

The 2008 NSI Optical Observatory for Sprite Observations

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The continuing action of the National Space Institute (NSI) aims at developing the World SpriteWatch Partnership, a global network for optical observations of TLEs supporting the French microsatellite TARANIS and the ASIM mission on the International Space Station. In succession to last year's sprite observational campaigns, the NSI will deploy an optical observatory for the 2008 summer campaign. In this talk we present the two camera systems for observation of Transient Luminous Events (TLEs) that are planned to be mounted over France just before the workshop in Corsica. We present the camera system mounted every years on the Observatoire du Pic du Midi in the Pyrenees and the semi-autonomous system mounted last year on Monte Corona in Corsica. The latest is a standalone system, powered by solar panels and connected to the internet with a BGAN satellite connection. An introduction on how to operate the instruments through the internet will be presented.