



*"The EARSC board of directors meets quarterly to progress EARSC business and to review the service it is providing to EARSC members – most recently in Stockholm in March 2010."*

## Editorial

### Welcome to the Spring 2010 edition of the EARSC EOMag!

The year has certainly got off to a very busy start both for EARSC and for the European remote sensing industry, and this is evident from the number and quality of news articles you will see in this edition of the EOMag.

[Keep reading...](#)

## Summary

## Issue 21 Spring 2010

### ▶ EARSC Activities

### [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.

### [EARSC SECRETARY GENERAL \(Part time Position\)](#)

The EARSC BoD is set to re-launch the process to recruit a Secretary General as was announced at the AGM in June 2009. The results of the Eovox 1 study and the first findings in Eovox 2 will inform the board in its quest to find the right person for the association. Members and stakeholders are invited to promote any candidates of whom they may be aware.

### [EARSC welcomes a new member!](#)

Following a Membership Campaign, the EARSC Board is glad to welcome a new Company in our Association: SES-ASTRA

### [eoVox-2: Activities in support of the value-adding sector](#)

Kicked Off!!!

### [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.

### ▶ Interview

### [Interview with Mr Norbert GLANTE, Member of the European Parliament](#)

In the next issue of EOMAG, EARSC had the opportunity to discuss with the Member of the European Parliament Mr. Norbert GLANTE some topics relevant for the European Earth Observation Initial Operations programme.

### [Interview with Mr Vittorio PRODI, Member of the European Parliament](#)

In the next issue of EOMAG, EARSC had the opportunity to discuss with the Member of the European Parliament Mr. Vittorio PRODI some topics relevant for the European Earth Observation Initial Operations programme

## ► Industry Profile

### [STARLAB – Where science turns into the technologies of the future](#)

Starlab is a private company that converts science into technologies with a profound positive impact on society and the planet. Our vision is to make science more useful, alive, vibrant, faster. With impact.

## ► Member News

### [2nd Symposium on Earth Observation Business - 9 & 10 September 2010: The Westin, Paris](#)

### [4th MFB-GeoConsulting Swiss ERDAS User Forum Schweiz am 28 April 2010](#)

MFB-GeoConsulting is pleased to inform and to invite you to the 4th ERDAS User Forum Switzerland, which will take place on 28 April 2010.

### [Aerodata Survey News](#)

March News

### [Aratos Technologies S.A. ... Kick-Off of the SEOCA Project](#)

Aratos Technologies S.A. is pleased to announce the kick-off of the European Project SEOCA on 22 April 2010, where Aratos Technologies S.A. participates as the only partner from Greece.

### [Astrium to build ESA's second Sentinel-2 satellite for GMES](#)

ESA has awarded a contract worth €105 million to Astrium to build the second Sentinel-2 satellite. Once both are operational, this pair of satellites will provide global coverage every five days, delivering high-resolution optical imagery for GMES land and emergency services.

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### [Brockmann Consult news](#)

CHRIS-Box 1.5 Add-on for BEAM 4.7 released.

### [Critical Software validates critical systems in satellite that studies climate change](#)

CryoSat-2 is set to measure thickness of the ice caps

### [Definiens Releases Update for eCognition 8](#)

eCognition support for LiDAR and Windows extended in

latest release

## [e-geos news](#)

e-GEOS at Capalbiofotografia 2010, framework contract with the European Union to supply GeoEye-1 and IKONOS very high resolution satellite data ...

### [European Space Imaging unveils first WorldView-2 images collected from its European Direct Access Facility \(DAF\)](#)

European Space Imaging a leading supplier of high-resolution satellite imagery to customers in Europe and North Africa, today released the first images collected from DigitalGlobe's advanced high-resolution satellite WorldView-2, through its Direct Access Facility located in Munich, Germany.

### [EUROSENSE makes damage assessment of critical infrastructures hit by the earthquake in Concepción, Chile.](#)

On 27 February 2010, at 3:40 local time, the earth quaked in Chile with a magnitude of 8.8 on the Richter scale. The epicenter was located at 115 kilometer north from the city of Concepción. The number of victims counted is already more than 800, an estimated two million people are homeless.

