

Space solutions for energy workshop

On 3 June, the 2016 European Space Solutions event features a workshop on how the energy sector can benefit from European satellite navigation and Earth observation information.

Energy – and in particular sustainable energy – is one of the most challenging topics of our time. Space solutions can play a significant role in addressing a number of energy-related challenges. From providing data and better understanding regional and global conditions to influencing smart grids, transmitting electricity and protecting critical infrastructure, the European global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) and Earth observation programmes, including Galileo, the European Geostationary Navigational Overlay Service (EGNOS) and Copernicus, are having a substantial impact on energy production, transportation and conservation.

For example, the Horizon 2020-funded EASY PV project is using GNSS to address the growing need for photovoltaic (PV) field owners to enhance the energy production of their plants. The project is building an automatic system for acquiring, geo-referencing and processing both visible and thermal images captured by a remotely piloted aircraft system (RPAS) equipped with a Galileo/EGNOS high-accuracy receiver flying over a PV field – making it possible to easily detect and replace defective modules.

To help European industry better understand – and access – this lucrative market, on 3 June the European Commission and the GSA, under the auspices of the Dutch Council Presidency, are organising a special session on ‘Space Solutions for energy’ as part of the European Space Solutions Conference.

The Focus Session will address renewable energy technologies, early-warning systems and risk management, tools for impact assessment and monitoring, using Earth observation to maintain offshore wind farms, satellite-based plant monitoring and GNSS-based timing for power grids – among others.

The session will feature speakers from the European Union, national energy agencies and organisations, the GSA, and a range of various research institutions and related businesses. Users from both the public and private domains are encouraged to attend.

More information and registration is available european-space-solutions.eu.