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Astronautical News

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Collator
Scott Hatton

Graphic Design
Takiss Vessim

In cooperation with
The British Interplanetary Society

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US Air Force lines up space launch vehicle investments Orbital ATK, SpaceX and United Launch Alliance are key contenders for the Air Force's EELV launch service investments.

NASA queries private sector for lunar landing services NASA is seeking U.S. companies capable of delivering unmanned payloads to the lunar surface.

SpaceShipTwo passes feathered flight milestone Virgin Galactic's second SpaceShipTwo (SS2) suborbital spaceplane passed a significant milestone with the first in-flight deployment of the feathering re-entry system.

Arianespace restarts operations after French Guiana strikes The European space launch company is eager to show it is still reliable despite facing a major roadblock (literally).

Myanmar plans to set up own satellite system Myanmar is planning to set up a satellite system of its own and to form a steering committee for the purpose, the official Global New Light of Myanmar reported.

Spaceport Prestwick to join forces with Newquay UK bid To win grant funding, Orbital Access will have to show how they will "develop spaceflight capabilities, such as building spaceport infrastructure or adapting launch vehicle technology for use in the UK".

MUOS-5 Navy satellite online after engine failure A Navy communications satellite launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station last June is now online after a post-launch engine failure, according to builder Lockheed Martin.

Virgin Galactic Aims to Fly Space Tourists in 2018, CEO Says Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic is on track to begin commercial passenger spaceflights before the end of 2018, the company's chief executive said.

Biggest space telescope heads west on path to launchpad With its testing at Goddard Space Flight Center completed, NASA's James Webb Space Telescope embarks for further testing in Texas before its 2018 launch.

Martian life must be rare as free energy source remains untapped The amount of carbon monoxide in Mars's atmosphere suggests that any existing bacteria that feed on it make up no more than one billionth of Earth's biomass

First results from Jupiter probe show huge magnetism and storms Observations from the Juno spacecraft are confounding astronomers with revelations about the weather and magnetism of our solar system's biggest planet

Next breakthroughs in exoplanet discovery It was a good week for astrobiology. Within days of NASA's announcement that the necessary ingredients for life exist in the plumes erupting from the southern pole of Saturn's moon Enceladus, scientists gathered at Stanford University to discuss discovering life outside the Solar System.

Japan aims to uncover how moons of Mars formed The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has announced a mission to visit the two moons of Mars and return a rock sample to Earth. It's a plan to uncover both the mystery of the moons' creation and, perhaps, how life began in our Solar System.

Recent Launch Activities

SpaceX Launches US spy satellite on secret mission, nails rocket landing A SpaceX Falcon rocket lifted off from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida on Monday (May 1) to boost a classified spy satellite into orbit for the U.S. military, then turned around and touched down at a nearby landing pad. It was the 34th mission for SpaceX, but its first flight for the Department of Defense, a customer long-pursued by company founder Elon Musk.
(2 May 2017)

China launches first cargo spacecraft Tianzhou-1 A Chinese rocket successfully sent the country's first cargo spacecraft, Tianzhou-1, into space from the southern island province of Hainan . Fuelled by liquid oxygen and kerosene, the Long March-7 Y2 carrier rocket blasted off from Hainan's Wenchang Space Launch Centre.
(21 April 2017)

Orbital cargo mission lifts off to ISS Orbital ATK's seventh NASA-contracted International Space Station resupply mission lifted off from Cape Canaveral on April 18.
(19 April 2017)

Long March 3B launches experimental ChinaSat-16 satellite The Chinese returned to launch action with the lofting of a new experimental communications satellite from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre. The launch was conducted by the Long March 3B G2 'Chang Zheng-3B/G2' (Y43) from the LC2 Launch Complex in Sichuan province.
(12 April 2017)

Development Activities

Japan aims to uncover how moons of Mars formed The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has announced a mission to visit the two moons of Mars and return a rock sample to Earth. It's a plan to uncover both the mystery of the moons' creation and, perhaps, how life began in our Solar System.
(4 May 2017)

