

Data is available to registered users only. Registered users can obtain SMOS data in two different ways:

1. By subscribing to the systematic distribution of products (“subscription service” = for continuous and regular flow of data): all data products required by the user are made available via FTP, to be collected by the user. This is only for future acquisitions, over specific areas of interest and/or only for a particular time span. To subscribe the user will have to submit a **full proposal** on <http://eopi.esa.int>.

After submission of the proposal through the EOPI portal and signing the Terms and Conditions, the user will be contacted by ESA’s Help Desk (EOHelp@eo.esa.int) once the proposal has been accepted by mission management to collect the user’s data requirements and set-up the subscription.

The following information will be needed (see also Annex B):

- Which type of data access is requested (see 3.2.1)?
 - What data products will be required and for which period?
 - Does the research project focus on a specific geographical area (polygon coordinates required)?
 - If near-real-time (NRT) access to the data product is required, the mission management office will need to be contacted (e-mail: susanne.mecklenburg@esa.int) to discuss whether this can be accommodated.
 - The nominal procedure for data delivery is via pull from a FTP, i.e. for the user to collect his/her data from a server. If this is not feasible for the user the EO Help Desk needs to be contacted (EOHelp@eo.esa.int) to discuss alternatives¹.
 - Will the user like to receive re-processed data once the baseline for the processing of the data products changes?
2. By searching the SMOS data product catalogue EOLI and submitting an order for selected archived products (limited to 20 products per order). The catalogue also provides access (immediate download, but only one product at the time) to the most recent data through the rolling on-line archive. For this type of data access the user will have to submit a **registration** form including a short description of the project on <http://eopi.esa.int> → link to registration. No approval of the project by mission management is necessary, access will be provided within 2 working days.

¹ Alternative data delivery methods could be: media (CD-ROM or DVD) or pushing data products to your FTP server (your FTP server will need to be accessible 100% of the time, properly sized, and accessible through a fast enough connection). Refer to the table provided in Annex A for indication on the size and throughput for each data product types and let us know frequency in which you would like to receive data.

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3. Bulk data retrieval from the SMOS archive: the user will have to submit a **full proposal** following the same procedure as outlined under 1. Mission management will then assess how to distribute the data before accepting the request.