

ESA and GAF AG continue offering free-of-charge access to DSMs, high-resolution and medium-resolution data via the Third Party Mission Scheme

Munich/Neustrelitz, Germany, 19 April 2021: ESA and GAF AG will continue to provide free-of-charge access to DSMs, high-resolution and medium-resolution data for scientific users. In January 2021, they extended their agreement about the provision of IRS data and DSMs as Third Party Mission (TPM) data until the end of 2021 or until full consumption of the budget, whichever occurs first.

Therefore, depending on the scientific relevance of their proposals, ESA will continue to grant scientists free-of-charge access to IRS optical HR/MR satellite imagery and DSMs. ESA and GAF are the exclusive suppliers in Europe of optical Indian remote sensing satellite (IRS) data from several missions. They started this unique service in May 2017, funded by and carried out under the Third Party Mission (TPM) scheme of the European Space Agency.

The agreement encompasses European as well as worldwide products from archive data from the IRS-1C, IRS-1D Resourcesat-1 and Cartosat-1 missions, as well as archive and fresh data from Resourcesat-2, continuously acquired since 1996.

Interested scientists can submit short project proposals, together with associated data requirements, to ESA. Depending on the scientific relevance of the proposal, ESA will grant the project a quota for IRS data products.

This allows access at no charge to high-resolution data from the PAN, LISS-IV Mono and LISS-III sensors as well as medium-resolution data from the WiFS and AWiFS sensors, from 1996 until today. Data can be obtained at various processing levels, including as Euro-Maps 3D Digital Surface Models (DSMs) with 5 m post spacing.

For more information, please visit [ESA's Third Party Missions page](#) or contact GAF's customer support via tpm@gaf.de.

As a result of an earlier agreement, Oceansat-2 ocean color monitor (OCM) data acquired at the Neustrelitz ground station is also available free-of-charge to all users worldwide through the [ESA TPM Online Dissemination System](#). For more information about OCM data, see <https://earth.esa.int/eogateway/missions/oceansat-2>.

The data provision activities are funded by and carried out under the European Space Agency's Earthnet programme and its Third Party Mission activities.

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 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.

For more information, please contact:

GAF AG

Daniela Miller

Arnulfstr.199, 80634 Munich

Tel. +49 89 12 15 28-0

info@gaf.de // www.gaf.de