



July 2009

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NEREUS diary

Autumn Symposium

On the occasion of the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Galileo telescope, the Veneto Region will host a NEREUS Symposium in the second half of November 2009. At this meeting the NEREUS Working Groups will present their first interim results. Some of them will also present the first conclusions of their mapping exercise, a picture of thematic convergences between the regions will be drawn, and Member Regions will have the opportunity to make individual presentations.

European Parliament Evening

On 17 November 2009 NEREUS will organise an evening cocktail party at the European Parliament in Brussels.

More details will be provided soon. In the meantime please make sure you enter this date in your diaries!

Next Annual General Assembly

In 2010 the NEREUS General Assembly will take place in Grenada, Andalusia, in the second week of April, during the Spanish Presidency of the EU.

Editor's note

Dear NEREUS Community,

During the last weeks we have noted with great satisfaction how dynamic and promising the NEREUS initiative has become.

In most parts of the Network things are moving forward: partners mobilized projects at very short notice, and the NEREUS Working Groups engaged in an in-depth work on policy papers and their first mapping exercise.

At the political level the dialogue with the European Institutions has been launched, and we have had several opportunities to emphasize the role and impact of regions with regard to space policy and programmes. Our President, Alain Bénétteau, and Vice President, Angelo Michele Iorio, met with Commissioner for Transport, Antonio Tajani, to

(to be continued on page 2) **1**

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Editor's note

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introduce the NEREUS initiative. At the operational level (head of unit) different meetings took place with the relevant Commission services. Strong links with the space community at EU level have been set up, and ESA and NEREUS maintain contact on a regular basis.

A good communication strategy is essential to ensure that our Members draw benefits from the Network. To ensure that information flows fluently, we will provide three main tools: regular news alerts by email, quarterly newsletters and the NEREUS web site. We are about to contract a web site provider to create the NEREUS web site over the summer. However, nothing can replace personal contact and face-to-face meetings. This is why our next key event will bring us together in the Veneto Region in the autumn.

I am very much looking forward to welcoming you on the occasion of the next NEREUS event and in the mean time I hope you enjoy reading the first issue of the NEREUS newsletter.

Roya Ayazi,
Secretary General

Good practices: the Metro de Madrid example

Recently, on the occasion of the European Week in Madrid, the underground station Nuevos Ministerios hosted the exhibition Innovación Aeroespacial, un futuro en el que todos creamos (Aerospace Innovation, a future we all believe in).

The exhibition which aimed to give the general public a taste of the innovative applications space technologies can bring into their every day lives - could be set as an example of good practices in communication between the regions and their citizens.

Organised by the Spanish DG for European Affairs, IMADE – the Madrid development institute – and the Aerospace Cluster, it brought together the leading Spanish players in space technologies.

EADS CASA Espacio, ETSIA (the Higher School of Aeronautics Engineering of the Madrid university), the European Space Agency, CSIC (the national agency

for scientific research and innovation), INTA (the national institute for aerospace technique), CAB (the national centre of astrobiology associated with the NASA Astrobiology Institute) joined forces with Metro de Madrid, the public transport company which operates the Madrid underground, to present their activities and some of their achievements: models of the Ariane 5 Launcher, the XMM-Newton telescope, the HISPASAT and SMOS satellites, pictures and murals explaining the formation of galaxies and stars, as well as presentations of several projects Metro de Madrid runs in cooperation with universities, enterprises and the European Union.

With 2,5 million passengers a day the Madrid underground provided exceptional scale and outreach for this exhibition, making it a model other regions or potential event organisers may want to follow.

With a turnover of 5,341 million EUR Spain ranks among the five leading aerospace nations of Europe. 65% of the Spanish aerospace activities are conducted in the Community of Madrid. The Community of Madrid is a sponsor of the European Satellite Navigation Competition (see page 7).

Projects and Activities

ENERGIC

In May 2009 the NEREUS platform mobilised its first consortium for the ENERGIC (European Network of Regional Geospatial Information Centres) project in the area of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme/ ICT Policy Support Programme, a 3 million EUR project which will run over 36 months.

The objective of the project is to set up a network of existing and future regional centres for geospatial information, in order to exchange information and support the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive.

At the initiative of CCI GERS (Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Gers, a NEREUS Associate Member from the Midi-Pyrénées Region) a strong project proposal was prepared at a fairly short notice.

Among the 13 partners the project brings together 11 are NEREUS members, representing 8 Member States (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain and the U.K.).

Satellite Broadband for All

When adopting the European Economic Recovery Package (EERP) on 19 March 2009, the European Heads of States provided for an allocation 1.02 billion EUR to promote access to broadband. The “Broadband for All” recommendation of the European Commission aims to connect farmers, rural businesses and households, administrations and schools to the web before the end of 2010, using broadband connectivity via satellite. The 1.02 billion EUR come on top of the 15 billion already available under the European regional, social and agricultural development funds for investments in ICT’s to be contracted before the end of December 2013.

