

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL GEODETIC OBSERVING SYSTEM RESOURCES OF THE INTERNATIONAL GPS SERVICE (IGS)

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The IGS views the Global Positioning System (GPS) as an incredibly versatile tool for geodesy and geophysics and an increasing number of applications in other fields. There is clear recognition that GPS is, and will continue to be, a fundamental measuring system with truly global accessibility. The evolving utilization of GPS will certainly be key in the integration of a 'Global Geodetic Observing System' (IGGOS) and the IGS will support this effort.

The International GPS Service is celebrating its fifth year as an international organization which has helped to push the availability and use of GPS science and technology. The IGS encourages users to take advantage of a very robust GPS infrastructure, including precision data and accurate products from the global IGS tracking network. This is only made possible through the contributions and participation of over eighty international agencies in the IGS. This presentation will briefly describe the status of the IGS today, and focus on two aspects; first current projects, such as time transfer, reference frame densification, low Earth orbiter mission support, atmospheric water vapor recovery, sea level change studies, and ionospheric monitoring; secondly, information will be provided on how to access and use IGS information and products to your advantage. The IGS is an approved service of the International Association of Geodesy and is recognized as one of the Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical Data Analysis Services.

Theme B

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