China to conduct several manned space flights around 2020 China plans to conduct several manned space flights from 2019 to 2022, during which a 60-tonne space station will be assembled and built, said Wang Zhaoyao, director of China's manned space programme office.
(2 May 2017)

Indian Space Research Organisation Starts Work on India's First Venus Mission The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has begun the process to send its first satellite to Venus by inviting Indian scientists and academia for space-based experiments. The Announcement of Opportunity released by ISRO said the Principal Investigator of the proposal should be capable of bringing together the instrument team and lead the team for developing a space-qualified instrument.
(1 May 2017)

"Dragonfly'" drone could fly across Saturn's moon Titan The quadcopter-style lander could explore some of the moon's most promising sites for habitability and life.
(29 April 2017)

New Russian Medium-Class Carrier Rocket Could Compete With SpaceX's Falcon A new medium-class carrier rocket to be developed in Russia will be able to compete with the Falcon rocket manufactured by the US-based SpaceX company, Russia's RSC Energia space corporation said.
(28 April 2017)

NASA could use a miniaturised satellite to test Europa moon's dust and radiation Studying the dust particles around Jupiter's famous icy moon would indirectly reveal details about its surface, and its habitability prospects.
(15 April 2017)

France, Japan aim to land probe on Mars moon France and Japan want to recover pieces of a Martian Moon and bring them back to Earth, the head of France's National Centre for Space Studies (CNES) said. The Martian Moons Exploration project would launch a probe in 2024 destined for Phobos, the largest and closest of two moons circling the Red Planet.
(15 April 2017)

China's lunar sample return mission will pave way for future ambitions Later this year, China is launching the Change'5 spacecraft to return a sample from the Moon. The mission will pave the way for future ambitions, including crewed trips to the lunar surface.
(7 April 2017)

ISS Activities

ISS investigation aims to identify unknown microbes in space Building on the ability to sequence DNA in space and previous investigations, Genes in Space-3 is a collaboration to prepare, sequence and identify unknown organisms, entirely from space.
(1 May 2017)

Cygnus docks with ISS, delivering 28 Cubesats from multiple customers Orbital ATK's Cygnus (OA-7) spacecraft successfully berthed to the International Space Station (ISS) after launching 18 April. This mission is NanoRacks' largest CubeSat mission to date - carrying 38 CubeSats to be deployed from NanoRacks deployers on both the ISS and on the outside of Cygnus.
(24 April 2017)

Two new crew members arrive at International Space Station After a six-hour flight, NASA astronaut Jack Fischer and cosmonaut Fyodor Yurchikhin of the Russian space agency Roscosmos arrived at the International Space Station at 9:23 a.m. EDT Thursday where they will continue important scientific research.
(21 April 2017)

Two Russians, one American land back on Earth from ISS Two Russian cosmonauts and a US astronaut touched down safely in central Kazakhstan Monday following a 173-day mission aboard the International Space Station. NASA astronaut Shane Kimbrough was accompanied by Russian space agency cosmonauts Sergei Ryzhikov and Andrei Borisenko.
(11 April 2017)

Russia could stay with the International Space Station to 2028 The orbital outpost is presently slated to be retired as early as 2024.
(10 April 2017)

Space Tourism

Virgin Galactic Aims to Fly Space Tourists in 2018, CEO Says Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic is on track to begin commercial passenger spaceflights before the end of 2018, the company's chief executive said.
(1 May 2017)

Satellites track Antarctic ice loss over decades Over two decades of observations by five radar satellites show the acceleration of ice loss of 30 glaciers in Western Palmer Land in the southwest Antarctic Peninsula.
(3 May 2017)

Space debris problem getting worse, say scientists Scientists sounded the alarm over the problems posed to space missions from orbital junk - the accumulating debris from mankind's six-decade exploration of the cosmos. In less than a quarter of a century, the number of orbiting fragments large enough to destroy a spacecraft has more than doubled, a conference in Germany heard.
(19 April 2017)

