



The goals of the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) system program are to:

- Maintain reliable operational, environmental, and storm warning systems to protect life and property
- Monitor the earth's surface and space environmental conditions
- Introduce improved atmospheric and oceanic observations and data dissemination capabilities
- Develop and provide new and improved applications and products for a wide range of federal agencies, state and local governments, and private users

To address these goals, the National Weather Service (NWS) and the National Environmental Satellite Data and Information Service (NESDIS) of the Department of Commerce established mission requirements for the 1990s that are the bases for design of the GOES I-M system and its capabilities.

The GOES system thus functions to accomplish an environmental mission to service the needs of operational meteorological, space environmental, and research users.