

# OST virtual constellation

Paul Counet, Eumetsat

with

E. Lindstrom (NASA) and F.Parisot (Eumetsat),

Constellation co-chairs

And all OST constellation members



# Activity Status

- **Continuity of Climate Record for Sea Level**
  - **Jason-1 & -2** – Operating in interleaved orbits
  - **Jason-3** – Development underway, but programmatic issues (NOAA FY11 budget reduction and Launcher issue) have slip the launch to April 2014. **FY12 funding shortfall would cause further delay**
  - **Jason-CS** – Very good progress of ESA – with EUMETSAT, NOAA, CNES & NASA –Phase B study. Very promising science and operational return through possible SAR/LRM interleaved altimeter mode (LRM : Low Resolution Mode). US and European payload option studied in parallel, same for the launcher, choice to be made at end of Phase B.



# Activity Status

- **Continuity of Complementary Coverage**
  - **Cryosat-2** – Launched 8 Apr 10
    - New dedicated Ocean products coming on line
  - **ENVISAT** – Starting 22 Oct 10 orbit became non-repeating
  - **ERS-2** – De-orbiting completed, satellite passivated and switched off
  - **SARAL/AltiKa** – Launch planned with more confidence for April 2012; if Jason-1 is still OK at end of SARAL's commissioning phase, it will move to a geodetic orbit
  - **Sentinel-3A & B** – Development proceeding with 1<sup>st</sup> launch in 2013



# Activity Status

- **Continuity of Complementary Coverage**
  - **HY-2A** – Successful launch on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Doris powered on August 31<sup>st</sup> and since then orbit ephemeris are produced and distributed. Final orbit acquisition on going
- **Development of Surface Water Ocean Topography (SWOT)**
  - Joint between NASA and CNES with a contribution from CSA
  - CNES Phase A underway – with strong Government support
  - NASA MCR in March 2012 to initiate its Phase A
  - Formal agreement for implementation is pending
  - Launch readiness date is Dec 2019



# Activity Status

- **Data Policy** – With its launch in August, timely access to data from the Chinese HY-2A remains an issue
  - CNES is providing medium and precise orbit ephemeris— one avenue to address issue
  - SOA has contacted EUMETSAT about data access – another avenue
  - Data down-linking in China will preclude global operational use
- **Harmonized, Easily Accessible Altimeter Products**
  - The AVISO & RADS portals continue to provide easy access to inter-calibrated, integrated data for research use
- **Training**
  - “Marine training Workshop on the Use of satellite Wind and Wave products in South American Waters” funded (jointly with OSVW VC). Joint activity between NASA, NOAA and EUMETSAT



# Near Future Plan

- Additional Expected Achievements by the end of 2011:
  - Ocean Surface Topography Science Team (OSTST) meeting, Coastal Altimetry workshop and Joint Argo-Altimetry workshop in San Diego from October 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>.

# GLOBAL ALTIMETER MISSIONS

