
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Media English 媒体英语

Europe's new weather satellite goes into orbit

欧洲新气象卫星进入轨道

B B C
LEARNING
ENGLISH
英语教学

(本节目所用的音频资源发表于 2022 年 12 月中旬。)

近日，一颗重要的欧洲卫星已被送入预定轨道。气象卫星“**Meteosat-12**”搭乘阿丽亚娜火箭从法属圭亚那的库鲁航天发射中心起飞，开启了天气预报的新时代。

The value to society of satellite **meteorology** is **immense**. In terms of lives saved and **infrastructure** damage that's avoided, the returns on investment run into billions annually.

卫星气象学的社会价值是巨大的。就卫星气象学挽救的生命和因其免遭破坏的基础设施而言，每年相关投资的回报可达数十亿美元。

Europe's new Meteosat will replace technology that is now more than 20 years old. National **forecasting** agencies like the UK Met Office and Meteo France will see a big jump in the amount of data they receive. One of the major **innovations** on the new Meteosat is the inclusion of a camera to detect lightning.

欧洲的新气象卫星“**Meteosat**”将取代已有 20 多年历史的技术。英国气象局和法国气象局等国家天气预报机构收到的数据量将大幅增加。新气象卫星“**Meteosat**”的主要创新之一是安装了一个探测闪电的摄像头。

The agencies believe this will be a **boon** to what they call **nowcasting** – the ability to track and **forewarn** of **imminent hazardous** events. That's because lightning is a **tracer** for violent wind gusts, heavy rain and hail.

这些气象机构认为，新卫星的运用将有利于所谓的“临近预报”，即追踪并预警即将发生的危险天气事件的能力。这是因为新卫星可以通过观测闪电来追踪狂风、大雨和冰雹。

1. 词汇表

meteorology	气象学
immense	巨大的
infrastructure	基础设施
forecasting	预报
innovations	创新
boon	有用的物品
nowcasting	临近预报
forewarn	预先警告
imminent	临近的，即将发生的
hazardous	危险的
tracer	用于追踪某物的事物

2. 阅读理解：请在读完上文后，回答下列问题。（答案见下页）

1. What are the benefits to society of satellite meteorology?
2. How old is Europe's current meteorology satellite technology?
3. How will this new satellite be able to detect lightning?
4. What benefit does the ability to detect lightning bring?

3. 答案

1. What are the benefits to society of satellite meteorology?

It can save lives and helps to avoid infrastructure being damaged.

2. How old is Europe's current meteorology satellite technology?

Europe's new Meteosat will replace technology that is now more than 20 years old.

3. How will this new satellite be able to detect lightning?

This new Meteosat satellite includes a camera to detect lightning.

4. What benefit does the ability to detect lightning bring?

Lightning can identify where violent wind gusts, heavy rain and hail may occur.