

SAF Network Operations: Update

60th STG Operations Working Group Meeting
10-11 September 2026

Item 10.2

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Cover Note

Subject	SAF Network Operations: Update
Action proposed	Decision/ <u>Consideration</u> /Information/Recommendation
Abstract	-/-
Views of other EUMETSAT Bodies	-/-
Decision proposed	STG-OPS Working Group is invited to take note.
Cost implications	-/-
Reference documents	-/-



SAF Network Operational Salient Points

Generic SAF operational related points.

NWP SAF Software licensing

NWP SAF suggests to change RTTOV licensing.

Summary of SAF Operations Reviews

Since last OPSWG meeting (September 2025).

Products Releases

SAF Products released during the reporting period (1 July – 31 December 2025).

Planned Product Releases

Potential SAF product releases for 2026.

- The EUMETSAT Council approved the next phase of the SAF network – Continuous Development and Operations Phase (CDOP-5) (2027–2032).
- Resource reallocation by the SAFs through the identification of products with low user up-take.
- DMSP SSMIS input data usage being discontinued by both OSI and H SAFs. AMSR-3 used as a replacement input.
- Ramp-up of EPS-SG based products development. SAF EPS-SG Day-1 products ORR part 1 planned for Q4 2026.
 - ROM SAF EPS-SG Refractivity Profile Cal/Val distribution on EUMETCast started on the 14 July 2026.

Proposed solution

Adopt a permissive open-source licence (e.g. Apache 2.0 or BSD-style) to allow redistribution, facilitate integration into third-party software, and encourage community contributions, while preserving NWP SAF governance of the official releases.

Benefits of a more open licence

- Easier integration and redistribution.
- Wider adoption of RTTOV.
- Increased community contributions.
- Better alignment with open scientific software practices.
- Maintains official NWP SAF releases as the supported reference version.

Background and Rationale

RTTOV's current licence restricts software redistribution, making integration into third-party applications more difficult.

Current licence limitations

- Prevents redistribution of RTTOV as part of third-party software packages.
- Creates additional effort for developers and end users, who must obtain RTTOV separately.
- Discourages integration into community software frameworks and modelling systems.
- Reduces incentives for users to contribute code enhancements back to the RTTOV project.
- May encourage parallel developments outside the RTTOV framework rather than collaborative development within it.

Potential concerns

- Reduced visibility of the user base and software distribution channels.
- Users may redistribute modified versions outside official NWP SAF quality control.
- Additional governance effort may be required to manage external contributions and maintain the official code base.

Mitigations

- Official NWP SAF releases remain the authoritative and supported versions.
- DOI-based versioning ensures traceability and citation of official releases.
- All contributions remain subject to NWP SAF review and acceptance processes.

Preferred path: Move RTTOV to a permissive open-source licence (e.g. Apache 2.0 or BSD-style) to enable redistribution, simplify software integration, and encourage community development while retaining NWP SAF governance of official releases.

STG-OWG Members are invited to consider the proposal and provide feedback prior to the next STG meeting.

Summary of AC SAF Operations Review



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Operations Review (OR-17) meeting held
remotely on the 5 February 2026

Report reference:
EUM2062534

- In contrast to other products, the quality during the reporting period of IASI O3 and SO2 products couldn't be assessed. It was agreed with the Project Team that internal periodic reports for these products will be checked and relevant information made available in the Operations report validation chapter.
- It was noted that there is the intention from the Project team not to implement important GOME-2 SO2 and NO2 algorithm features (as part of CDOP 3/4) in the operational L2 processors, since GOME-2B NRT processing is not expected to continue in CDOP-5. The Project team will survey the existing users for these product's usage and possible algorithm upgrades.
- Availability and helpdesk performance remained stable, fully compliant with service specifications, with no significant service disruptions, operational issues, or unresolved support concerns identified.

