

## National Polar-Orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS)

Peter A. Wilczynski

Senior Technical Policy Advisor

to the

Program Executive Officer for Environmental Satellites

May 2008

# **NPOESS Program Status**

- NPOESS has completed restructure and is executing to rebaseline contract
- Performance on NPOESS Engineering, Manufacturing & Development program
  - On schedule and budget for last two years
  - Contract modification signed in July 2007
  - On track to deliver essential weather measurements and 14 of 26 essential climate variables
  - System capacity to accommodate de-manifested sensors and other sensors to provide additional monitoring
    - Currently re-manifesting OMPS-Limb and CERES on NPP

# NPOESS remains on track for Jan 2013 launch of C1 spacecraft

# **Program Schedule**

As of March 2008



NPOESS C-3 and C-4: Production units to be incrementally funded

3

### **NPOESS 12 Month Schedule**

As of March 2008



#### **Continuity of Polar Operational Satellite Programs**

**Calendar Year** 



# NPOESS International Initiatives With Eumetsat & JAXA

### Why?

#### **Overview of Nunn-McCurdy Changes to NPOESS Program**

	<i>Pre</i> Nunn-McCurdy	<i>Post</i> Nunn-McCurdy *
Number of Satellites	6	4
Number of Sensors	16	9
Number of Orbits	3	2
First Launch	2010	2013
Satellite Life Expectancy	7 Years	7 Years
Final Satellite on Orbit	2024	2026

- Restructured program provides for continuity of weather measurements
- Restructured program does not include the following climate measurements:
  - Atmospheric aerosols and ozone
  - Solar environment
  - -Sea surface height (via altimetry)

\* As documented in the DoD Acquisition Decision Memorandum dated June 5, 2006

## McMurdo Overview for MetOp Data Recovery





# **High Level Responsibilities**

- IPO Project Sponsor/Coordinator
  - SafetyNet<sup>™</sup> receptor procurement, installation, test, and operations via NGST/Raytheon
  - Off-ice communications via NGST/Raytheon/Optus/AT&T
- NASA McMurdo Ground Station owner/operator
  - MGS (MG1 and MG2) procurement, installation, test, operations and scheduling, maintenance, and sustainment
    - Will eventually includes maintenance of NPOESS' McMurdo receptors
- US National Science Foundation (NSF) On-ice logistics, facilities and infrastructure (including on-ice comm services)

### **NPOESS/NOAA & JAXA Cooperation**

Svalbard to Provide C3S Support to JAXA for GCOM-W1 and C1

- Proposed GCOM W-1 C3 Architecture:
  - NOAA provides Ground Station Services at Svalbard
    - Communication link for mission data to NSOF
    - Interface to Asian-Pacific Advanced Network (APAN)
  - JAXA provides T&C thru own communication link



# What are the User Benefits?

- Mary M. Glackin's Letter on <u>User Interest in data from</u> <u>JAXA's GCOM - Oct 22, 2007</u>
  - "...Due to program restructure of NPOESS, some requirements will not be provided by NPOESS..."
  - "Research and foreign sources could provide very useful data to supplement our critical data needs provided by NPOESS."
  - "...This interest in GCOM data does not constitute a commitment to use the data nor does it imply planning, programming, or funding actions to receive, process, exploit, or disseminate these data."

# **User Benefits (cont.)**

#### • AMSR-2 Benefits:

- AMSR-2 will provide continuity of oceanographic and maritime meteorological data currently provided by NASA's Aqua satellite.
- These measurements have proven valuable for numerical weather prediction in areas over the open oceans which subsequently impact medium to long range weather forecasting in coastal regions.
- Precipitation data from this instrument will aid tropical and extratropical forecasting of major storm systems threatening human safety, and damage to coastal infrastructures
- These global microwave imaging and sounding data have also been identified by the National Academies of Science Decadal Survey as critical to our understanding of the ocean-atmosphere interactions driving global climate change.
- AMSR-2 will provide intercalibration opportunities with other microwave imagers to develop consistent microwave measurements needed for weather and climate applications

#### • ATMS AMSR-2 Blended Products Benefits:

- Improved microwave surface products by using ATMS to correct for atmospheric effects
- Improved ATMS sounding products by better characterizing surface emission.
- SGLI Benefits:
  - As a complement to NPP and NPOESS advanced Visible and IR imaging capability, SGLI will complete a balanced nominal coverage of the earth every 4-hours
  - High resolution data requires both low data latencies and high data refresh in order to be most useful for weather forecasting.
  - The benefits of such fine scale, high temporal weather forecasting include cloud and precipitation forecasting, faster identification of hazardous weather conditions, smoke, and volcanic ash.
  - Oceanographic benefits include improved ocean current analysis and forecast, fine scale ocean color, turbidity, and sea state.
  - These global high resolution Vis/IR imaging capabilities have also been identified by the National Academies of Science Decadal Survey as critical to our understanding of the ocean-atmosphere interactions driving global climate change.
- GCOM Direct Readout Data Interest:
  - US Users are interested in receiving regional data directly from the GCOM spacecraft as they pass over receiving sites within the US territory and abroad.
  - Direct data receipt from NASA's EOS missions has proven to be useful

# **NOAA's Conclusion**

- Users recognize benefits of GCOM as a supplement to NPOESS and an opportunity to achieve some important objectives from the Decadal Survey
- NOAA and JAXA will gain capability without a formidable financial investment
  - This includes long-term mission collaboration (i.e., satellite phasing decisions, satellite sensor co-registration, etc) and data sharing
  - Operationalize a new "A" train in the 1330 orbit, Ocean color and improved aerosols in 10:30 orbit
  - This partnership could be used as an example for future international cooperation
- Working together with JAXA to establish optimal satellite phasing for NPP, GCOM W-1 and NPOESS C1
- NESDIS STAR, JAXA, NPOESS and JMA to form science team

# Summary

- Program restructured in July to complete EMD
  - Integrated Master Schedule out through 2016
- Substantial progress real hardware delivered

![](_page_14_Picture_4.jpeg)

- Command and Control System complete & installed at NOAA Satellite Operations facility
- Data Processing System completed 4 of 5 software builds; ready to handle weather and climate data
- NPOESS Sensor EDU integration onto NPP spacecraft on plan to support launch
- Sensor Flight Hardware completing rigorous testing
- Operational Space Segment development on track for implementing Nation's next generation environmental monitoring system
- International cooperation and collaboration is essential
  - MetOp data recovery from McMurdo will significantly improve data timeliness
  - NPOESS/NOAA & GCOM cooperation is occurring at many levels