



NOAA Satellite Operations Facility

NSOF is where NOAA's satellite command and data processing happens.

The NOAA Satellite Operations Facility (NSOF) is the headquarters for all of NOAA's 24/7 environmental satellite command, control, and data processing operations.

NSOF, located at the Suitland, Md. Federal Center, opened in 2007, and boasts a state-of-the-art design. NOAA and GSA invested construction dollars for a modern and clean design that demonstrates NOAA's long-term commitment to the Suitland Federal Center and the surrounding community, and reflects NOAA's dual high-technology and environmental stewardship mission. The design features two main components. The three-story tower accommodates the Satellite Operations Control Center (SOCC), Launch Control Room (LCR), and computer room data centers, and is topped with 12 antennas. The high-tech office space area is covered with a domed green roof — one of the largest in the National Capital Region. NSOF replaced a decaying facility built during World War II that housed NOAA's satellite operations for decades.

Each day, NSOF operations processes and distributes more than 10 terabytes of environmental data from 18 satellites, 12 NOAA, 1 international partnership, and 5 U.S. Space Force (USSF) satellite missions. Additionally, NSOF operations supports several independent and partner missions.

Missions supported at NSOF:

- NOAA's geostationary satellites: GOES-14, -16, -17, -18, and -19
- NOAA's POES polar-orbiting satellites: NOAA-15, -18, and -19
- NOAA's JPSS polar-orbiting satellites: Suomi-NPP, NOAA-20, and -21
- U.S. Space Force DMSP: OPS-51, -53, and -54
- U.S. Space Force EWS-G1 and EWS-G2 for Indian Ocean data coverage
- NOAA's DSCOVR-L1
- International partnership (NOAA, CNES, EUMETSAT, ESA, NASA) Jason-3
- NOAA's Environmental Satellite Processing Center (ESPC) which processes satellite data to support meteorology, oceanography, solid Earth geophysics, and other sciences
- The U.S. Mission Control Center (USMCC) for Search and Rescue Satellite-Aided Tracking (SARSAT) as part of the international Copsas-Sarsat program
- Ground site scheduling partnerships: MetOp-1 and -3, Sentinel-6, Oceansat, Landsat-8 and -9
- The National Ice Center, jointly operated by the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, and NOAA
- U.S. Coast Guard International Ice Patrol (IIP)

The mission of National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) is to ensure timely access to global environmental data from satellites and other sources to promote, protect, and enhance the Nation's economy, security, environment, and quality of life.

For more information about NESDIS, please visit:
www.nesdis.noaa.gov.