ESA helps faster cleaner shipping With around 90% of world trade carried by ships, making sure a vessel follows the fastest route has clear economic benefits. By merging measurements from different satellites, ESA is providing key information on ocean currents, which is not only making shipping more efficient but is also helping to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.
(18 April 2017)

ESA helps faster cleaner shipping With around 90% of world trade carried by ships, making sure a vessel follows the fastest route has clear economic benefits. By merging measurements from different satellites, ESA is providing key information on ocean currents, which is not only making shipping more efficient but is also helping to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.
(15 April 2017)

China considering cooperation with Russia on space debris China is contemplating developing cooperation with Russia with respect to space debris, China's National Space Administration Secretary-General Yulong Tian told Sputnik.
(12 April 2017)

China's BeiDou system to expand cooperation to SE Asia China's home-grown BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) will expand its cooperation to Thailand and Sri Lanka, and then to the entire Southeast Asia, in a bid to go global, the system's operator has said.
(1 April 2017)

Decommissioned Earth Science satellite to remain in orbit for decades A NASA Earth science satellite whose mission is ending this week will remain in orbit through the middle of the century, far longer than the limit set by orbital debris mitigation guidelines.
(30 March 2017)

Satellites shed new light on earthquakes Satellite radar scans of last year's earthquake in New Zealand are changing the way we are thinking about earthquake hazards in regions where our planet's tectonic plates meet.
(25 March 2017)

ICESat-2 to provide more depth to sea ice forecasts In March, the Arctic sea ice pack is supposed to reach its greatest extent - but this year it's far below average, off by an area about the size of Texas and New Mexico combined. Satellite observations currently reveal how much of the ocean surface is covered by ice, but there is another critical measurement to make.
(23 March 2017)

30 years of deforestation While the world marks the International Day of Forests, satellites continue to monitor the long-term effects of human activities on our planet's precious resources
(22 March 2017)

Copernicus Sentinel-2B delivers its first images Just over a week after being lofted into orbit, the European Union's Sentinel-2B satellite delivered its first images of Earth, offering a glimpse of the 'colour vision' it will provide for the Copernicus environmental monitoring programme.
(16 March 2017)

NASA studies growing Louisiana deltas The Louisiana coastline is sinking under the Gulf of Mexico at the rate of about one football field of land every hour (about 18 square miles of land lost in a year). But within this sinking region, two river deltas are growing. The Atchafalaya River and its diversion channel, Wax Lake Outlet, are gaining about one football field of new land every 11 and 8 hours, respectively.
(28 February 2017)

Using high-resolution satellites to measure African farm yields Stanford researchers have developed a new way to estimate crop yields from space, using high-res photos snapped by a new wave of compact satellites. The approach, detailed in the February 13 issue of the journal of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, could be used to estimate agricultural productivity and test intervention strategies in poor regions of the world.
(25 February 2017)

Turn satellites into sparkling fireworks to burn up space junk Satellite debris that falls to Earth could be deadly, but pellets made of a heat-generating mixture could help them burn up safely in the atmosphere
(19 February 2017)

100 Earth-shattering remote-sensing applications and uses This list may change the way you feel about how this industry is changing our world and the way we think.
(13 February 2017)

CryoSat reveals lake outbursts beneath Antarctic ice A novel way of using ESA's CryoSat mission has revealed how lakes beneath Thwaites Glacier drained into the Amundsen Sea - potentially the largest such outflow ever reported in this region of West Antarctica.
(11 February 2017)

Keeping space communications reliable for an "always on" world So many of the services we all depend on today are powered by space communications. Without space the world economy, in many ways, turns back half a century in time. For some time now, we have been hearing from the Pentagon that space is no longer the sanctuary it once was.
(7 February 2017)

Sea ice cover in 2016 is lowest ever recorded Latest data from ISRO's weather monitoring satellite SCATSAT-1 has revealed changes in the sea ice cover over the Arctic and the Antarctic. According to ISRO, the changes in the Arctic summer minimum sea ice cover were observed using SCATSAT-1 data collected on October 02, 2016, and compared it with OSCAT data collected on October 02, 2011. It was observed that sea ice cover during 2016 is lower than that observed in 2011, which was earlier lowest sea ice record.
(6 February 2017)

