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PERSPECTIVE

This symposium brings together scientists who have worked with a special trio of satellites. ERS-1, ERS-2 and Envisat have made a distinct contribution to our understanding of the Earth. Scientists have seized the opportunity offered by these missions and many landmark scientific papers have been the result. For those thousands of us who have worked to place and maintain in orbit this unique series of satellites, these advances have been a continued source of satisfaction and pride.

The keystone of this success has been the continued operation of the satellites since the launch of ERS-1 over 13 years ago. We are already working on new members of our Earth observation family. We hope our efforts will again be rewarded as scientists find new opportunities for ground-breaking research. We look forward to future symposia that will celebrate in their turn our contribution to the understanding of the world.

R. Zobl
Head of Earth Observation Projects Department
ESA / ESTEC

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