

The Global Geodetic Observing System and the International GNSS Service (igs)

Ruth E. NEILAN, United States of America
John M. DOW, Germany
Steven S. FISHER, United States of America
Chris RIZOS, Australia
Markus ROTHACHER, Switzerland

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SUMMARY

The IGS is one of the critical components of the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS). The IGS is a scientific service of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG), that pools resources of over 200 organizations in 90 countries to make GNSS data and products openly and widely available at the most precise level. A key focus of the IGS is the densification of the global reference frame the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF) and extending this global grid as a common reference in cooperation with many National Mapping Agencies. Having a precise and accurate reference frame is necessary so that observations of Earth change can be linked globally, through time and space, in a unique and unambiguous way. This presentation will give an overview of IGS and its contributions to GGOS, partnerships with FIG and highlight some of the more recent technical developments within the IGS important for global change, such as IGS reprocessing, contributions to the new ITRF 2008, real-time activities, and IGS cooperation with regional reference realizations such as Asian-Pacific Reference Frame (APREF) and Unification of African Reference Frames (AFREF).

CONTACT:

Ruth Neilan
ruth.neilan@jpl.nasa.gov
IGS Central Bureau
Jet Propulsion laboratory
MS 238-540
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, CA 91109
818-354-8330