Satellites counting whales from space revolutionising monitoring techniques for researchers A research team in Perth is becoming familiar with what whales look like from space. They have commissioned two satellite images to be taken from 600 kilometres above Earth in order to do an accurate headcount of humpbacks migrating up the WA coast.
(5 February 2017)

Time to make sure Europe's troubled satnav system really flies Europe's costly Galileo satnav network has been branded a vanity project. In an isolationist world, it now seems a wise insurance policy, says Paul Marks
(4 February 2017)

ISRO to launch backup satellite to replace IRNSS-1A India will launch one of its back up navigation satellites this year as a replacement to IRNSS-1A satellite, whose three atomic clocks have failed, ISRO said. The agency denied the existence of similar problems with the rubidium atomic clocks in another navigation satellite.
(4 February 2017)

First results from Jupiter probe show huge magnetism and storms Observations from the Juno spacecraft are confounding astronomers with revelations about the weather and magnetism of our solar system's biggest planet
(5 May 2017)

Cassini radio signal from Saturn picked up after dive The Cassini spacecraft is sending data back to Earth after diving in between Saturn's rings and cloudtops. The probe executed the daredevil manoeuvre on Wednesday - the first of 22 plunges planned over the next five months - while out of radio contact.
(27 April 2017)

NASA's Cassini, Voyager missions suggest new picture of Sun's interaction with galaxy New data from NASA's Cassini mission, combined with measurements from the two Voyager spacecraft and NASA's Interstellar Boundary Explorer, or IBEX, suggests that our sun and planets are surrounded by a giant, rounded system of magnetic field from the sun - calling into question the alternate view of the solar magnetic fields trailing behind the sun in the shape of a long comet tail.
(26 April 2017)

China's first cargo spacecraft docks with space lab China's first cargo spacecraft, Tianzhou-1, successfully completed docking with an orbiting space lab, the Beijing Aerospace Control Center said.
(24 April 2017)

Gaia's snapshot of another galaxy While compiling an unprecedented census of one billion stars in our Galaxy, ESA's Gaia mission is also surveying stars beyond our Milky Way. A new image of M33, also known as the Triangulum galaxy, shows tens of thousands of stars detected by Gaia, including a small stellar census in its star-forming region NGC 604.
(24 April 2017)

Cassini probe heads towards Saturn 'grand finale' Cassini has used a gravitational slingshot around Saturn's moon Titan to put it on a path towards destruction. The flyby swept the probe into an orbit that takes it in between the planet's rings and its atmosphere. This gap-run gives the satellite the chance finally to work out the length of a day on Saturn, and to determine the age of its stunning rings. But the manoeuvre means also that it cannot escape a fiery plunge into Saturn's clouds in September.
(22 April 2017)

NASA and partners survey space weather science NASA scientists worked with scientists and engineers from research institutions and industry during a pair of intensive week-long workshops in order to assess the state of science surrounding this type of space weather.
(22 April 2017)

Saturn moon 'able to support life' Saturn's ice-crusted moon Enceladus may now be the single best place to go to look for life beyond Earth. The assessment comes on the heels of new observations at the 500km-wide world made by the Cassini probe. It has flown through and sampled the waters from a subsurface ocean that is being jetted into space. Cassini's chemistry analysis strongly suggests the Enceladean seafloor has hot fluid vents - places that on Earth are known to teem with life.
(14 April 2017)

New Horizons spacecraft enters hibernation The New Horizons spacecraft has entered hibernation, reported by Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.
(13 April 2017)

Milky Way stars on the move - satellite data used to see into the future The motion of 2 million stars over the course of 5 million years into the future is depicted in this new animation from the European Space Agency. Data from their Gaia Mission was used to create it.
(13 April 2017)

Metal detected in Mars' Atmosphere NASA's MAVEN spacecraft has spotted iron, magnesium and sodium ions ??electrically charged atoms - high up in the Red Planet's atmosphere over the past two years, a new study reports.
(12 April 2017)

