

Plan on MTSAT-2

This paper reports on the plan on the Multi-functional Transport Satellite-2 (MTSAT-2).

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The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) has updated the plan of the Multi-functional Transport Satellite-2 (MTSAT-2).

1. Specification of MTSAT-2

The specification of MTSAT-2 is the same as that of MTSAT-1R. The outline of the specification is shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Major Characteristics of MTSAT-2

Location	Geostationary orbit; 35,800km above the equator at 135 or 145 degrees east (in-orbit back-up) and 140 degrees east (operational)
Attitude control	Three-axis stabilization
Designed lifetime	5 years for the meteorological function, 10 years for the aviation function
Channel and wavelength	VIS 0.55 to 0.90 micrometer IR1 10.3 to 11.3 micrometer IR2 11.5 to 12.5 micrometer IR3 6.5 to 7.0 micrometer IR4 3.5 to 4.0 micrometer
Spatial resolution	1 km for VIS and 4 km for IR at sub-satellite point
Brightness level	10 bits (1024 gradations)

2. Current Status of MTSAT-2

The manufacture of MTSAT-2 has already been completed and the satellite is now in final testing phase. After acceptable review acquired, it will be delivered to the Tanegashima Space Centre (TNSC) for its launching.

3. Launch Plan of MTSAT-2

MTSAT-2 will be launched by H-IIA rocket from TNSC within this fiscal year, by March 2006, however the date of the launch has not been determined yet. The preparation for the launch including launch vehicle is also underway.

4. Operation Plan of MTSAT-2

MTSAT-2 will be stationed above the equator at 135 or 145 degrees east as in-orbit back-up for MTSAT-1R after the launch. In 2010, the meteorological mission of MTSAT-2 will be operational, succeeding MTSAT-1R with its lifetime of 5 years terminated, above the equator at longitude 140 degrees east.

The plan of MTSAT-1R/2 operations is shown in Figure 1. The latest information on MTSAT series is available at JMA's website (<http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/jma-eng/satellite/index.html>).

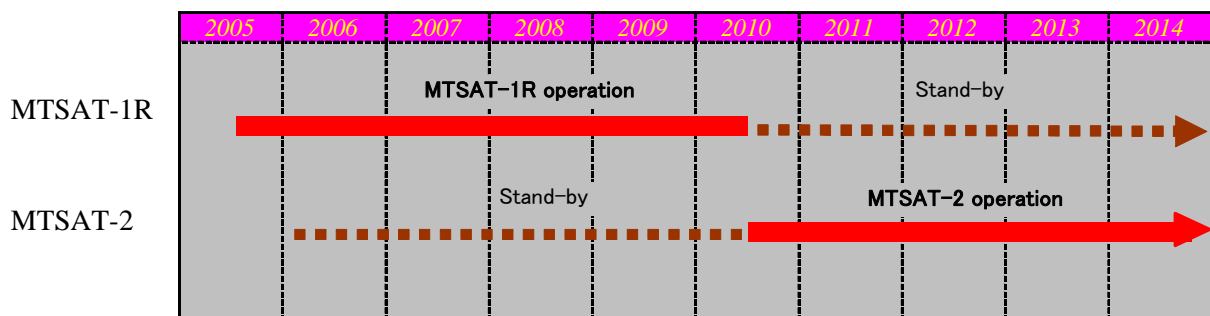


Figure 1 Plan of satellite operation