

Retirement/Divestiture of Geostationary and Polar Orbiting Satellite Products

The successful launch of GOES-R (Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite R-series) and impending JPSS (Joint Polar Satellite System) joining the existing NOAA/NASA Suomi-NPP (National Polar-orbiting Partnership) satellite has led to massive amounts of innovative new science products becoming available to agencies and organizations in the United States and around the world. To ensure success, NESDIS STAR (NOAA Satellite and Information Service, Satellite Applications and Research) defines an EPL (Enterprise Product Life cycle approach relative to the development of science products). The NESDIS OSPO (Office of Satellite Product and Operations) define the retirement and divestiture of environmental satellite products as detailed in the NPD 7101.1A policy. This policy specifies the SPSRB (Satellite Products and Services Review Board) is responsible for the oversight and guidance necessary to manage the product life cycle processes and includes the product divestiture or retirement phase in its oversight.

At some point during a science products life cycle, the product no longer meets the needs of the user and/or becomes uneconomical to maintain, obsolete or un-repairable. The amount of effort to maintain algorithms and products becomes unsustainable and the return on investment is extremely low. This poster depicts the various stages of the SPSRB retirement/divestiture process as well as the initiating events that may lead to a recommendation for product retirement. These events include user-driven, system-driven, and fiscally-driven events or new user requirements. In response to user-driven or fiscally-driven initiating events, OSPO conducts a product audit to determine if the product still meets the original user requirements and performance specifications. This audit too, will be explored as an example product will be traced from its concept stage to retirement to validate the process, identify average periods of time between retirement phases, and the types of users or consumers and how they notified.