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## Missions news

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- **SMOS gains clearer view as illegal transmitters shut down**  
**14 June 2011**  
 (SMOS) A major international effort to shut down radio signals that have, at times, been blinding the instrument on ESA's SMOS water satellite is producing a marked improvement in the quality of the mission's data  
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- **Cloud of volcanic ash - new image**  
**27 May 2011**  
 (ENVISAT) This Envisat image shows a large cloud of ash north-east of Scotland that has been carried by winds from Iceland's Grímsvötn volcano about 1,000km away.  
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- **ESA's water mission keeps tabs on dry spring soils**  
**12 May 2011**  
 Western Europe's exceptionally dry spring is clear to see in maps generated using data from SMOS. While these maps offer an interesting view of the stark difference in soil moisture compared to a year ago, the data are also important for agricultural and hydrological applications.  
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- **Record loss of ozone over Arctic**  
**06 April 2011**  
 (ENVISAT) ESA's Envisat satellite has measured record low levels of ozone over the Euro-Atlantic sector of the northern hemisphere during March.  
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- **Earth's gravity revealed in unprecedented detail**  
**31 March 2011**  
 After just two years in orbit, ESA's GOCE satellite has gathered enough data to map Earth's gravity with unrivalled precision. Scientists now have access to the most accurate model of the 'geoid' ever produced to further our understanding of how Earth works.  
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- **World race yields salinity data for ESA's SMOS mission**  
**18 February 2011**  
 (SMOS) A new initiative sees world-class sport and science merge as a yacht competing in the Barcelona World Race gathers information on ocean salinity to help validate data from ESA's SMOS water mission.  
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- **Envisat captures volcanic eruptions in Japan today**  
**04 February 2011**  
 Acquired today by ESA's Envisat satellite, this image shows smoke

pouring from Mount Shinmoedake, a volcano in the Kirishima mountain range on Japan's southern island of Kyushu.

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■ **CryoSat ice data now open to all**

02 February 2011

Scientists can now tap into a flow of new data that will help to determine exactly how Earth's ice is changing. This information from ESA's CryoSat mission is set to make a step change in our understanding of the complex relationship between ice and climate.

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■ **Mount Etna bursts into life - new image**

14 January 2011

This new image from ESA's Envisat satellite shows the plume of smoke billowing into the atmosphere from Mount Etna, Sicily, Italy, on 11 January.

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