consortium of 11 partners, was selected as one of 12 R&D projects chosen from 34 candidate projects, to be funded by the major national programme "Investments for the Future" in the "Cloud Computing & Big Data" category.

### [Commercial Availability Of Earth Imagery & High-Resolution Camera Update](#)

VANCOUVER, JULY 16, 2014 | UrtheCast Corp. (TSX:UR) ("UrtheCast" or "the Company") today provided an update on the commissioning process for its Medium-Resolution Camera ("MRC" or "Theia") and its Ultra HD, High-Resolution Camera ("HRC" or "Iris"). The MRC has achieved Initial Operational Capability ("IOC"), completing the MRC's commissioning phase. Theia is now capable of commercial imaging and UrtheCast will continue to refine the operational and processing systems required to meet increased order volumes and produce value-added consumer products and services.

### [Commercial UAV community to meet in London 24th April 2015](#)

The commercial UAV community from across the globe will gather in London on 24th April to discuss the latest trends, best practice and innovations taking place within the industry.

### [CryoSat User Tool \(CUT\) version 3.1.0 released](#)

The latest version, 3.1.0, of the CryoSat User Tool (CUT) is now available for download.

## [Deployment In One Hour For ImageSat's New Mini-Terminal For EO Data Delivery](#)

[SatNews] ImageSat International N.V. , the owner and operator of the EROS A and EROS B very high resolution imaging satellites, will reveal the 70 cm resolution EROS B satellite portable end-to-end ground Mini-Terminal (MiniTer) for real time ultra-fast downloading of data from Earth observation satellites at LAAD 2015.

## [Digital Mapping, GIS, Cloud-Based Geo-Analytics & Geo-Data Exploitation for Defence & Homeland Security](#)

Geospatial information exploitation technology is one of the vital enablers and defining aspects of 21st century defence, intelligence and homeland security capabilities and operations. In a digital age where the vast majority of data has a location and time, GIS and GEOINT systems provide the means to reference it geographically.

## [Do 85,000 satellite Earth images hold solution to global problems?](#)

AWS released the pics to highlight the urgent need for action on climate change and humanitarian disasters

## [EURISY, Newsletter 71, March 2015](#)

Eurisy has been working with public authorities since the start of its User Programme, in 2007. Based on this work, we built the largest [database](#) of operational good practice examples in Europe. It is a collection of testimonials from public authorities and SMEs who use satellite services routinely. Over 100 examples are available online to inspire potential end-users to follow suit.

## [European Space Expo brings space closer to earth](#)

Space technology is more relevant to our everyday lives than we often think and the European Space Expo, a free, interactive exhibition, highlights exactly how space technology can improve life on planet Earth.

## [Eye on Earth Summit in Abu Dhabi to Boost Environmental Information for Decision-makers](#)

Abu Dhabi, April 2, 2015—Over 650 delegates from government, UN bodies, the non-governmental sector, private sector, academia and civil society will gather in Abu Dhabi between 6 and 8 October for the Eye on Earth Summit 2015, to bridge the information gap policy makers face in designing plans for sustainable development.

### [First Filipino Satellite, Diwata, Set for 2016 Launch: Can It Actually Help in Disaster Mitigation?](#)

Filipinos may heave a sigh of relief over news that one of two microsattellites slated for launch into space in 2016 may play a crucial role in improving weather forecasting, managing disasters, and protecting forests, among other benefits. It will also be a boon in terms of the preservation of natural and cultural heritage sites.

### [Geo-Empower Africa Summit](#)

Mapping the Capacity and Directions of Geospatial Industry in Africa's Regional Development. (6-7 October 2015, Johannesburg, South Africa)

### [Global change – DLR and the United Nations University agree on closer cooperation](#)

(23 February 2015) The German Aerospace Center (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt; DLR) and the United Nations University (UNU) have agreed to continue to strengthen their cooperation.

### [High Representative / Vice President Federica Mogherini visits the European Union Satellite Centre \(EU SatCen\) and is briefed on SatCen's Copernicus activities](#)

On Monday 16 February 2015, the High Representative / Vice President Federica Mogherini visited the European Union Satellite Centre (SatCen) – a Council Agency based in Torrejón de Ardoz near Madrid. The High Representative was hosted by the Satellite Centre's Director Pascal Legai and met with SatCen specialists.

