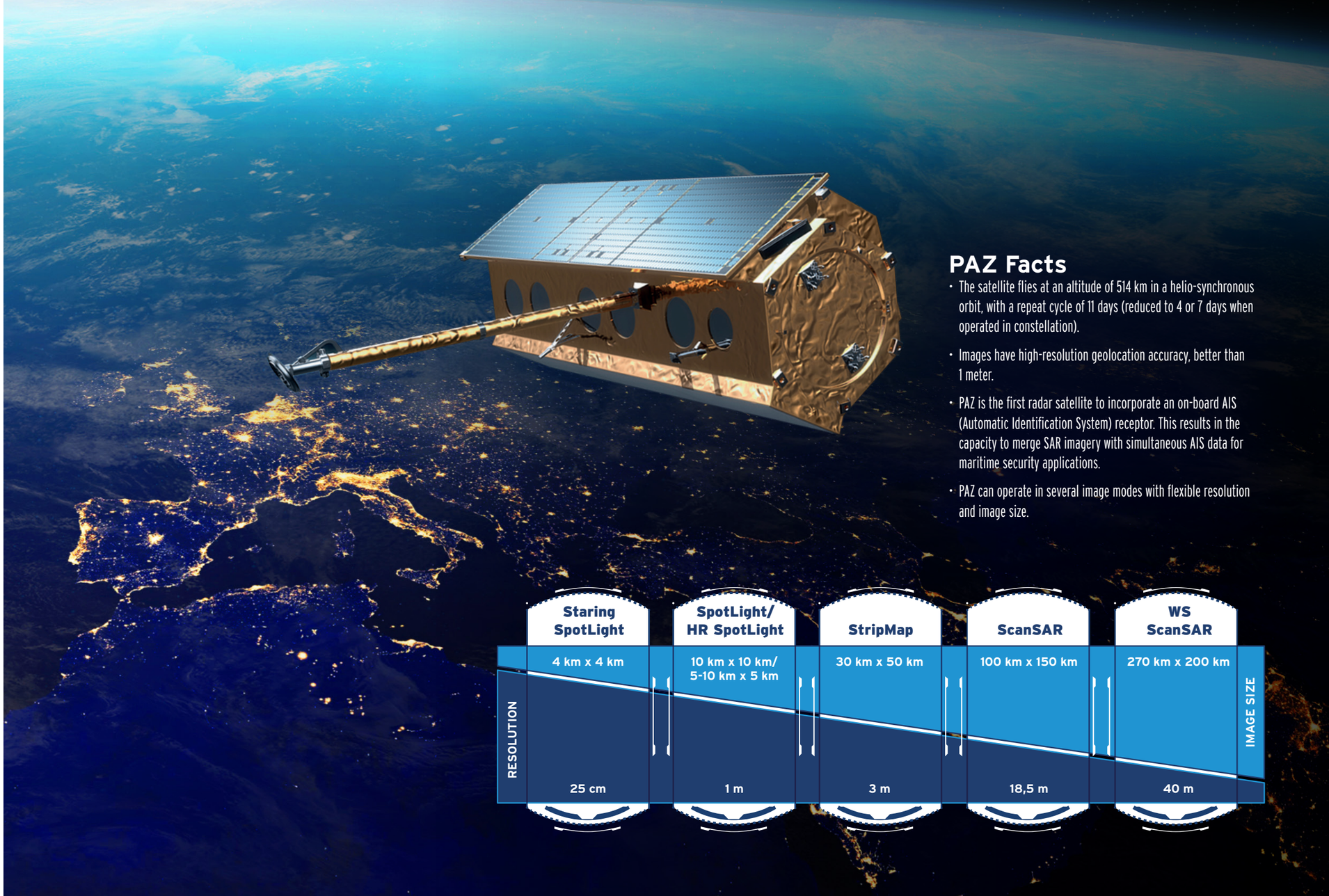
PAZ Mission

PAZ satellite, operated by Hisdesat, is the first Spanish radar Earth Observation satellite, which is included within the National Earth Observation Programme.

PAZ was launched on 22nd February 2018 on-board of a Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base (California).

The satellite collects high-resolution radar imagery for applications in Defense and Civilian domains. The 1,400-kilogram satellite carries an X-Band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) capable of delivering imagery with ground resolution up to 25 cm, capturing around 100 scenes per day under all-weather conditions.

PAZ satellite is positioned in the same orbit than TerraSAR-X and TanDEM-X satellites, from Airbus Defence & Space, in order to operate in constellation with them. This results in significant reduction of the revisit time and an increase in the daily acquisition capacity.



PAZ Facts

- The satellite flies at an altitude of 514 km in a helio-synchronous orbit, with a repeat cycle of 11 days (reduced to 4 or 7 days when operated in constellation).
- Images have high-resolution geolocation accuracy, better than 1 meter.
- PAZ is the first radar satellite to incorporate an on-board AIS (Automatic Identification System) receptor. This results in the capacity to merge SAR imagery with simultaneous AIS data for maritime security applications.
- PAZ can operate in several image modes with flexible resolution and image size.