

About PLEIADES

What?

Designed as a dual civil/military system, the Pléiades programme of CNES (the French national space agency) followed the SPOT programme satellite series, introducing advanced technologies in Earth observation

When?

Launched on

17 DEC 2011	2 DEC 2012
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Pléiades -1A Pléiades -1B

The twin satellites provide coverage of Earth's surface with a repeat cycle of 26 days. They share the same orbital plane as SPOT 6 and 7, forming a larger constellation with four satellites, 90° apart from one another

Where?

Built and operated by Airbus Defence and Space on behalf of CNES, with an expected design lifetime of five years. Partners from Austria, Belgium, Spain and Sweden contributed to parts of the satellite design

Applications?

For applications such as forestry, geology and marine environment, and using its spectral characteristics and its three-dimensional characterisation of surfaces, Pléiades optical images offer information with a better spatial resolution. Moreover, it's particularly suitable for emergency response and timely decision-making



Benefits?

50cm

Pléiades was the first European mission offering very high resolution imagery at 50 cm resolution. The optical constellation has a daily revisit capacity, enabling frequent monitoring of locations

Data and Users?

Since May 2015, 175 project proposals from 23 different countries and 115 different institutions. Over 450 requests for user registration to Pléiades ESA archive collection, with 1240 products and 1.3 TB of data

What's next?



Pléiades Neo

The recent launch of **Pléiades Neo**, a constellation of four satellites imaging Earth at 30 cm with up to intra-day revisit, will bring an unprecedented capability to Earth Observation. In January 2022, opening of first two Pléiades Neo data to ESA TPM users. The satellite has an expected lifetime of ten years

revisit time

2 days

90°
apart from one another

Data Access:

<https://earth.esa.int/eogateway/missions/pleiades>