“By using a part of the EU’s financial package to help people to invest in their ground equipment, we could connect a million extra businesses or households in rural areas by the end of 2010” said Giuliano Berretta, Chairman of European Satellite Operators Association (ESOA).

At present 30% of rural communities enjoy no broadband access at all.

Enough satellite capacity is already in place, the only expenditure to be made is for ground equipment (antenna and modem) and is worth 500 EUR per user. Even for the most remote and difficult areas there are no extra deployment or infrastructure costs. The price of the monthly subscription ranges between 30 and 60 EUR, depending on the performance, in line with other types of connections. A single satellite connection is required for each user. A user is an individual or a group (such as a school or a small business) who can for instance share a local WiFi network.

NEREUS supports the campaign of ESOA and ESA in favour of Satellite Broadband.

For more information please visit www.esoa.net and www.telecom.esa.int.

The NEREUS Working Groups

Earth Observation/GMES WG

Launched in March 2009 EO/GMES WG met on 22 May in the Azores. The meeting attracted 25 participants from 11 Member Regions of 7 European countries.

The contributions made during the Azores meeting provided material for an analysis of regional expertise, interests and priorities, and led to the creation

of three sub-groups for Land Applications, Maritime Oceanography, and Security and Hazard Response. No direct interest was registered for an atmospheric topic which would come up nevertheless in the Land Applications sub-group. Thematic convergences between the regions were noted.

A common template for collecting data from each region is being jointly prepared by the WG and the NEREUS Secretariat. The final mapping results will be presented at the NEREUS Autumn Symposium.

The EO/GMES WG will meet again on 11 September 2009 in Leicester, East Midlands.

To join this WG, contribute or receive information, please contact:

Prof Alan Wells: Alan.Wells@star.le.ac.uk

Ms Sonia Nicolau: Sonia.CF.Nicolau@azores.gov.pt

GNSS WG

GNSS WG works to better exploit the GNSS services offered by GALILEO for the benefit of regions, as well as to provide input into the European policy process.

At the last meeting of GNSS WG on 09 July 2009 in Brussels, Mr Boris Kennes, representative of

the European GNSS Supervisory Authority (GSA), presented the work of the Community agency.

The European GSA manages all public interests related to European GNSS programmes.

(For more information:
(<http://www.gsa.europa.eu/go/gsa/overview>)

GNSS WG is currently working on a strategy paper on "Regional Approach to European GNSS".

It will communicate by telephone conference after the summer break before it meets again at the Autumn Symposium in November 2009.

To join this WG, contribute or receive more information, please contact:

Dr. ing. Pierpaolo Campostrini: campostrini@corila.it

Ms Marianna Morelli: morelli@corila.it

The NEREUS Working Groups

Telecommunication WG

Telecommunication WG is compiling information on end users' needs in terms of satellite communications and

applications, their economic impact and how they could be brought more efficiently to the public.

To join this WG, contribute or receive information, please contact:
Mr Joachim Baldermann: Joachim.Baldermann@bruessel.bwl.de

Education, Training and Communication WG

Education, Training and Communication WG is a platform for exchanging knowledge and

learning on the European educational potential of space applications, training in space

technologies and HR services to enterprises.

To join this WG, contribute or receive information, please contact:
Mr Jorge Izquierdo: jorge.izquierdo@adeuropa.org

Interreg IVc Task Force

Interreg IVc TF is a horizontal group working to develop projects through the EU's INTERREG IV programme for inter-regional cooperation. At its second meeting on 16 June 2009 the TF discussed ideas for

“capitalisation projects” with regard to the upcoming call at the end of 2009. An ad hoc group was created to elaborate the first draft of a project idea, complete with work plan and time frame. The TF participants highlighted

the need for strategic lobbying of the European Institutions and for strong regional participation. The ad hoc group will meet before the summer break at a date and place to be advised soon.

To join the TF, contribute or receive information, please contact:
Ms Birgit Urban: birgit.urban@eulv.brandenburg.de
Mr Lucio Bernardini Papalia: lucio.bernardini@regione.basilicata.it

Events Calendar

10 September 2009
Bremen – Germany

**Conference on Container
Security**

Containers play a significant part in international trade. Improving the security of container transport requires integrated research in risk assessment, traceability, trans-national exchanges, fast and effective screening, etc... The European Commission supports the development of solutions to improve both the container and supply chain security and the competitiveness of the European economic players.



Registration:
<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/security/csc.htm>

**21-25 September 2009 and
28 September-2 October 2009**
Labège - France

Space Technology Course

As an introduction to the techniques and technology used for building and operating spacecraft, these 2-week courses have been designed for both beginners and experienced engineers who wish to broaden their knowledge. They are taught in French, with simultaneous translation into English for groups of minimum 10 participants.



