

New space weather forecast centers of International Space Environment Service (ISES) in southern hemisphere

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There is only one space weather center (Sydney, Australia) of the International Space Environmental Information Service (ISES) in the southern hemisphere before International Heliophysical Year (IHY). Hermanus Geomagnetic Observatory in South Africa and National Institute for Space Research (INPE) in Sao Jose dos Campos, Brazil newly joined the ISES during IHY. It is known that data from Hermanus Geomagnetic Observatory are used for calculation of Dst index. It is expected for Hermanus Geomagnetic Observatory to encourage space weather research in Africa. On the other hand, it is possible for INPE to contribute space weather phenomena in the equatorial region such as a plasma bubble because of its location. There is area of weak geomagnetic field called Brazilian anomaly. Many satellite troubles have been reported in this area because high energy particles can penetrate low altitude in this area.