

Mission Status Report 3

Reference Period: 27 Feb – 4 March 2016

sentinel-3

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Mission status

- The overall mission status is nominal.
- The Payload In-orbit Verification (P/L IOV) has been completed on 4 March 2016.
- All instruments are ON using the nominal side and are providing data as expected for this stage; SLSTR is still in decontamination mode, as planned.
- The second in-plane maneuver to reach the reference orbit has been successfully performed. Sentinel-3A is now flying within the +/- 1km band around its reference orbit.
- Acquisitions at the X-Band ground station in Svalbard continue successfully without interruption.

Satellite

- All subsystems and units are operating nominally.
- The spacecraft (S/C) is in NORMAL mode, the high bit rate for telemetry and Attitude and Orbit Control System (AOCS) is in NOMINAL mode (geodetic with yaw steering).
- All instruments are functioning well and are now in nominal measurement modes, with the (expected) exception of the SLSTR cool-down which will be performed and verified after completed decontamination.
- Extensive calibration exercises have started to verify the performance of all instruments.

Ground Segment

- The FOS ground segment is nominal. Contacts scheduling is nominal with 10 passes per day over Kiruna, Svalbard or Troll, and EUMETSAT continues to listen in.
- The Payload Data Ground Segment commissioning continues as planned.
- The Core Ground station (CGS) service is nominal.
- Housekeeping telemetry (HK TM) circulation to ESA and EUMETSAT FOS is nominal.
- Level 0 production continues successfully for all instruments at the Core Ground Station in Svalbard and at EUMETSAT's marine centre.
- Mission planning continues successfully providing updates of the Nominal Payload Planning File (NPPF) to allow the on-board commanding of data download to the X-band station.

Outlook

- S3A is ready to start the Cal/Val phase on Monday 7 March.
- Extensive calibration exercises have started to verify the performance of all instruments.
 - OLCI: calibrations and operations in nominal measurement mode continue,
 - SRAL: operating in closed-loop Low Resolution Mode (LRM-CL),
 - SLSTR: decontamination heating continues, scanning is enabled and measurement data of the three visual channels is provided.
- MWR, GNSS and DORIS nominal measurements continue.

User interface and communication

Users will be informed about the availability of sample data and their distribution in due time.