### [ImageSat and Incentive plan to invest NIS 15 million in the next two years](#)

ImageSat International, which develops satellite sensors, and the Incentive incubator, controlled by the Peregrine Ventures fund, are launching an accelerator for startups developing satellite information-based applications.

## [Imaging Earth: Utilising advances in Earth observation](#)

There is a potential treasure trove of scientific knowledge in the variety and amount of data collected through remote Earth observation. But the potential is only half the story – developing ways to effectively use that data is another challenge.

## [Innovative multi-sensor network for DEformation and Seismic Monitoring of Urban Subsidence-prone Areas – INDES MUSA](#)

Integrated monitoring solutions constitute a prerequisite towards risk mitigation and urban planning policies against soil subsidence and seismic motion, providing valuable knowledge and data for investigating the corresponding physical mechanisms.

The above concept lies between the main framework of actions of INDES-MUSA project aiming at the deployment of an innovative multi-sensor system for monitoring in a complementary manner ground deformation and seismic motion in subsidence-prone urban areas.

## [Landsat on AWS](#)

Landsat 8 data is available for anyone to use via Amazon S3.

## [Mapping sea surface from the space station](#)

(16 March 2015) A new concept that involves mounting an instrument on the International Space Station and taking advantage of signals from navigation satellites could provide measurements of sea-surface height and information about features related to ocean currents, benefiting science and ocean forecasting

## [MHI vehicle to launch UAE satellite](#)

(March 2015) Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) has received an order from the Emirates Institution for Advanced Science and Technology (EIAST) for the launch of its KhalifaSat observation satellite.

## [NASA Joins Forces to Put Satellite Eyes on Threat to U.S. Freshwater](#)

NASA has joined forces with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration, and U.S. Geological Survey to transform satellite data designed to probe ocean biology into information that will help protect the American public from harmful freshwater algal blooms.

### [NASA New Soil Moisture Mapper Goes for a Spin](#)

Mission controllers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, have commanded the 20-foot (6-meter) reflector antenna on NASA's new Soil Moisture Active Passive (SMAP) observatory to begin spinning for the first time. The partial spin-up is a key step in commissioning the satellite in preparation for science operations

### [NEREUS : Regional workshop "Space Applications at the Bremen location" 21-22 April 2015, Bremen ,Germany](#)

NEREUS President Nichi Vendola and Senator Günthner (Minister of Economic Affairs, Labour and Ports Minister of Justice and Constitution) of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen would like to seize the opportunity to invite you (see invitation and draft programme attached) to the regional workshop "Space Applications at the Bremen location" that in collaboration with NEREUS will organize on 21-22 April 2015 in Bremen, Germany.

### [New European Wind Atlas \(NEWA\) project to produce the best database of wind characteristics throughout Europe](#)

The New European Wind Atlas (NEWA) project celebrated its kick-off meeting last 19 March at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) Risø campus in Roskilde. This project aims at delivering, over the next five years, the best database of wind characteristics throughout Europe and a new generation of flow models to exploit this database.

### [New NASA Mission to Study Ocean Color, Airborne Particles and Clouds](#)

NASA is beginning work on a new satellite mission that will extend critical climate measurements of Earth's oceans and atmosphere and advance studies of the impact of environmental changes on ocean health, fisheries and the carbon cycle.

### [News from UNOSAT](#)

Satellite imagery from the Syria conflict, UNOSAT Rapid Mapping Vanuatu, UNITAR-UNOSAT's Geotag-X...

## [Ordnance Survey to Open Hub Dedicated to Innovation](#)

In a move that aims to energise innovation in the UK geospatial industry, Ordnance Survey is opening a London-based Geospatial Innovation Hub to attract new players, new visions, new thinking and new markets.

## [PeruSat-1 To Share Vega With Skybox Imaging Smallsats](#)

Peru's first Earth observation satellite will share a ride to low Earth orbit with four small Skybox Imaging satellites planned to launch next year on a European Vega rocket.

## [Pew, National Geographic Applaud Creation of Pitcairn Islands Marine Reserve](#)

(March 2015) The Pew Charitable Trusts and the National Geographic Society praised action by the British government today to create the world's largest fully protected marine reserve around the Pitcairn Islands, an overseas territory in the South Pacific Ocean.

