

March 5, 2010 -- CDGPS Service to be de-commissioned by March 31, 2011

CDGPS has delivered a remarkable GNSS Augmentation service since October 14, 2003; remarkable from the standpoint of performance and free-to-air access through a public-private partnership forged by the Canadian Council on Geomatics (CCOG) with comsat operator SkyTerra (Canada) Inc.

Since that time CDGPS has been broadcasting Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan) wide area GPS-C correction over SkyTerra's MSAT communication satellite at 95% availability from coast to coast to coast. MSAT's replacement, SkyTerra 1 will be launched between August and October of this year, necessitating an investment in new infrastructure beyond the scope of CCOG. Until SkyTerra 1 is slotted and certified for full operational capability, CDGPS expects to maintain its current service over MSAT until March 31, 2011.

NRCan remains committed to the generation and improvement of its GPS-C correction beyond that date, and this past December issued a Notice of Commercial Opportunity to broadcast/multicast GPS-C with the expectation of filling the void left by the de-commissioning of CDGPS. That solicitation closes on March 19, 2010. Please refer to http://ess.nrcan.gc.ca/intl/bmuuga/ippi/ippi2_e.php for more details on the solicitation. We advise readers to check back here in mid-April for more news.