Summary of AC SAF Operations Review



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Operations Review (OR-17) meeting held
remotely on the 5 February 2026

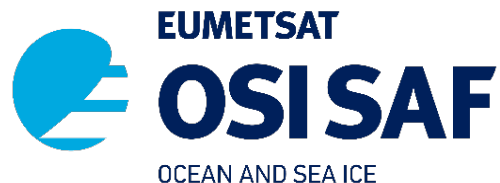
Report reference:
EUM2062534

- **For Consideration:** The Project Team hasn't found enough evidence of user uptake of the following products:
 - NRT GOME-2 Ozone profile ([O3M-47.1](#), [O3M-311](#))
 - NRT GOME-2 Global tropospheric O3 ([O3M-174](#), [O3M-304](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 Tropical Tropospheric Ozone ([O3M-43](#), [O3M-302](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 H2O total column ([O3M-86.1](#), [O3M-386](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 total SO2 ([O3M-375](#), [O3M-56.1](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 total ozone ([O3M-42.1](#), [O3M-301](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 Tropospheric NO2 ([O3M-53.1](#), [O3M-342](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 NO2 ([O3M-51.1](#), [O3M-339](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 HCHO total column ([O3M-58.1](#), [O3M-345](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 BrO total column ([O3M-82.1](#), [O3M-317](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 Absorbing aerosol index from PMDs ([O3M-363](#))
 - Offline GOME-2 UV products ([O3M-462](#), [O3M-461](#), [O3M-459](#), [O3M-458](#), [O3M-456](#), [O3M-451](#), [O3M-453](#), [O3M-454](#))

The review board recommends to stop making these products available and seek STG-OWG feedback. **The STG-OWG is encouraged to provide usage evidence or to consider the suspension of these products' dissemination** (date to be decided). If no objection is received, the removal of these products will be included (where appropriate) in a future Multi-channel data access baseline update that will be submitted to the delegate bodies.

- Project Team showed concern when it comes to user and usage tracking, which still remains challenging due to data protection constraints and the current inability to identify product-specific EUMETCast users.
- The Board identified an inconsistency between the formulation of the accuracy requirements for SST and radiative flux products in the Half-Yearly Reports (range-based) and Service Specification (fixed value). Service Specification shall be updated to also use ranged-based accuracy formulation.
- Guidance on DOI assessment has been discussed and what it would be needed to ensure metadata consistency for Data Store ingestion.
- The Board confirmed compliance with product quality and service commitments, with no major operational or user-impacting issues reported during the reporting period.

4 Summary of OSI SAF Operations Review



Operations Review (OR-21) meeting held
remotely on the 3 March 2026

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Report reference:
EUM2065955

- **For Consideration:** The Project Team hasn't found enough evidence of user uptake of the following products:
 - Atlantic High Latitude Downward Longwave Irradiance ([OSI-301-c](#))
 - Atlantic High Latitude Surface Solar Irradiance ([OSI-302-c](#))

The review board recommends to stop making these products available and seek STG OWG feedback. The STG-OWG is encouraged to provide usage evidence or to consider the suspension of these products' dissemination (date to be decided). If no objection is received, the removal of these products will be included (where appropriate) in a future Multi-channel data access baseline update that will be submitted to the delegate bodies.

Operations Review (OR-15) meeting held on the
16 June 2026 at EUMETSAT HQ

Report reference:
EUM2079395

- **For Consideration:** The Project Team hasn't found enough evidence of user uptake of the following products:
 - Gridded MW instantaneous precipitation rate based on intercalibrated PMW instantaneous precipitation rate estimates (H68)

The review board recommends to stop making this product available and seek STG OWG feedback. The STG-OWG is encouraged to provide usage evidence or to consider the suspension of these products' dissemination (date to be decided). If no objection is received, the removal of this product will be included in a future Multi-channel data access baseline update that will be submitted to the delegate bodies.

