

FutureNAV In Orbit
Demonstrator - a
first step towards a
European LEO-PNT
component



Jörg Hahn, Roberto Prieto-Cerdeira, Pietro Giordano, Marco Anghileri, Lionel Ries

European Space Agency

International Committee on GNSS

ICG-17, Madrid, Spain 16 October 2023

Context (1/1): PNT market trends for Global Mobility



The Success of GNSS: largest spin-off of space technologies

- Present / used in most domains of global economy and society
- 6.5 billion receivers, 150 billion euros / year (Euroconsult/EUSPA), 10% annual market growth in next decade

Satellite Navigation has become an essential component

- Global Mobility, Smart cities, Autonomous Vehicles and Intelligent Transport Systems
- large public and private investments in Asia, US and Europe

GNSS huge success inspires more demanding needs





Context (2/2): Evolution towards Multi-layer PNT



Answering user needs (e.g. Autonomous Vehicles, Industry 4.0, ...)



Multi-layer PNT architecture!

Layer 2 – LEO

• PNT diversity nodes in space

Layer 3 – Local/Regional components

• E.g. PNT hotspots like 5G/6G, WLAN

PNT hotspots

Layer 4 – Dead-reckoning

PNT-2030+: Ubiquitous, reliable (integrity), resilient, dm-level Provided by a **System-of-Systems PNT** and advanced **Key Enablers**

LEO PNT fully complementary & boosting MEO GNSS backbone

LEO-PNT: opportunities and enablers



Augmentation of GNSS:

- ✓ Faster convergence of high-accuracy positioning
- ✓ Enhanced PNT services in challenging environment (*e.g.* urban canyon, under canopy, indoor, ...)
- ✓ Increased resilience
- ✓ Additional PNT data channel

Specific features:

- ✓ Connected PNT and 2-way PNT links
- Lower user terminal energy consumption
- Solutions combined with satcom standards
- ✓ Monitoring of MEO signals



Technologically enabled by:

- Lower free space losses
- GNSS-enabled ODTS
- Measurement diversity
- Frequency diversity



Sub-GHz (VHF-UHF): penetration, large wavelength for ambiguity resolution

Up to Ku/Ka-band: very wide bandwidth, high directivity, low iono

LEO-PNT In Orbit Demonstrator

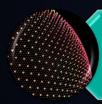




Accelerate LEO PNT from concepts to demonstration



Prepare the future of SatNav



Constellation with more than 10 satellites by 2027



End-to-end demonstration



Pursue systems interoperability based on open standards

Possible Areas of Coordination at ICG



The following aspects may be subject of coordination among current and future LEO-PNT systems:

- Spectrum aspects (frequency coordination, protection of spectrum, usage of new bands for radionavigation)
- Space debris mitigation
- Compatibility / interoperability among LEO-PNT systems and with GNSS/SBAS
- Adoption of standards

