**Suggested topics: Remote Sensing Applications (Disasters/ Climate/Environment/Coastal Zone)**

**Paper title: Maritime Environmental Monitoring: Detection and Monitoring of Oil Spills with Satellites**

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**Preference: Oral presentation**

In this presentation Kongsberg Satellite Services (KSAT) will focus on maritime environmental monitoring. This monitoring is related to offshore activities, such as Oil & Gas offshore operations and Shipping traffic lanes, both from a environment, safety and security point of view.

We will present our highly respected operational and global oil spill monitoring services. Furthermore, we will discuss why satellite data is a critical factor in supporting offshore Oil & Gas operations with regards to both safety and security. Covering oil rig operations and navigation support in ice-infested waters and vessel detection in piracy-infested waters, are some of the areas, in which the usage of satellite data is crucial for decision support. From environmental perspective, the early detection and monitoring of oil spills is one of the highest priorities for governments and businesses alike.

Satellite imagery provides extensive coverage of the earth’s surface, and therefore it has become one of the most important sensors for operational near-real time monitoring of the marine environment. Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) imagery is used as the prime source of information, independent of cloud, fog and light conditions and with rapid delivery. Optical data is usually acquired, when more detailed information is required.

KSAT is a fully operational maritime environmental surveillance services provider, with the technical capabilities to report to the end user in near-real time, 24/7/365.

The KSAT service is the most reliable, vastly available and sustainable monitoring service in the world, as result of long years of experience, number of available satellites, unique locations, highly skilled personnel and state-of-the-art infrastructure. The service has been developed in close cooperation with the end users and satellite owners.

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