

Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear friends of space of future friends of Space!

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to this important seminar on Satellite applications .

It is not every day that we get to enjoy such a spectacular view during a conference. First of all, I would like to particularly thank our local hosts, the Satellite Navigation Berchtesgadener Land – Salzburg Cluster and IDM Sud Tirol for making this event possible.

I should also take this opportunity to also thank our partners, TeleOrbit, the Swiss Space Office, Invest in Bavaria, the DLR, the FFG, CNES, and FDK for their support.

Earlier this summer, I was appointed President of Eurisy. It is a position that I have taken up with great enthusiasm, and in which I hope to build on Eurisy's previous work and efforts to bridge space and society.

I'm like many of you, I'm not scientific, an engineer..., I'm a political sciences and I believe that space is our future. And we have to explain with common words that Space & space apps are a real opportunity!!

In your daily life, you use all the time the Space apps: meteo, internet, skype, GPS, cellular, broadcast... So why not using it for your job !! It's easy!!

Indeed, Eurisy's mission as a non-profit association of European Space agencies and national authorities in charge of space matters, is to raise awareness on the benefits of using satellite technology to favour the diffusion of innovation across society. From managing risk to increasing mobility to tackling climate change, the matters in which satellites can play a vital role in our society are numerous. The Alps, located as they are at the heart of Europe, crossing 7 countries and home to more than 14 million people, seems to be the ideal territory for innovation.

We are grateful to our hosts and partners for joining efforts in this worthy, but hard enterprise: bridging space and society.

Why hard ? Hard because technology specialists and end-users don't always speak the same language, nor do they belong to the same professional communities. Because from the development to users, there is this long way . You know above our heads, 4.000 satellites

are running, a lot of them propose Space appl, why not use them ?So this is the gap we are referring to.

Why Worthy ?Worthy, because we hope and trust that today's event can serve to create a fertile ground where new ideas, projects and cooperation can emerge. Indeed we hope that all public administrations, agencies, companies here can draw on each other's expertise and experience to strengthen what I understand to be already strong ties in the region, by working together on common problems.

More than just a PR effort, we hope that today's dialogue that will continue beyond this event. Some of you have already joined the LinkedIn group created for the purpose; I warmly recommend you to use it in order to exchange ideas and opportunities with your fellow peers, beyond this event.

From speakers to you, from environmental experts to technology specialists, I'm sure we'll learn a lot to day and our reflexion, our discussion will be a major step in bridging Space & Society in the Region and launch the Alps in the future.

I wish you a very good seminair hoping like me you'll convinced of the benefit of Space App.

Thank you