Information and Registration:
<http://cnes.cborg.net/ttvs2009/>

08-11 June 2010
Toulouse - France

Toulouse Space Show

The 2nd edition of the Toulouse Space Show will feature SPACE APPLI, TECHNO DIS, SPACE ECO, NEREUS WORKSHOP, S@TCOM CONFERENCE and many more events, together with an international exhibition and B2B meetings. In 2008 the 1st edition attracted over 1,200 experts from 43 countries, 102 international exhibitors and 800 visitors from 15 countries.

Exhibition & B2B meetings:
BCI Aerospace
svarenne@adhes.com



Information:
contact@toulousspaceshow.eu
<http://www.toulousspaceshow.eu/>

Young Professionals

The JAXA International Top Young Fellowship

The Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS) of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) is inviting applications from outstanding, highly motivated, young researchers for its prestigious new JAXA International Top Young Fellowship.

The fellowship is for three years, with a possible extension to five, at the Sagami-hara Campus of ISAS.

Generous financial terms are offered (780,000 JPY per month, plus support of travel and research expenses, lodging at the JAXA boarding house or housing allowance and social insurance).

Applicants should hold a PhD and have no more than 8 years of postdoctoral experience.

To apply, please submit by 15 July 2009:

- your curriculum vitae
- an outline of the work done and plans for future research
- a list of achievements and publications
- three major research papers
- letters from three referees to young_fellowship@jaxa.jp (pdf preferred)

Information: www.isas.jaxa.jp/e/researchers/young_fellowship/index.shtml

Announcements

European Satellite Navigation COMPETITION 2009

01 May -31 July

Submit your idea for innovative satellite navigation applications and win the GALILEO Master 2010! The main prize will be a 20,000 EUR grant awarded by the Anwendungszentrum GmbH Oberpfaffenhofen and the European GNSS Supervisory Authority (GSA).

You may also win the opportunity to enter a 6-month incubation programme to develop your idea in your selected region.

The competition is open to companies, entrepreneurs, research institutes, universities and individuals. It is sponsored by industrial and institutional partners from high-tech regions from all over the world. Ideas can be submitted for both regional evaluation and for consideration for one of the special topic prizes.

The regional prizes are offered by Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, Gipuzkoa, Hessen, Madrid, Nice-

Sophia Antipolis, North-Rhine Westphalia, Queensland (Australia), South Holland, Switzerland and Taipei (Taiwan).

To enter the European Satellite Navigation COMPETITION 2009, register by 31 July 2009 using: www.galileo-masters.eu

Announcements

Toulouse Space Show 2010 – CALL FOR PAPERS

Toulouse Space Show 2010 is now inviting interested authors to submit abstracts in the following topics:

- **SPACE APPLI '10**

The 3rd International Conference on Space Applications (8-11 June) will cover environment, health and economic development, focusing on the increasing role of new satellite based applications in our every day lives. One half day will be devoted to GMES, GALILEO and ICT's; the rest of the meeting will cover:

- Resources/Sustainable Development: agriculture, forestry, hydrology, town planning, halieutics, impact of climate change;

- Transport and Mobility: ground transport (passengers), maritime transport (goods), air transport and pedestrian mobility.

- **TECHNO DIS**

The 2nd Conference on Disruptive Technologies in Space Activities (09-11 June) will bring together participants from all major space nations, including China, India,

Russia and Ukraine. All areas of space activities will be covered, from disruptive technologies relating to launchers to innovative terrestrial applications.

- **SPACE ECO '10**

To acknowledge the growing importance of space applications the 1st Space and Economy Symposium will look at the business aspects of space activities and will investigate all fields of risk management, financing, stock markets, competition, etc..

- **NEREUS Workshop**

The NEREUS Working Groups will organize round tables focusing on the achievements of their first activity year. They will then merge with representatives of regional authorities, institutions and end users to hear presentations on:

- preparation and implementation by/with regions and institutions of

projects and services using space technologies, feedback from these projects;

- expression of territorial and regional needs;

- search for regional and institutional synergies at European and international level, setting up of partnerships and cooperation schemes.

To be valid, abstracts must be submitted on line by 15 October 2009, using exclusively: www.toulousespaceshow.eu

Abstracts should be in English, no more than one A4 page long, using Times New Roman 11, in pdf format. Scanned files are not allowed. Each abstract should include the title of the paper, the first and last names of the author(s) and the email and postal address(es) of the author(s).

NEREUS a.i.s.b.l. is a not for profit international association incorporated under Belgian law (enterprise nr 898.367.280) in April 2008 to promote the use of space applications and emphasize the role of regions in space programmes and policies. It is financially independent and is funded by membership fees. Currently it counts 22 Member Regions and 19 Associate Members from all over Europe.