Cassini prepares for last plunge NASA's unmanned Cassini spacecraft is preparing for its final plunge into Saturn later this year, after two decades of helping Earth-bound scientists make new discoveries about the sixth planet from the Sun and its mysterious rings.
(8 April 2017)

NASA observations reshape basic plasma wave physics When NASA's Magnetospheric Multiscale - or MMS - mission was launched, the scientists knew it would answer questions fundamental to the nature of our universe - and MMS hasn't disappointed. A new finding, presented in a paper in Nature Communications, provides observational proof of a 50-year-old theory and reshapes the basic understanding of a type of wave in space.
(6 April 2017)

Prolific Mars Orbiter Completes 50,000 Orbits The most data-productive spacecraft yet at Mars swept past its 50,000th orbit this week, continuing to compile the most sharp-eyed global coverage ever accomplished by a camera at the Red Planet. In addition, the spacecraft - NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) - recently aided preparations for NASA's next mission to Mars, the InSight lander.
(3 April 2017)

NASA orbiter shows Mars lost 90 per cent of its CO2 to space The MAVEN spacecraft has completed the key part of its mission: to track down how much argon Mars's atmosphere is giving up as a proxy for carbon dioxide loss
(2 April 2017)

ExoMars: Rover scientists to study Mawrth Vallis option Scientists are going to investigate a second site on Mars as a possible destination to send ESA's 2021 rover. Scientists spent two days considering the options and plumped in the end for Mawrth Vallis - an area rich in clay minerals that must have formed during prolonged rock interactions with water. Mawrth joins Oxia Planum, which was selected for study in 2015.
(29 March 2017)

New treasures from Juno: Jupiter dazzles during fourth close approach Image processor Bjrn Jónsson shares some of his latest stunning images of Jupiter, created using data from NASA's Juno spacecraft.
(28 March 2017)

NASA's SDO sees a stretch of spotless Sun For 15 days starting on March 7, 2017, NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory, or SDO, returned visible light images of a yolk-like spotless sun. This is the longest stretch of spotlessness since the last solar minimum in April 2010, indicating the solar cycle is marching on toward the next minimum, which scientists predict will occur between 2019- 2020.
(26 March 2017)

China's first cargo spacecraft to make three rendezvous with Tiangong-2 China's first cargo spacecraft Tianzhou-1 is expected to dock with the orbiting Tiangong-2 space lab three times after its planned launch in April, sources said. Tianzhou-1 will be sent into space from the Wenchang Space Launch Center in south China's Hainan Province aboard a Long March-7 Y2 carrier rocket.
(9 March 2017)

Orbiter steers clear of Mars moon Phobos NASA's MAVEN spacecraft performed a previously unscheduled manoeuvre to avoid a collision in the near future with Mars' moon Phobos. The Mars Atmosphere and Volatile EvolutioN (MAVEN) spacecraft has been orbiting Mars for just over two years, studying the Red Planet's upper atmosphere, ionosphere and interactions with the sun and solar wind.
(4 March 2017)

Increasing the sensitivity of next-generation gravitational wave detectors Nearly one year ago the LIGO Collaboration announced the detection of gravitational waves, once again confirming Einstein's theory of General Relativity. This important discovery by the Advanced Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (aLIGO) has spurred great interest in improving these advanced optical detectors.
(27 February 2017)

Kepler's 'second life' - DLR researchers find six planets In 2009, NASA's Kepler space probe was launched, embarking on a mission to hunt for exoplanets. In 2013, due to the failure of two of its reaction wheels, the mission had to be modified. Mission control managed to change the operational modus and manoeuvre the telescope orbiter into a different position in its orbit around the Sun that enabled the mission to continue.
(24 February 2017)

Wonderful potentially habitable worlds around TRAPPIST-1 Scientists have found seven, Earth-size planets orbiting a star just 40 light years away. Three lie in the habitable zone and could have water on their surfaces.
(23 February 2017)

