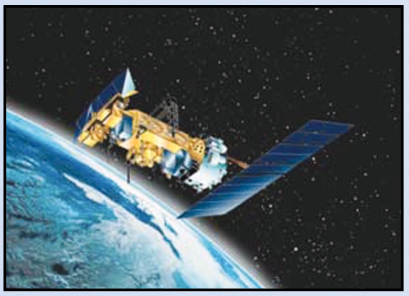
INTERNATIONAL ATOVS WORKING GROUP



Sharing ideas, plans and techniques to study the earth's weather using space-based observations

A Report on the Thirteenth International TOVS Study Conference

Sainte-Adèle, Québec, Canada
29 October - 4 November 2003

Photo by Jakob Grove-Rasmussen

A Report on
The Thirteenth International
TOVS Study Conference

Sainte-Adèle, Québec, Canada
29 October - 4 November 2003

Conference sponsored by:

Met Office (U.K.)
NOAA NESDIS
EUMETSAT
World Meteorological Organization
Alcatel
ABB
Raytheon Company and
ITT Industries

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FOREWORD

The International TOVS Working Group (ITWG) is convened as a sub-group of the International Radiation Commission (IRC) of the International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Physics (IAMAP). The ITWG continues to organise International TOVS Study Conferences (ITSCs) which have met approximately every 18 months since 1983. Through this forum, operational and research users of TIROS Operational Vertical Sounder (TOVS), Advanced TOVS (ATOVS) and other atmospheric sounding data have exchanged information on data processing methods, derived products, and the impacts of radiances and inferred atmospheric temperature and moisture fields on numerical weather prediction (NWP) and climate studies.

The Thirteenth International TOVS Study Conference (ITSC-XIII) was held at the Hotel Le Chantecler in Sainte Adèle, Québec, Canada from 29 October to 4 November 2003. This conference report summarises the scientific exchanges and outcomes of the meeting. A companion document *The Technical Proceedings of The Thirteenth International TOVS Study Conference* contains the complete text of ITSC-XIII scientific presentations. The ITWG Web site (http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/itwg/) contains electronic versions of the conference presentations and publications. Together, these documents and Web pages reflect the conduct of a highly successful meeting in Sainte Adèle. An active and mature community of TOVS and ATOVS data users now exists, and considerable progress and positive results were reported at ITSC-XIII in a number of areas, including many related to the new ATOVS system and to the current and impending advanced sounders.

ITSC-XIII was sponsored by the Met Office (U.K.), NOAA NESDIS, EUMETSAT, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Alcatel, ABB, the Raytheon Company and ITT Industries. The support of these government agencies and private industry companies is gratefully acknowledged. We wish to thank the local organising committee from Environment Canada, particularly Louis Garand and Clement Chouinard of the Data Assimilation and Satellite Meteorology Division. We also thank and appreciate the contribution of the Environment Canada staff, particularly Maryse Ferland and Danielle O'Shaughnessey, who assisted ably in the organization and conduct of the Conference at Sainte Adèle. We also thank the staff of Hotel Le Chantecler for their assistance during the Conference. Finally, we thank the numerous contributions from Leanne Avila of the University of Wisconsin who assisted in conference planning, on-site meeting organization, and preparation and publication of this Report, the Technical Proceedings and the ITWG Web site.

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THE THIRTEENTH INTERNATIONAL
TOVS STUDY CONFERENCE (ITSC-XIII)

Sainte Adèle, Québec, Canada: 29 October - 4 November 2003

International TOVS Working Group (ITWG) Co-Chairs

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ITSC-XIII Group Photo at Le Chantecler

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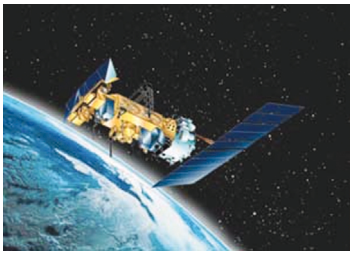
Appendix A: ITSC-XIII Attendee Mailing List A1 - A9