### [FLOREO project: Satellites warn of floods](#)

Gisat and Sprinx Systems with the support of Faculty of Science of Charles University turn the FLOREO services into the first operational phase. The project is making use of satellite Earth Observation that serves for improving hydrological flood forecasts of the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute (CHMI).

### [GAF AG 25th Anniversary](#)

GAF has been providing a clear view of our planet for a quarter of a century

### [Grace participates in the GMES Operational Capacity Workshop](#)

Grace Ltd participates in the GMES Operational Capacity Workshop, Sofia, Bulgaria, 25-26 March 2010.

### [Infoterra News](#)

Infoterra news: Spring, 'AssetMonitor' service, Infoterra SGSa acquires Enifosa

### [PCI Geomatics](#)

PCI News Spring 2010

### [RapidEye Collects One Billion km<sup>2</sup> of Satellite Imagery In Just Over A Year Image of Somalian-Ethiopian Border Completes Collection](#)

RapidEye, the only geospatial solutions provider to own and operate a constellation of five identical Earth Observation satellites, announced today that it has imaged one billion square kilometers of the surface of the Earth since it became commercially operational on February 4, 2009.

### [RapidEye Now Offers Several U.S. and Brazilian States On Its Geodata Kiosk](#)

#### [Brazilian States On Its Geodata Kiosk](#)

RapidEye, the only geospatial solutions provider to own and operate a constellation of five identical Earth Observation satellites, announced that more than 6.5 Million square kilometers of its satellite imagery taken over North and South America is now available on the RapidEye Geodata Kiosk.

#### [SciSys software supports European "Ice Mission"](#)

SciSys software team celebrates launch of Europe's CryoSat-2 Ice mission.

#### [SciSys wins Major Contract for the Environmental Protection Agency in Ireland](#)

SciSys plc (stock code: SSY), the specialist supplier of bespoke software systems, IT based solutions and support services is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a four year framework contract with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Ireland to provide design, development and reporting services in the areas of Regulatory Systems and GIS.

#### [SIRAL, a new-generation radar altimeter-interferometer for the CryoSat satellite](#)

Scientists worldwide are impatiently awaiting critical data to be supplied by the Thales Alenia Space-designed SIRAL interferometric radar altimeter, which will help them assess the size and thickness of polar ice and how it changes over time. By more precisely measuring its surface and changes in elevation, scientists will be able to better understand the ice cycle and our changing climate.

#### [Value Added Element \(VAE\) project EOMark addressing new and evolving opportunities for EO-based information services in the geo-marketing and retail business sector](#)

By means of EO-based information extraction and service provision, GIM will be able to deliver improved information content for the geomarketing business sector. Sophisticated image processing techniques applied on EO imagery allow to extract impartial physico-morphological information, seamless cross-boundary data, improved spatial resolution and a better control of the update frequency.

#### [VITO: EUFAR Training Courses](#)

We are pleased to inform you about the organization of the next **EUFAR FP7 Training Courses** for promoting airborne research in the European academic community

## [Earth Observation News](#)

#### [Aerial Mapping March 2010](#)

Processing the increasing volumes of imaging data resulting from today's aerial mapping technology can prove daunting, but object-based image analysis software can make it manageable.

#### [Assessing the Extent and Severity of Erosion on the Upland Organic Soils of Scotland using Earth Observation](#)

A GIFTSS Implementation Test

#### [China Eyes 20 Percent Slice Of Global Space Market By 2015](#)

China aims to snatch 20 percent of the world's space business by 2015, the president of the nation's sole satellite launch contractor said

### [China Launches New Remote Sensing Satellite](#)

Yaogan IX successfully in orbit

### [DigitalGlobe Surpasses One Billion Square Kilometers of Earth Imagery](#)

Company's Industry-Leading ImageLibrary Offers Timely Access to Highly Accurate, Current Imagery from All Corners of the Earth

### [DLR conducts ADM-Aeolus pre-launch campaign in Iceland](#)

Scientists from the German Aerospace Center's (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt; DLR) Institute of Atmospheric Physics (Institut für Physik der Atmosphäre; IPA) travelled to Iceland for the last of a series of DLR-led technology demonstration campaigns for ESA's meteorological satellite mission, ADM-Aeolus.