NASA's Kepler mission could detect exomoons formed by giant impacts The hunt is on for moons orbiting distant exoplanets - but only the most massive "exomoons" may be detectable.
(21 February 2017)

Juno Jupiter probe won't move into shorter orbit NASA's Juno spacecraft won't move into a closer orbit around Jupiter as originally planned, agency officials announced.
(20 February 2017)

Big data for the universe Astronomers at Lomonosov Moscow State University in cooperation with their French colleagues and with the help of citizen scientists have released "The Reference Catalog of galaxy SEDs" (RCSED), which contains value-added information about 800,000 galaxies.
(13 February 2017)

Who will get first dibs on the powerful James Webb Space Telescope? NASA has issued solicitation for science projects using the long-awaited and incredibly powerful successor to Hubble, which is scheduled to launch next year.
(10 February 2017)

US Air Force lines up space launch vehicle investments Orbital ATK, SpaceX and United Launch Alliance are key contenders for the Air Force's EELV launch service investments.
(5 May 2017)

India's Space Agency saves over US$2 billion per year for the country The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is not just building satellites or driving innovation by sharing its Lithium-ion batteries for powering vehicles, the space agency is helping fishermen locate better catchment areas. By doing this, ISRO is helping India save over $ 2 billion per year, said the ISRO chairman.
(2 May 2017)

Spaceport Prestwick to join forces with Newquay UK bid To win grant funding, Orbital Access will have to show how they will "develop spaceflight capabilities, such as building spaceport infrastructure or adapting launch vehicle technology for use in the UK".
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MUOS-5 Navy satellite online after engine failure A Navy communications satellite launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station last June is now online after a post-launch engine failure, according to builder Lockheed Martin.
(30 April 2017)

China courts international coalition set up to promote space cooperation A coalition was established Sunday in northwest China's Shaanxi Province to promote innovation and cooperation on space exploration under the the Belt and Road Initiative. The coalition, set up in the provincial capital of Xi'an, encompasses 48 universities, research institutes and academic organisations at home and abroad.
(28 April 2017)

ESA boosting its Argentine link with deep space Thanks to some high-tech improvements, ESA's radio dish in Argentina will be ready to receive the rising torrent of scientific data beamed back by future missions exploring deep in our Solar System.
(27 April 2017)

Houston Spaceport Breaks Ground On New Control Tower A new, state-of-the-art air traffic control tower for the city of Houston's Ellington Airport and Spaceport is expected to be operational by the end of next year.
(26 April 2017)

ISRO aims at increasing satellite launches to 12 per year The Indian Space Research Organisation is trying to increase its capacity to deliver by scaling up the frequency of launches to 12 per year from the seven at present by building more satellites and lowering the cost of access to space.
(25 April 2017)

US President signs Commercial Satellite Weather Bill President Trump signed into law this week a weather bill that includes provisions formally authorizing ongoing commercial satellite weather data projects and a study of future weather satellite needs.
(23 April 2017)

Australia's back in the satellite business with a new launch The first Australian-built satellites to be launched in 15 years have been sent to the International Space Station where they will be deployed from. Unlike the enormous satellites Australia uses for telecommunications, each of these new satellites is the size of a loaf of bread. But although small, they may provide a key step in enabling Australia's entry into the global satellite market.
(22 April 2017)

Mongolia launches its first satellite Mongolia launched its first satellite on Wednesday, part of its efforts to make use of new technology to diversify its resource-dependent economy.
(20 April 2017)

Creation of carrier rocket for Baiterek Space Complex to cost Russia $500Mln The director of the joint Kazakh-Russian enterprise JSC Baiterek said that the creation of a carrier rocket for the joint Russian-Kazakh Baiterek Space Complex at the Baikonur cosmodrome will approximately cost Russia $500 million, while the Kazakh side will finance the modernization of the existing facilities at the cosmodrome.
(20 April 2017)

