

EARTH SCIENCE OFFICE HOSTING VISITING SCIENTIST FROM TOULOUSE, FRANCE

(email to: rich.blakeslee@nasa.gov/256-961-7962): The Earth Science Office will be hosting Christophe Bovalo as a visiting scientist from the Laboratoire d'Aerologie, Atmosphere, Ocean and Connection (AOC) group in Toulouse, France. An important purpose of his visit will be to discuss his work to incorporate an optical lightning signal simulator into an "electrified" version of a cloud resolving model developed at the Laboratoire d'Aerologie, and to share results from this model of several storms from different regions that have been successfully simulated using data from Lightning Mapping Array (LMA) and the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission Lightning Imaging Sensor (TRMM LIS). Another focus of this visit will be to discuss common activities between our groups in support of ISS LIS, Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite R-Series (GOES-R) Geostationary Lightning Mapper (GLM), and Meteosat Third Generation Lightning Imager (MTG LI) Cal/Val and other science exploration. In addition, Dr. Bovalo be afforded the opportunity to gain better insight into the LIS datasets, and on the status and schedule for both the upcoming ISS LIS and GOES-R GLM missions, with launches now scheduled for August 2016 and October, respectively.

NASA SHORT-TERM PREDICTION RESEARCH AND TRANSITION (SPoRT) CENTER PARTICIPATION IN NOAA/NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OPERATIONS PROVING

GROUND (email to: andrew.molthan@nasa.gov/256-961-7474): During the week of March 8, 2016, staff from the NASA SPoRT Center participated in an exercise at the NOAA/NWS Operations Proving Ground to help demonstrate upcoming multispectral satellite imaging capabilities that will become available from the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite R-Series (GOES-R). The exercise demonstrated future capabilities of GOES-R through application of the Japanese Himawari-8 Advanced Himawari Imager (AHI), which is quite similar to the Advanced Baseline Imager to be launched on GOES-R and subsequent geostationary satellites. NASA and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are joint partners on the development and launch of GOES-R. In addition, capabilities demonstrated for GOES-R have also been led by the SPoRT team using NASA's Moderate Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) and NASA/NOAA Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS). SPoRT also led the development of new, integrated training materials that are delivered directly to NOAA/NWS forecaster workstations. This new capability is broadly applicable to numerous SPoRT objectives and also a variety of data sets and applications used by NOAA/NWS forecasters in both current and future observation, modeling, and decision support applications. Other members of the SPoRT team will support additional week-long evaluations that continue through early April.

PRESENTATION TO NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS DAY OF LAUNCH WORKING

GROUP (email to: brad.zavodsky@nasa.gov/256-961-7914): Mr. Bradley Zavodsky (ZP11) participated in the Natural Environments Day of Launch Working Group, which was hosted in the Short-term Prediction Research and Transition (SPoRT) Visualization and Collaboration Laboratory at the NSSTC on 2-3 March. This group is responsible for determining new areas of instrumentation and decisions support tools needed to support weather launch decisions at NASA's launch facilities. Mr. Zavodsky gave a presentation on SPoRT areas of expertise—including lightning, numerical modeling, remote sensing, and development of decision support/display tools--relevant to the launch environment with the objective of advertising capabilities that may be leveraged by this community to address specific priority funding areas.