

## ***Software Governance and Licensing Policy at ESA***

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The size of software produced for space application increases. Software packages are assembled from various elements, either commercially available, or reused from open source repositories, or internally reused, or newly created. Their IPR situation is more and more complex. ESA has the obligation to re-distribute its assets to member states and to control their exportation outside member states, which for software can create substantial legal issues. Amongst the problematic aspects are: the identification of IPR owners, the verification of the IPR situation when delivered, the exportation control, the sub-licensing to member state, the presence of open source software with inherited licenses, etc.

The session will be introduced by an overall synthesis of the ESA view of the problem and envisaged solutions: specific contractual clauses, range of pre-defined licenses, verification tool, specific organisational process.