## [PhotoSat verifies accuracy of DigitalGlobe's 30 cm WorldView-3 satellite elevation data to within 15 cm](#)

(25 March 2015) PhotoSat has announced that the elevation data processed from DigitalGlobe's new 30 centimeter resolution satellite, WorldView-3, has been verified as accurate to within 15 centimeters.

## [Regulating the UAV Industry: Current Status and Future Trends](#)

by Megan Roden at [skytechevent](#). "Regulation" is the latest buzzword to emerge out of the UAV industry, with concerns over safety, privacy, data protection and liability all calling existing regulation into question. Recent increases in potentially dangerous UAV activity, including illegal flights over football pitches and narrowly avoided collisions with traditional manned aircraft, have also served to bolster concerns over the adequacy of existing UAV regulation. Whilst such debates are dominating the UAV industry at present, is UAV regulation really a cause for concern?

## [SANSA Earth Observation showcases its products and services at the Randshow 2015](#)

SANSA Earth Observation directorate took an opportunity to exhibit at this year's Randshow at the Nasrec, Johannesburg. The objective was to take advantage of this popular show (3 April to 12 April 2015), and make it a platform for marketing and brand awareness of SANSA because it provides valuable exposure, promotional opportunities and direct engagement with the largest audience available at any community event in the country.

### [Satellite mapping reveals large-scale changes in Africa's climate](#)

UK, March 13, 2015: An international research team led by the University of Leicester has mapped the entire African continent south of the Sahara for geographical changes. The researchers observed that areas such as the Congo, Nigeria and Madagascar now receive far less rainfall than they did a decade ago, while other locations such as the Sahel zone have become far greener through increased rainfall.

### [Satellite technology to reduce drought risk in Kenya](#)

Satellite technology helps to monitor drought in Kenya providing detailed information about the strength, location, spatial extent and duration of the drought.

### [Slight surface movements on the radar](#)

(March 25, 2015) Scientists are making advances in the use of satellite radar data – such as those from the Sentinel-1 mission – to monitor Earth's changing surface. Italy's Phlegraean Fields – or Campi Flegrei – is a large, active volcanic area near the city of Naples near Mount Vesuvius. Since the 1970s, the ground has been rising owing to the volcanic nature of this area.

### [The Commerical UAV show](#)

2nd annual UAV exhibition welcomes 3000 visitors. A global marketplace for commercial UAVs

### [The new Mercator Ocean Quarterly Newsletter #51 \(9MB\) dedicated to sea ice modelling and data assimilation](#)

For the first time, the Mercator Ocean Forecasting Center in Toulouse and the ICE-ARC as well as IICWG projects publish together a special issue of the newsletter dedicated to sea ice modelling and data assimilation.

## UN-SPIDER Newsletter 1/15: Space-based Information for Disaster Risk Reduction

Disasters triggered by natural hazards are an unparalleled threat to sustainable development. In March 2015, experts and representatives of countries from all over the world are gathering in Sendai, Japan, to strengthen disaster risk reduction on a global scale. From this Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) a new international agreement will emerge, the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, aiming to guide national, regional, and international efforts to reduce the vulnerability and the exposure of people, infrastructures and resources to disaster risks.

## United Nations/Germany International Conference on Earth Observation – Global solutions for the challenges of sustainable development in societies at risk

(Bonn, Germany, 26-28 May 2015) 2015 will be a decisive year for the international community paving the way for sustainable development worldwide. Three important processes led by the United Nations are underway leading to three agreements expected for 2015: the Post 2015 Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (March 2015), the Sustainable Development Goals (September 2015), and the new Climate Change Agreement (December 2015).

## UrtheCast Partners With Pepsi® To Provide Innovative Earth Video Solutions For The New Pepsi Challenge™

VANCOUVER, March 11, 2015 | UrtheCast Corp. (TSX:UR) (“UrtheCast” or the “Company”) today announces that it has signed its first brand partnership, teaming with PepsiCo Inc. (“Pepsi”) to provide the world’s first full-color, Ultra High-Definition video footage of Earth captured from space for the brand’s 2015 global program, the Pepsi Challenge. Harnessing UrtheCast’s Ultra HD video technology camera suite onboard the International Space Station (ISS), Pepsi will challenge live production conventions with the first-ever, epic film adventure shot from space.

