

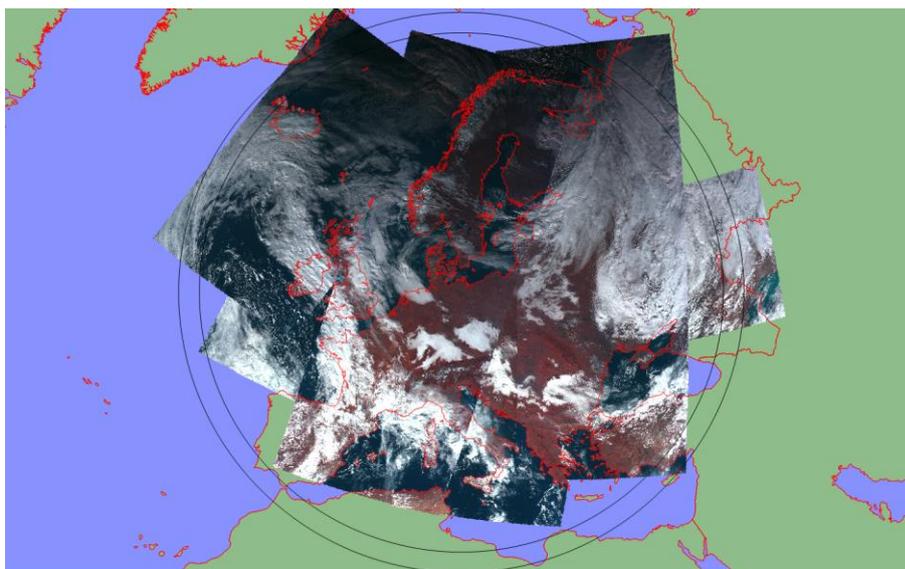
GAF operationally provides ocean colour data to ESA

GAF AG, the exclusive supplier in Europe of optical Indian Remote Sensing data from several missions, operationally provides ocean colour data from the Ocean Colour Monitor aboard the Indian Oceansat-2 in near real time to ESA.

Neustrelitz, Germany October 21, 2016

After signing respective agreements with ESA and Antrix, the commercial arm of ISRO, GAF as the prime contractor in cooperation with DLR has upgraded the ground station in Neustrelitz to accommodate the reception of data from the Ocean Colour Monitor (OCM) aboard the Oceansat-2 Indian remote sensing (IRS) satellite. The integration and relevant tests were completed in 2015 as planned.

Since the start of the operational phase on 1st January 2016, OCM data from all the satellite passes within the five degree visibility cone of the Neustrelitz ground station has been acquired, processed to create system corrected image products and geo-physical parameter products, and delivered to ESA in near real time (NRT). Thanks to the wide swath of the OCM, Europe and the surrounding waters are covered every two days.



After registration, the data can be accessed free of charge through ESA's EOLI-SA or through the Lite Dissemination Server. See earth.esa.int/web/guest/missions/3rd-party-missions/current-missions/oceansat-2

GAF's sub-contractor, the German Aerospace Agency (DLR), provides GAF with the satellite data reception service at its ground station in Neustrelitz.

The Oceansat-2 activities in Neustrelitz are funded by and carried out under the Third Party Mission programme of the European Space Agency.

The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Space Agency.



About ESA / ESRIN: www.esa.int/About_Us/ESRIN

ESRIN, the ESA Centre for Earth Observation, is one of the five ESA specialised centres situated in Europe. Located in Frascati, a small town 20 km south of Rome in Italy, ESRIN was established in 1966 and first began acquiring data from environmental satellites in the 1970s. Since 2004, ESRIN has been the headquarters for ESA's Earth observation activities.

In addition to providing users with data from its own Earth observation satellites, ESA has for many years provided users with access to a number of non-ESA EO missions – so called Third Party Missions (TPM). ESA's TPM scheme has operated for more than 30 years, providing EO data to users in Europe and around the world, and currently includes over 40 instruments on more than 35 missions.

About DLR: www.dlr.de/eoc/

The German Remote Sensing Data Center (DFD) is an institute of the German Aerospace Center (DLR). Together with the centre's Remote Sensing Technology Institute (IMF), it comprises DLR's Earth Observation Center (EOC), which coordinates DLR's activities relating to Earth observation data from satellites and aircraft. DFD focuses on the reception, archiving, distribution and utilisation of data.

In addition to applied research, DFD has expertise in the development and operation of satellite ground systems.

About GAF AG: www.gaf.de

GAF is a leading geo-information company with an international reputation as a skilled provider of data, products and services in the fields of geo-information, spatial IT and consulting for private and public clients. As a result of a merger with its former subsidiary Euromap GmbH, GAF has become the exclusive supplier in Europe of optical Indian Remote Sensing data from several missions. The company's archives contain systematic coverage of Europe and northern Africa from 1996 and onwards, and include satellite raw data from the high and medium resolution IRS missions IRS-1C, IRS-1D, Resourcesat-1, Resourcesat-2 and Cartosat-1. GAF is also specialised in the production of orthoimage mosaics and digital elevation models from various high and very-high resolution satellite missions. The company is part of the Telespazio Group, which belongs to Leonardo and Thales, two major European technology firms.

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