Russia and US woo Brazil, hope to use advantageous base for space launches Russia, France, the United States and Israel are interested in using Brazil's Alcantara Launch Center (CLA) for space launches, according to Brazilian Defense Minister Raul Jungmann; the CLA is valued internationally for being the closest launch centre to the equator.
(20 April 2017)

China's National Space Agency outlines space exploration agenda China is pushing forward on a number of space fronts, including milestone-making robotic missions to the moon, as well as scoping out an automated Mars sample-return mission by 2030.
(17 April 2017)

Brexit raises question mark over UK's role in some European space projects The future participation of major segments of Britain's space industry in Europe's Galileo navigation system and Copernicus environmental network, two multibillion-dollar flagship programmes with dozens of satellites, is sure to be a significant part of negotiations as the UK withdraws from the European Union, according to a member of the European Commission.
(17 April 2017)

BAE Systems to develop U.S. space, missile defense tech BAE Systems received a contract to research and develop new space and missile defense technologies for the U.S. Army, the company announced. The enterprise is one of eight contractors to compete for the $3 billion indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity deal. It was awarded by the U.S. Army's Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, or SMDC/ARSTRAT.
(16 April 2017)

Two Vostochny launches expected in late 2017 Russia plans to hold two launches from its newest Vostochny space centre in the Far East this December, the head of the Roskosmos space corporation told the Rossiiskaya Gazeta government daily.
(14 April 2017)

SSL completes agreement to partner with DARPA on satellite servicing Space Systems Loral (SSL) announced that it has signed and executed an agreement with the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to develop advanced capabilities for servicing and maintaining spacecraft in geostationary orbit.
(13 April 2017)

SES and Luxembourg government extend SATMED E-Health contract SES and the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs report that they have extended a contract to maintain and support SATMED, an e-health satellite platform, until 2020.
(11 April 2017)

Ukraine in talks with ESA to become member Ukraine's State Space Agency is currently in accession discussions with the European Space Agency (ESA) to become its member.
(10 April 2017)

Russia critcal to ExoMars Project says Italian Space Agency Head Russia is a fundamental partner in the joint project between the European Space Agency (ESA) and Russia's Roscosmos space corporation ExoMars, Italian Space Agency (ASI) President Roberto Battiston told Sputnik.
(8 April 2017)

Opportunities

NASA AFRC Internship - NASA (United States)
previous work. Students are given an opportunity to interact with NASA researchers, engineers, and technicians in design, construction, implementation, verification

NASA History Division Internship - NASA (United States)
As part of NASA 's Office of Communications, student interns will assist the NASA History Division by writing our social media posts; writing features for our Web

NASA Journalism and Multimedia Fall Internship - NASA (United States)
INTRODUCTION: NASA invites students working towards degrees in journalism, communications, media relations, science writing, interactive journalism, or broadcast

NASA LaRC: Crew Systems and Aviation Operations - NASA (United States)
NASA is conducting research in the areas of intelligent flight systems, autonomous systems, aviation operations, flight deck systems, and crew

NASA LaRC: Flight Deck Technologies - NASA (United States)
NASA is conducting research into Increasingly Autonomous Systems (IAS) for the flight deck. This work involves computer programming, machine learning, and human in

Data Management Analyst - NASA Open Data Project - Qualified Technical Services, Inc (United States)
Work Location: NASA Ames Research Center (Mountain View, CA) Minimum Citizenship: US Citizen Clearance: US Government JOB DESCRIPTION Interested in improving the

Data Management Analyst/technical Writer, *Nasa* Project Open Data - Sgt Incorporated (United States)
Data Management Analyst/Technical Writer, NASA Project Open Data Information Technology Moffett Field, California Job ID: 20308 I'm Interested! Description

Development of Advanced Optical Diagnostics for NASA Ground Test Facilities - NASA (United States)
of several non-intrusive, advanced optical measurement techniques for use in NASA wind tunnel facilities in support of several strategic thrusts identified

Engineering internship with SOFIA at NASA Armstrong - NASA (United States)
Provide potential experience in leadership, engineering, and astronomy. The student will assist the SOFIA Program in the development and integration of various

