

## The EPS/Metop and EPS-SG/Metop-SG Systems Instructions for the

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### ABSTRACT

With the EUMETSAT Polar System (EPS), Europe is providing the contribution to the Global Meteorological Satellite Observing System in the Polar mid-morning orbit. EPS is part of the Initial Joint Polar System (IJPS) with the US. Three Metop satellites with a nominal lifetime of five years constitute the space segment; the first was launched on 19 October 2006, and is still providing full service to the User community for operational meteorology, climate monitoring and atmospheric composition monitoring. The second satellite, Metop-B was launched in September 2012 to assure the continuity of the system. A third Metop (Metop-C) satellite is scheduled for launch in October 2018, which will assure more than 20 years of operations. EUMETSAT is preparing the EPS Second Generation system, which will provide enhanced capabilities with a twin satellite system. Two series of three satellites will assure operational services over more than 21 years from 2021 onwards, in the frame of a Joint Polar System (JPS) with the US. The presentation will elaborate on both the current EPS system and also on the future EPS Second Generation system and inform on their Metop and Metop-SG satellites, the payloads, the system components and services, their current status and present the plans for the new system.