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Spreading the usage of NAPEOS, the ESA tool for satellite geodesy.

T. A. Springer, M. Otten, and C. Flohrer
PosiTim UG (haftungsbeschränkt), Seeheim-Jugenheim, Germany (Tim.Springer@PosiTim.com)

Over the recent years the Navigation Package for Earth Orbiting Satellites, NAPEOS, has evolved to a great tool for satellite geodesy. It is developed and maintained at the European Space Operations Centre (ESOC) of the European Space Agency (ESA) NAPEOS is capable of processing data from all GNSS systems, all DORIS, and all SLR observations. And, NAPEOS is used for generating state of the art products for all three satellite-geodetic techniques and there corresponding services: IGS, IDS, and ILRS.

ESA owned software is in general available free of charge to any entity in the ESA member states as the developments have been paid by public funding. Thus NAPEOS is, in principle, available free of charge but under a strict license agreement with ESA. However, ESA does not provide any support on how to use the software. And like most research oriented packages learning such software from scratch is at the very least an “adventure”. In 2009 we therefore started a company, called PosiTim, with the prime focus on delivering services and support for the NAPEOS software package.

PosiTim currently offers the following services and support for NAPEOS:
• Distribution of the NAPEOS software through a sub-license agreement with ESA.
• Detailed step by step installation guide. The installation procedure includes the execution of some data processing to test and validate the installation.
• Detailed user manual describing and discussing a few key processing examples.
• Software installation support including compiler/platform dependent bug-fixing.
• Software development collaboration. PosiTim provides access to its version controlled software repository, which allows for sharing the latest software developments.
• Annual (target bi-annual) NAPEOS training course.
• Technical support, e.g., answer questions by e-mail.
• Collaboration with universities to "tailor" NAPEOS to their (research) needs.

In our presentation we will start with a brief overview of the NAPEOS software abilities. Following we will elaborate on the PosiTim efforts to spread the usage of NAPEOS, in particular in the scientific world. Lastly we give an overview of ongoing projects and the status of current NAPEOS developments.