

## **The Canary GNSS Center (CGC), an effort to promote Space-Geodetic Data and Techniques.**

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In the Canary Islands the newly established Canary GNSS Center (CGC) is an open association between companies, universities and institutions to promote the installation, maintenance, data dissemination and quality control of GNSS stations in the Macaronesia and Western Africa.. An initial study of the baselines for the GPS stations in our region has been carried out and is presented which points out certain effects, this study underscores the lack of consistent data, and articulates the needs for more Continuous Operating Reference Stations (CORS) in our region.

The CGC hopes to officially participate in the AFREF. The association is promoting the free access to GNSS data from all operating regional stations which may already exist and which have been kept private up to now. The CGC are involved in contacting the owners of these stations to promote stable installation of antennas using its inexpensive antenna mount design. The CGC makes available a free centralized site for the dissemination of all our region's current data and will start producing relevant quality and statistical information about all the stored data.

The CGC promotes station maintenance following the International GNSS Service (IGS) standards. Through its members' activities the CGC wants to show the benefits to public and private institutions in the Canary Islands and beyond of establishing more CORS in the Macaronesia (especially in the Canary Islands and Cape Verde) and Western Africa (initially in Mauritania, Senegal and Gambia) to support mapping activities and topography, differential correction networks, in-depth scientific studies, and to promote the AFREF project as an essential development for our continent.