

ESA Space Weather Workshop: Developing a European Space Weather Service Network

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Programme & Abstracts

The Solar Influences Data analysis Center: a partnership for Space Weather

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The SIDC, hosted by the *Royal Observatory of Belgium (ROB)*, has conducted solar monitoring since the 1960s and is the world data center for the international sunspot index since 1981. From 2000 onwards the SIDC has issued space weather forecasts in the context of the *International Space Environment Service (ISES)*. As co-investigator in several space instruments of ESA and NASA, we are in an optimal position to act as an ISES Regional Warning Center. Especially the partnership in the EIT/LASCO consortium (onboard SOHO) is essential for the SIDC as an institute for operational solar and space weather monitoring. Continuous involvement in the future space missions STEREO/SECCHI, SHARPP/SDO and SWAP&LYRA/PROBA2 guarantee ample monitoring capabilities for the SIDC after the SOHO era.

As a dedicated solar monitoring center, we are an important service center for the ESA Space Weather Pilot Project. Within the pilot project we have teamed up with the Royal Meteorological Institute, the Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy and Creaction, Inc. With this partnership –and within the larger ESA Pilot Project– we are expanding the SIDC solar monitoring services towards determining the significance of solar activity for human society. In this paper we present the services that are being developed at the SIDC in the framework of the ESA Space Weather Pilot Project.