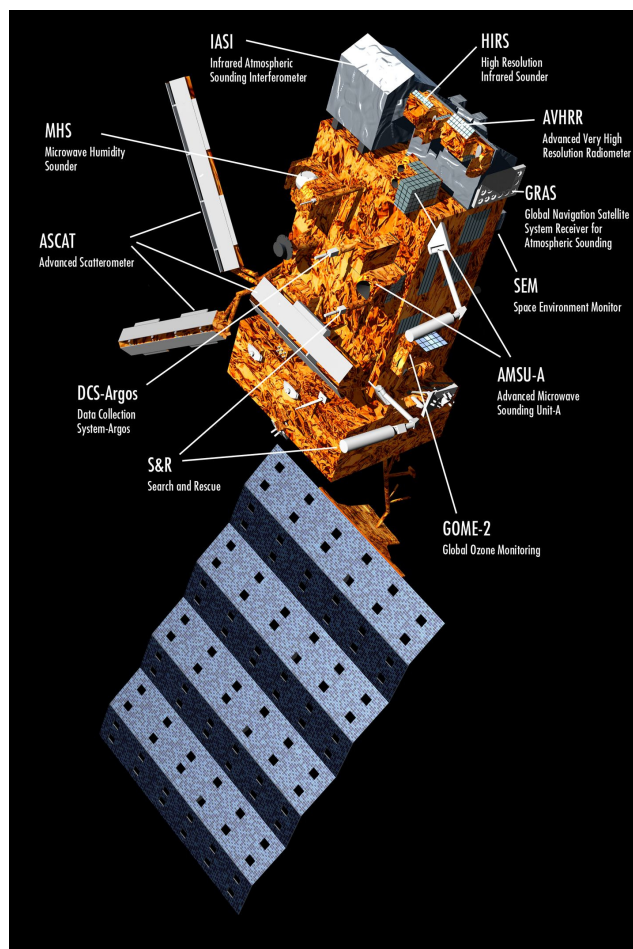


METOP is the first of a series of three meteorological satellites launched by a Soyuz-STK rocket and intended to give data over the period 2006-2020.

First was launched in Baikonur on October 19, 2006 and the two following will be launched in 2010 and 2015 in the Kourou-ELS pad

Equipped with 12 sensors with high definition, METOP can measure and transmit many terrestrial atmospheric parameters: images of the cloudy masses, temperature, moisture, content of various chemical compounds....



Dimensions:

6,2 X 3,4 X 3,4 m onboard

17,5 X 6,2 X 5.2 m deployed

Total weight 4093 kg

Payload 931 kg

4,5 years operational mission

It is placed over a heliosynchronous polar orbit to 817 km of altitude with 98,70° of slope and a period of 101 mn.

Passage of the equator in the downward node.to 9h30 TU local

It will twice collect data on all the points of the Earth by 24 H on each zone.

This addon represents the satellite most accurately possible.

- **Key G** to deploy the sensors and the solar panels
- **Key K** to rotate the solar panels (CTRL + K for the opposite movement )
- **RCS** allows the operations in translation or rotation to correct the orbit

To know some more about the Héliosynchrones and Geosynchronous orbits, see the tutorials 18,19 and 20 of Papyref on the DanSteph site

<http://orbiter.dansteph.com/forum/read.php?f=3&i=219&t=219&stick=1>