The ISDC was founded in 1995 to provide the ground segment for data processing, archiving, user support, and scientific expertise for the INTEGRAL mission. The ISDC deciphers incoming data and provides automatic data screening (within seconds), quick look results (within a day), as well as data archival and distribution. On the INTEGRAL mission, the ISDC staff has gained valuable experience which is now beneficiary to other missions handled at the ISDC.

The ISDC is developing the main software packages for the Level 1 data processing of the Planck Low-Frequency Instrument (LFI) and is involved in the study of extragalactic foreground objects.

ISDC plays a major role in the GAIA coordination unit for variability processing (CU7), characterizing the photometric and spectral variability.

The Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA) will provide unprecedented resolution and sensitivity in the GeV and TeV domain. ISDC can function as the data center for this project.

POLAR is a space experiment to measure polarization of gamma-ray bursts. ISDC is busy right now to measure with a prototype in the laboratory the key parameters and to develop the engineering model. Polar might be installed on the Chinese or on the International Space Station.

XEUS is a candidate for the next large mission inside the Cosmic Vision program. ISDC is ready to provide its expertise and experience to the ground segment activities.

When thinking about future missions, the ISDC can provide useful tools and services:
- Data handling, archival, processing and distribution
- Near real time analysis as well as scientific support
- Software development
- Ground segment solutions

Ground segment work at ISDC benefits from:
- Experience gained in 6 successful years of INTEGRAL operations and software development
- An international team with contacts to all major astrophysical institutes
- Flexible and motivated software, hardware and science staff
- Synergy effects through shared soft and hardware

Questions? Comments? Contact us under http://isdc.unige.ch