

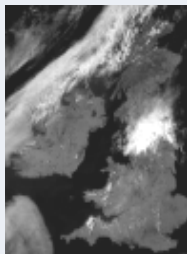
## This Edition

- GMES Update
- New Committee
- DTI Reorganisation

### Meeting to provide input into future EO National Programmes

An open meeting will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup> for BARSC to structure and draw together its inputs to BNSC as to the priorities for the next EO National Programme. This follows on from a brief session prior to the AGM in April where members raised issues such as the importance of making government customers aware of the possibilities of EO, dual usage and working with NERC.

Venue: NPA offices  
in Edenbridge, Kent  
Time: 11:00 - 13:00



If you will be attending please let Lois Proud know (loisproud@aol.com).



## GMES Update: Mixed UK Fortunes

At the pre-AGM meeting, Mike Grimmett of BNSC gave an overview of the UK's status in the EC/ESA GMES initiative. Whilst the UK has been very successful in the EC Framework 5 projects that are providing input to the EC document that will define GMES (due late 2003), the UK has had a disappointing showing in the recent ESA GMES Services Element 'GSE' round.

The UK is priming one GSE project, 'Terra Firma', lead by NPA, and playing small roles in seven of the remaining nine projects. In contrast, there are three French, and two German lead projects. BARSC members felt that some strong proposals, with good user input, had not been selected. BNSC will be going to ESRIN to receive generic feedback on the UK bids. Mike promised to make the results of this meeting available.

Mike also asked for more visibility of UK involvement in GMES. He was still not aware of how many UK bids to the ESA GSE Call had been made, and what UK proposals have been submitted to the recent and upcoming Framework 6 programme. Please Email Mike at: [mike.grimmett@bns.csi.gov.uk](mailto:mike.grimmett@bns.csi.gov.uk)

Full information on the 10 successful GSE Bids is available at: <http://earth.esa.int/gmes>

The EC GMES website was recently launched at: <http://www.gmes.info>

## New Committee in place

### Committee members elected at the April 2003 AGM

Chair	Richard Saull	01249 466491	<a href="mailto:richard.saull@scisys.co.uk">richard.saull@scisys.co.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Robert Ringrose	01252 394143	<a href="mailto:rringrose@qinetiq.com">rringrose@qinetiq.com</a>
Past Chair	Tom Allan	01483 421213	<a href="mailto:tom@satobsys.co.uk">tom@satobsys.co.uk</a>
Secretary	Matthew Stuttard	01372 369786	<a href="mailto:matthew.stuttard@logicacmg.com">matthew.stuttard@logicacmg.com</a>
Treasurer	Alistair Lamb	01252 362058	<a href="mailto:alistair.lamb@infoterra-global.com">alistair.lamb@infoterra-global.com</a>
Members:	Tony Sephton	01438 773591	<a href="mailto:tony.sephton@astrium-space.com">tony.sephton@astrium-space.com</a>
	Nigel Press	01732 865023	<a href="mailto:nigel@npagroup.com">nigel@npagroup.com</a>
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# DTI Reorganisation



## What is happening?

The way BNSC will be able to support industry is changing. Currently, BNSC is unable to fund any new projects or programmes until new arrangements are put in place, probably for April 2004. This is because the DTI is undergoing a fundamental reorganisation of how it supports industry. Patricia Hewitt has asked DTI to focus their business on 25 Business Planning objectives, with a small number of 'instruments' or schemes to deliver the support to industry.

BNSC is now part of the DTI Innovation Group, lead by David Hughes, who has joined DTI directly from Industry (BAE Systems).

Christine Adams, who is a secondee from SIRA to BNSC, has been tasked with finding out as much as possible about the new arrangements within DTI and how BNSC will work in the future. BNSC are writing a 'Space Business Plan' to bid for money from the DTI vote. This will form the basis of any national funding for Earth Observation, with the exception of ESA EO Science programmes, which are now funded via NERC.

BARSC is working with BNSC to help put together the content and focus of any future EO funding, whatever the funding method. See elsewhere in this Newsletter for information on events where you can have your say.

## GIS SOLUTIONS 2003

Ian Downey will be running the BNSC stand at GIS Solutions 2003 very much along the lines of last year. If you have any Earth observation applications you wish to showcase, please contact him at: [ian.downey@bns.csi.gov.uk](mailto:ian.downey@bns.csi.gov.uk)

# Thought for the day

## Whatever happened to chequebook shutter control?

Whatever your views on the war in Iraq, the media coverage of Earth observation has revealed a number of things. Firstly, the media simply are not aware of how EO can spice up their broadcasts – if I see that fly into Baghdad from the southwest, clearly made up of low resolution data, once more on the BBC, I may invoke Bruce Springsteen's solution – the .44 Magnum (Fifty-seven channels and nothin' on...). But why is this? During the action in Afghanistan, the US authorities famously restricted the distribution of Ikonos data by buying all the satellite airtime, and perhaps the media expected the same this time. Alternatively, they simply don't have the systems that are capable of managing geospatial data in three dimensions that are now commonly available, or is it all too expensive?

More seriously, does the lack of shutter control in the current conflict signal a new era in the availability of timely, detailed, EO data for public use, whatever the subject...?

**Richard Saul**



**Crossed Sword Archway – Baghdad**

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