### [ENDELEO provides a web-based tool to monitor vegetation dynamics in Kenya](#)

Natural ecosystems in East-Africa have been changing drastically in the last decades. Drivers of these changes include climate change, population dynamics, market forces and policy changes.

### [ESA and Thales Alenia Space enter negotiations for MTG](#)

The tendering process that will result in the supply of Europe's next series of meteorological satellites, Meteosat Third Generation, has reached an advanced stage as ESA invites Thales Alenia Space to enter formal contract negotiations.

### [ESA oil and gas workshop, 14-15 September 2010](#)

We are now entering an era in earth observation characterised by a new generation of spaceborne sensors.

### [ESA's ice mission delivers first data](#)

ESA's CryoSat-2 has delivered its first data just hours after ground controllers switched on the satellite's sophisticated radar instrument for the first time. CryoSat-2 was launched on 8 April and has been performing exceptionally well during these critical first few days in orbit.

### [ESA's TIGER II to support 20 water projects in Africa](#)

ESA's TIGER II initiative has selected 20 project proposals across Africa to receive support from Earth-observation technology to learn more about the water cycle and to improve water-monitoring resources.

### [Eurockot to launch 2 ESA Earth observation missions](#)

ESA has awarded a contract to Eurockot for the launch of two of its Earth observation missions. The first will be the

next Earth Explorer: Swarm, a constellation of three satellites to study Earth's magnetic field.

### [FUSION user workshop](#)

The FUSION user workshop is scheduled on May 19, 2010 in Berlin, Germany.

### [Geoland Forum](#)

The sixth geoland Forum gathered more than 200 participants from the GMES Land community

### [GOCE data about to be released](#)

The release of the first data products to the GOCE user community through ESA's user services is imminent.

### [Going hyperspectral](#)

After several decades of research and development into hyperspectral imaging, which greatly enhances our ability to characterise the state of Earth, the technique has been embraced by the Earth-observation community and has entered the mainstream of remote sensing.

### [How Does Satellite Imagery Compare with Aerial Photography?](#)

A comparison of satellite imagery with aerial photogrammetry today must take into account advances in both approaches to the production of useful landscape and earth observation data today. Whereas most debate previously surrounded issues related to resolution and accuracy, the costs of purchasing satellite imagery have dropped substantially and satellites revisit the same location weekly or daily in some cases.

### [Integration of the Soil Database of Turkey into European Soil Database](#)

In order to extend the Soil Geographical Database to the countries of Mediterranean Basin, the implementation of soil geographical database of Turkey at 1:1 million scale was done.

### [Lockheed Martin Wins Contract To Build GeoEye-2](#)

Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company has been selected by GeoEye, Inc. to build the company's next-generation, high-resolution Earth imaging satellite system known as GeoEye-2. Financial terms are not being disclosed at this time.

### [Networking initiative supports interdisciplinary research in Earth Observation](#)

The Terrestrial Biosphere in the Earth System (TERRABITES) research network was created to provide a context that facilitates interdisciplinary cooperation for assessment of the Earth system. TERRABITES is funded by the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) programme, financed by the European Commission and supported by ESA.

### [New Eduspace website offers schools a clearer window on the world](#)

For the past 12 years, ESA's Eduspace website has been a window on the world for secondary students and teachers. Now the website has been completely

redesigned and updated, so that it provides an even more valuable introduction to Earth observation and its applications.

### [Notes from the HUMBOLDT Project](#)

The past three years have been very demanding as well as successful ones for the HUMBOLDT project which has now entered its final phase. Much has been achieved and a very good basis has finally been created for integrated development and application work.

### [OGC announces Earth Observation Profile for Web-based Catalogue Services](#)

The Open Geospatial Consortium, Inc. (OGC®) announces adoption and availability of the OGC Catalogue Services Standard Extension Package for ebRIM Application Profile: Earth Observation Products, and also the related Geography Markup Language (GML) Application Schema for EO Products.

### [Raytheon Awarded Earth Observing System Engineering Contract by NASA Goddard](#)

Raytheon Company (NYSE: RTN) was awarded a NASA Goddard contract to maintain and manage large volumes of sensing data and imagery from space instruments.

