

ESRIN



ESRIN is ESA's lead centre for Earth Observation and conducted numerous activities in this field in 2005. It also hosted about 20 000 participants for high-level scientific workshops, industrial meetings and reviews as well as VIP visits.

As an example, ESRIN hosted the MERIS and FRINGE workshops with a very high participation of worldwide scientists, as well as two co-location meetings of GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security). ESRIN made a major contribution to the Earth and Space Week event jointly organised with the European Commission in February in Brussels, where demonstrators of GMES Services developed by ESA and the Commission were presented. During the same week ESA also participated in the high-level Earth Observation Summit in Brussels.

In March during the Italian Science Week, an Open Day was organised for the general public and attracted the participation of over 1000 students. Over 80 school visits were organised during the year as well as numerous visits for VIPs (e.g. Korean and Chinese Space Agencies) and decision-makers (Members of Parliament, the CSU delegation from the Bavarian Government and Parliament, EU Satellite Centre, European Commission Representatives, etc.).

An agreement with the Italian CNR (Centro Nazionale delle Ricerche) was signed in June to cover cooperation in the field of broadband connectivity and the bilateral agreement with the Tor Vergata University in Rome was renewed, including in particular the hosting of well-qualified PhD students and post-doctoral fellows at



The MERIS/AATSR Workshop at ESRIN on 26-30 September



ESA astronaut Paolo Nespoli talking with students at the ESRIN Open Day on 14 March



Signature of the ESA-JRC Agreement at ESRIN on 26 October by Volker Liebig (left), ESA's Director of Earth Observation, and Freddy Dezeure (right), Head of JRC's Corporate Development Unit

ESRIN for research in the field of advanced ERS and Envisat SAR applications.

Five incubators for the start-up of Small and Medium Enterprises have been hosted since July at ESRIN,

following the agreement signed between ESA and BIC Lazio (Business Innovation Centre for the Lazio Region).

In October ESRIN signed an agreement with the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC), concerning the development of space-based information services and the access to and provision of Earth Observation data.

ESRIN served as the main centre for the retransmission event for the Cryosat launch. The Dutch Minister for Economic Affairs, Laurens Jan Brinkhorst, and the Italian Minister of Education, Universities and Research, Guido Possa, participated in the event together with over 400 VIPs, decision-makers, scientists and industry representatives. Launch retransmission events were organised for all ESA missions and the site also hosted numerous TV companies for dedicated interviews and reportages (e.g. Arte TV Channel).

A new ESRIN web site was launched in 2005, including a virtual tour of the site and facilities.



The CryoSat launch event at ESRIN