Summary of H SAF Operations Review



Operations Review (OR-14) meeting held on the
23 October 2025 via MSTeams

Report reference:
EUM/DSA/REP/23/1377836

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- The Project team will update the Service Specification Document to include dissemination methods and frequency/timeliness information, which has been lacking for data records and their extensions.
- Product quality remained compliant with the Service Specifications, with only minor anomalies reported and no concerns regarding product integrity or operational robustness.
- The Board welcomed the upgraded H SAF website, highlighting its enhanced access and support features as a significant improvement for users.

SAF	Product(s)	Release date	User Portal	EUMETCast
 EUMETSAT OSI SAF OCEAN AND SEA ICE	Sea-ice index, release 3 (OSI-420-a)	04/05/2026	https://user.eumetsat.int/catalogue/EO:EUM:DAT:1147	
	Global Sea Ice Concentration interim climate data record (AMSR2), release 3 (OSI-438)	04/06/2026	https://user.eumetsat.int/catalogue/EO:EUM:DAT:1064	
 EUMETSAT LSA SAF LAND SURFACE ANALYSIS	(Demonstrational) MTG Fire Radiative Power – Pixel (LSA-509)	07/05/2026	https://user.eumetsat.int/catalogue/EO:EUM:DAT:1088	X
 EUMETSAT ROM SAF RADIO OCCULTATION METEOROLOGY	Radio Occultation ProceMake sassing Package (GRM-16_v12)	15/01/2026	https://user.eumetsat.int/resources/service-statuses/radio-occultation-processing-package-version-12	
 EUMETSAT CM SAF CLIMATE MONITORING	(GIRAFE v1.0) Global Precipitation ICDR (CM-7610)	29/06/2026	https://user.eumetsat.int/catalogue/EO:EUM:DAT:0921	
 EUMETSAT NWP SAF NUMERICAL WEATHER PREDICTION	(AAPP-SG) ATOVS & AVHRR Pre-processing Second Generation Package v1 (NWP_AAPP.2.1)	01/06/2026	https://user.eumetsat.int/resources/software/nwp-saf-aapp-sg-v1-0-release	
	(CATDS) Cloud, Aerosol and Trace gases Detection Software version 4 (NWP_CATDS.1-4)	01/06/2026	https://user.eumetsat.int/resources/software/nwp-saf-cloud-aerosol-and-trace-gas-detection-software-catds-v3-2-release	
	(RadSim v4.1) Radiances Simulator (NWP_RadSim.1-4.1)	26/03/2026	https://user.eumetsat.int/resources/software/nwp-saf-radiance-simulator-v4-1-release	
	(RTTOV) Radiative Transfer for TOVS v14.1 (NWP_RTM.1-14.1)	10/02/2026	https://user.eumetsat.int/resources/service-statuses/rttov-radiative-transfer-model-v14-1-multimission	

AC SAF

- NRT IASI SO₂ Altitude (O3M-379.1, O3M-431.1) including Pressure, Temperature and H₂O information

OSI SAF

- Low Resolution Sea Ice Drift ICDR, release 1 (OSI-435)
- AMSR-3 Medium Resolution Sea Ice Concentration (OSI-408-g) and L2 PMW sea ice concentration (OSI-410-g)
- L3/L2 High Latitude SST/SSI (OSI-203-c, OSI-205-c, OSI-203-d, OSI-205-d, OSI-203-g, OSI-205-g, OSI-203-i, OSI-205-i)
- North Atlantic Regional Sea Surface Temperature with Metop-B/AVHRR and NOAA-21/VIIRS (OSI-202-f)
- Level 3 GOES-East/ABI Sea Surface Temperature (OSI-207-c)

CM SAF

- CM SAF MW and NIR Based Vertically Integrated Water Vapour TCDR R2 (CM-15702)
- CM SAF SIS and SDU Anomaly and Normal Products (CM-8211, CM-8281, CM-83203 and CM-83283)
- CM SAF Microwave Radiance FCDR R5 (CM-12004)

ROM SAF

- NRT Refractivity profile based on Spire (GRM-210)

H SAF

- Accumulated Precipitation only rainfall ASCAT over land data record (H87) and Extension (H188)



Thank you!
Questions are welcome.