## US and UAE Ink Bilateral Space Cooperation

Officials from several departments and agencies of the United States of America and the United Arab Emirates Space Agency met in Washington, D.C., during the week of March 16-20, 2015, to review a broad list of potential areas of space cooperation.



## [What Elephants and Whales Look Like From Space](#)

When satellite companies talk about the imagery they capture, they play up how you can see big, human-made things: planes and trains and parking lots. Sometimes they might mention, too, how important sky pictures are to foresters or farmers.

## Programmes

### [Chinese Gaofen-2 earth observation satellite comes into service](#)

(March 2015) China's most advanced earth observation satellite, the Gaofen-2, was put into service after being launched in August.

### [ECMWF opens call for external evaluators for Copernicus tenders](#)

The Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service and the Copernicus Climate Change Service, which are operated by ECMWF on behalf of the European Commission, will be implemented by a network of providers who will be selected through open invitations to tender (ITTs).

### [ESA's animated documentary gives an overview of Copernicus programme](#)

Belgium, March 13, 2015: To engage with people and explain to them what Europe's Copernicus environment monitoring programme is, European Space Agency (ESA) recently released an informative animated documentary: Meet Mr Copernicus.

### [Europe's Earth observation programme maximised by UK data hub](#)

(24 March 2015) The UK is to host a world-class data facility, giving scientists full access to Earth observation data from Europe's Copernicus programme.

### [FAO and Norway to help developing countries monitor forest resources](#)

Rome: Norway and FAO have signed a NOK 35m (around \$4.5m) partnership agreement to improve the capacity of developing countries to monitor and report on their forest resources and changes in forest area.

### [France guaranteed access to Sentinel data](#)

(18 March 2015) With the second Copernicus-dedicated Sentinel satellite just months away from launch, ESA and France's CNES space agency, have signed a collaborative agreement on managing and accessing Sentinel data.

### [Happy Birthday Sentinel 1A](#)

(3 April 2015). Having orbited Earth more than 5300 times while providing radar vision for Europe's Copernicus programme, the Sentinel-1A satellite has completed a successful first year.

### [Info about Data Access from EC Copernicus Website](#)

### [Investors Watching Dollars, Not Stars in Space](#)

[Via Satellite 03-19-2015] The influx of new capital into the satellite industry is creating an understandable amount of giddiness, but investors and entrepreneurs at the "Silicon Valley, Meet SATELLITE 2015" panel brought a down-to-Earth look at the true motivations for putting money behind space ventures.

### [KOMPSAT-3A launched](#)

(Russia, March 27, 2015). KOMPSAT-3A was recently deployed in space from Yasny Launch Base, Russia. The major goal of the KOMPSAT-3A programme is to obtain imagery for GIS applications related to environment, agriculture, oceanographic studies as well as natural disasters using its 5.5m resolution IR (Infrared) sensor and 0.55m very high resolution EO (Electro-Optical).

### [PHL to launch micro-satellite in 2016](#)

ILOILO CITY, March 23 (PIA) — The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) is planning to launch the country's very own micro-satellite next year as part of the government's disaster risk management program.

### [Preparing For Operation IceBridge Arctic 2015](#)

(March 20, 2015) NASA's C-130 aircraft, one of the fleet of aircraft maintained by Wallops Flight Facility, is almost ready for the upcoming Operation IceBridge Arctic 2015 campaign, which will begin on March 17, 2015 and run

through May 22, 2015.

## [SA wants more eyes in the sky](#)

They will end our reliance on other countries' satellites and provide useful data in key areas.

## [Stay informed on Tender and Grants](#)

[Copernicus website](#) © EC

## [UK joins Sentinel collaborative ground segment](#)

(19 March 2015) ESA and the UK Space Agency have signed an arrangement that establishes access to data from the Sentinel satellites, marking a significant step in their exploitation.

## [UK Space Agency Finalizes Seven Projects... From CubeSats To e-Finance... Benefits Emerging Economies](#)

[SatNews] The UK Space Agency this week (March 26, 2015) announced seven new space projects that will see UK companies working with international partners to develop satellite technology in emerging economies.

## [United Nations General Assembly adopts resolution on Global Geospatial Information Management](#)

(05/03/2015) Delegates in the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a consensus resolution last week, by which they addressed global geospatial information management.

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