



CLS AMERICA

CONGRESSIONAL BREAKFAST BRIEFING INVITATION

“Cooperative Data and Rescue Services (CDARS): Saving Lives and Protecting the Environment”

Featuring:

Jean-Yves Le Gall, President

Centre National d’Etudes Spatiales (CNES), the French Space Agency

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)’s **CDARS Program** supports the space-based components of both the Argos and Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking (SARSAT) Systems.

Argos, typically used for tracking wildlife, weather buoys and other environmentally-critical assets, provides worldwide coverage that gives users the unique ability to geographically locate a data source from anywhere on Earth. **SARSAT** is employed to detect and locate mariners, aviators, and recreational enthusiasts in distress almost anywhere in the world at any time and in almost any condition.

It is critical that NOAA launch updated Argos and SARSAT instruments into orbit as soon as possible to ensure continuity of the vital services these satellite-based systems provide. The instruments that are currently meeting CDARS system requirements are onboard satellites that are operating past their design lives. If NOAA is not able to deliver these instruments to space before a gap in services occurs, there will be an increase in wait time for SARSAT which could threaten the lives of mariners and others around the world, and result in possible data loss for Argos, which will jeopardize critical environmental data records.

What: Learn about Argos and SARSAT from experts who know them best.

When: Friday, April 29, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Where: 188 Russell Senate Office Building

Who: Speakers for the briefing include:

- ✓ **Jean-Yves Le Gall**, President, *Centre National d’Etudes Spatiales, the French Space Agency*
- ✓ **Dr. Stephen Volz**, Assistant Administrator for Satellite and Information Services, *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*
- ✓ **Rick Button**, Coordination Division Chief, Office of Search and Rescue, *U.S. Coast Guard*

Please RSVP to Gillian Lichota with CLS America, Inc. at GLichota@clsamerica.com