There is a great deal of knowledge and experience in the ILRS community, across the global network, and collaboration has always been crucial in the advancements of the SLR technique and in improvements to the data products. The newly launched ILRS NESC forum, hosted at the SGF, Herstmonceux, aims to take advantage of this resource and to enhance the connection between colleagues. It uses the freely available ‘Simple Machines’ engine (www.simplemachines.org).

- **Register to join the forum**
  You can sign up now! You must provide a username, an email address and answer some simple security questions. Please include some user details or a photo to clearly identify yourself and take a look at the welcome messages before you start.

- **Browse / search the boards**
  Take a look at the posts already on the forum by clicking on the subject headings.
  Under the two main categories of ‘General Topics’ and ‘Questions to the NESC Forum’. The topics for discussion are organised in ‘boards’ such as ‘Station Performance’ and ‘Station Equipment Questions’.

  There is also a search tool to help find the keywords you are looking for.

- **Start a thread / post a reply**
  As a member you can start a new topic on any of the discussion boards to pose a question or share an idea.
  You can also post a reply to the existing topics. A post can be formatted with different font styles and can include links, quotes, images and attachments.

- **Select email notifications**
  To stay in touch with a discussion board you can be alerted of new posts by email instantly or on a daily or weekly basis.
  You can select which boards or individual topics to receive notifications from by clicking the ‘NOTIFY’ button at the relevant locations on the forum boards. You can manage your notifications in your profile settings.

- **Get posting & invite colleagues**
  Be an active participant and invite your colleagues to register to help make sure the forum develops into a lively hub, where questions are answered, ideas are developed and experience is shared.