

The NWP SAF: what can it do for you?

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The EUMETSAT Satellite Applications Facility for Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP SAF) is led by the Met Office (UK), in partnership with ECMWF, Météo-France and KNMI, with part-funding from EUMETSAT. The SAF's objective is to improve and support the interface between satellite data/products and activities in global and regional NWP. The SAF responds primarily to European user requirements, but products are freely available to users world-wide. The products of the SAF are mainly portable software modules suitable for implementation within the satellite data processing and data assimilation systems of operational NWP centres, and for use at research institutes. These include: fast radiative transfer code (RTTOV), the ATOVS and AVHRR Processing Package (AAPP), software for processing Quikscat data, and three one-dimensional variational retrieval (1D-Var) packages. In addition, the SAF supports: monitoring activities for a wide range of satellite data, with results available in near real-time through the SAF's web site, <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/interproj/nwpsaf/index.html>; reports on specific aspects of satellite data processing; workshops; and a visiting scientist programme. In addition to improved and extended versions of the products listed above, future products will include the extension of AAPP to process data from IASI on METOP, and "superobbing" code for SSMIS.

This presentation provides a brief summary of the programme and products of the NWP SAF, followed by a description of the pre-processor planned for IASI data as part of an extended AAPP.