### [RI maps forests with satellite images](#)

Indonesia is intensifying efforts to map forest areas nationwide using remote-sensing satellite technology, to maximize on their role in absorbing greenhouse gas emissions, a seminar has heard.

### [Speech of the EU Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva to the GMES Workshop in Sofia](#)

At the opening of the GMES Workshop in Sofia (Bulgaria) on 25 March 2010, Kristalina Georgieva, the Bulgarian Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, addressed the participants through a videoconference.

### [Successful launch for ESA's CryoSat-2 ice satellite](#)

ESA PR 07-2010. Europe's first mission dedicated to studying the Earth's ice was launched today from Kazakhstan. From its polar orbit, CryoSat-2 will send back data leading to new insights into how ice is responding to climate change and the role it plays in our 'Earth system'.

### [SWIFT E-News n°10 - 7th April 2010](#)

### [The European Commission's Joint Research Centre, United Nations and the World Bank issue a Comprehensive Building Damage Atlas](#)

A comprehensive atlas of all damage caused in Haiti by the magnitude 7.0 earthquake on 12 January 2010 is now available to help planning recovery and reconstruction measures.

### [TIROS-1: First weather satellite 50 years ago](#)

Fifty years ago, on April 1, 1960, the first weather satellite was launched from the United States. Called TIROS-1, the Earth observation satellite saw a typhoon forming east of Australia. Today, NASA and NOAA celebrate the milestone

in the history of weather observation from space.

### [UN-SPIDER March 2010 Updates](#)

UN-Spider

### [Urban Atlas](#)

The GMES Bureau is organising an exhibition from 15th till 30th April 2010 in Brussels.

### [What is the future for low-cost data?](#)

From 2009 to 2018, emerging space programs are expected to launch 65 satellites, a four-fold increase over the previous decade10 years.

## [► Programmes](#)

### [Britain to launch executive space agency](#)

The UK formally announced its new space agency on Tuesday 23 March 2010.

### [Calls for Sentinel-2 Mission Advisory Group members](#)

On 31 March 2010 ESA launched a call for Mission Advisory Group members for the Sentinel-2 mission. The role of the Mission Advisory Group is to provide advice to ESA during development and implementation of the mission. The deadline for submission is 26 April 2010.

### [Commission creates two new Directorates-General for Energy and Climate Action](#)

The European Commission has taken a number of decisions to implement the organisational consequences of the allocation of portfolios to Commissioners.

### [Council of the EU: Conclusions on the protection of the external borders](#)

Council Conclusions on "29 measures for reinforcing the protection of the external borders and combating illegal immigration"

### [Easy Access to Satellite Weather Data](#)

Whatever the weather in Europe, come rain, storms, snow, sleet or sun, the meteorological satellite, Meteosat-9, will be observing it. Meteosat-9 is in orbit 36,000 km above the equator from where it gets a space-eye view of weather systems as they develop.

### [EC workprogramme 2010](#)

Please find here attached the EC Work Programme 2010.

### [Europe 2020: Commission proposes new economic strategy](#)

The European Commission has launched the Europe 2020 Strategy to go out of the crisis and prepare EU economy for the next decade.

### [First info on EC Communication "on the future involvement of the European Union in Space"](#)

Initial screening and planning of the Impact Assessment Board of the EC regarding the future EC Communication "on the future involvement of the European Union in Space" which should be issued in September this year.

## [GMES presented at a conference on 'Space and Security'](#)

Under the EU Spanish Presidency, Spain organised a conference on 'Space and Security' on 10-11 March 2010 in Madrid, gathering policy makers from different organisations such as ESA Member States, the EU and the European Defence Agency (EDA).

## [Signature secures future Sentinels for GMES](#)

Marking another significant step in the GMES initiative, ESA and Thales Alenia Space recently signed a contract worth €270 million to build the second Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-3 satellites.

## [The EU Council invites the Commission to report by end of 2010 on the GMES border surveillance group's conclusions](#)

The 2998th Council of Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) met in Brussels on 25-26 February 2010.

## [▶ Events](#)

### [Events Spring 2010](#)

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