[Press Release]

PASCO and LAPAN signed cooperation agreement to promote the utilization of Earth Observation Satellite Data in ASEAN Region

On October 16th, 2018, at INDONESIA INNOVATION DAY 2018, (Note 1) in Kobe, PASCO CORPORATION (hereinafter "PASCO") and Indonesian National Institute of Aeronautics and Space (hereinafter "LAPAN") (Note 2) signed Cooperation Agreement to promote and construct Regional Data Node (ReDaNo) (Note 3) which was initially developed by LAPAN.

Until 2017, it was prohibited for the national organizations to perform commercial business activities in Indonesia. As a result of the amendment of this old commercial law, LAPAN decided to commercialize ReDaNO system. To implement the commercialization of ReDaNO system, LAPAN approached PASCO for future cooperation. PASCO has technical capability to operate satellite, utilize satellite data and provide the data to international customers.

Dr. Orbita Roswintiarti, Vice President, LAPAN (left) and Mr. Shirohisa Furuta, Director, Satellite Business Division, PASCO (right)

Cooperation Agreement includes the provision of PASCO's experiences to utilize geospatial/satellite data, Earth Observation Satellite system development and other capabilities in overseas project experiences in order to promote efficient utilization of LAPAN's ReDaNo system.

PASCO also has right to provide Japanese Earth Observation Satellites' Data, such as ALOS-2 and ASNARO -1. Based on this Cooperation Agreement, PASCO is willing to provide Japanese Earth Observation Satellite Data to ASEAN countries.

（Note 1） The exhibition organized by Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education, to promote Indonesian traditional and state-of-the-art Technologies abroad.

（Note 2） LAPAN is one of the oldest Aeronautic and Space Agencies in South East Asia. It was established in 1963 and provides satellite data for Indonesian National and Local Agencies.

（Note 3） ReDaNo System is a data platform being developed by LAPAN. The system monitors the information such as disasters, sea level rises and illegal fishing operations, near-real time basis in South East Asian Regions. The system aims to provide those data to Indonesian Government and neighboring countries.

（Note 4） The Advanced Land Observing Satellite-2 (ALOS-2), "DAICHI 2" is an Earth Observation Satellite owned by JAXA and it equips L-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) sensor, PALSAR-2. Currently PASCO is the in charge of operational duties and general distribution of the satellite data.

（Note 5） ASNARO-1 is an optical satellite and was developed and launched under the project of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. NEC Corporation developed the satellite and PASCO developed the ground operational system. Currently PASCO operates the satellite.

■ Satellite Business of PASCO

PASCO started Geospatial Information Business utilizing Earth Observation Satellites in 2005. In 2007, when Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) satellite, Terra SAR-X, was launched, PASCO made a full-scale entry to satellite business. As of September 2018, PASCO has commercial right to provide data of 20 different satellites, both optical and SAR Earth Observation Satellites, domestically. (For ALOS-2 and ASNARO-1 both domestically and internationally).

PASCO also provides various kinds of solution services utilizing Earth Observation Satellite data. With optical satellite data, PASCO detects building features, change analysis by AI technology and provides farmland/forestry management services by analyzing vegetation. With SAR satellite data, PASCO provides ground deformation and land slide monitoring services at mountainous areas and ground deformation monitoring, urbanization analysis in urban areas.

PASCO owns satellite ground station (antenna facilities) in Japan to control Earth Observation Satellites and also provides tracking services for rocket launching (rocket telemetry reception/transfer) operations.

■ Inquiries about this article

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