EPSSG Operations Preparation for System Operations Engineer
Solenix is specialized in the provision of highquality software engineering, technical consulting and operations services in the aerospace domain. This vacancy note concerns an onsite consulting position at EUMETSAT in Darmstadt, Germany. EPSSG Operations Preparation for System Operations Engineer 1713058 Job Description We are looking for a System Operations Engineer for our client EUMETSAT. You will cover Operation Preparation tasks focusing on the development of EPSSG System Operations. Your tasks shall include Responsible for the definition of the overall Operations Validation Plan OVP. Implement and coordinate the OVP for the validation of the operational scenarios and support the SIM Officer during the simulation campaigns. Coordinate with IVV team to deliver as necessary validated operational scenarios for VV test cases. Responsible for the definition of system operation documentation for both nominal and contingency operations System Ops Guides in close coordination with OPS d...

EPSSG Operations Preparation Systems Engineer
About us SCISYS Deutschland GmbH provides professional engineering and consultancy services supporting space programmes and missions. We have a strong presence at ESOC and EUMETSAT, as well as serving all ESA sites and spacecraft primes. Our team is composed of university graduates and experienced professionals, comprising some of the most knowledgeable, dedicated and talented engineers across Europe. Our services cover the whole life cycle of space programmes from early concepts to operations. Our Space Division provides a dynamic, supportive and

friendly atmosphere in which you are encouraged to lead with initiative. We support new ideas from our colleagues and are focused on innovation. Moreover, we actively manage your professional development, training and career progression. For the location in Darmstadt Germany we are looking for a EPSSG Operations Preparation Systems Engineer to work at EUMETSAT. Tasks EPSSG is the second generation of EUMETSATs polar system and as such has a ...

Full Stack Developer - NASA Open Data Project - Qualified Technical Services, Inc (United States)
Work Location: NASA Ames Research Center (Mountain View, CA) Minimum Citizenship: US Citizen Clearance: US Government REQUIREMENTS Education: BS Discipline(s):

Galileo Network Systems Engineer
About us HI Iberia, mostly composed of highly skilled engineers, has been providing ICT solutions and outsourcing for our clients for more than 20 years, contributing with flexibility, rapid response to the market and new business models. All this is possible thanks to our speed in detecting new opportunities and adapting our services. Our commitment to innovation and quality is our best recommendation. I Iberia invites experienced professionals to apply for this unique opportunity to work in Galileo, the European space flagship programme, and join our team onsite at the Galileo Control Centre in Munich Germany to work as a Galileo Network Systems Engineer. Tasks and Responsibilities Switching technologies particularly for Cisco and AlcatelLucent Routing technologies. Network protocol services FTP, NTP, DNS, DHCP, SNMP. Firewalling Technologies. VPN standards and technologies. IDSIPS Network intrusion detection technologies. System administration of Linux servers RedHat Enterpr...

Ground Segment Systems AIVTechnical Manager
Deimos Space is seeking for an experienced AIV AssemblyIntegrationVerification manager to support ground segment system level AIV activities in several international projects private sector acting as project Technical AIV manager. Objectives Project requirements review and requirements DDBB maintenance Planning and monitoring of AIV activities AIV status control Test campaigns definition and coordination AIV team coordination Customer communication Technical Followup of customer and providers Project manager reporting Education University master degree in the computer science engineering domain Professional Experience Strong system engineering background in Earth Observation Ground systems. Experience in the development lifecycle of a complex space system ground segment andor subsystem is required including integration and verification, as well as in supervising their procurement or development. Competence and experience in managing requirements, their maintenance, traceability, verif...

Microwave Engineer
Vacancy in the Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality ESA is an equal opportunity employer, committed to achieving diversity within the workforce and creating an inclusive working environment. Applications from women are encouraged. POST Microwave Engineer in the Radio Frequency Equipment and Technology Section, Radio Frequency Payloads and Technology Division, Radio Frequency Systems and Payloads Office, Electrical Department, Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality. This post is classified in the A2A4 grade band on the Coordinated Organisations salary scale. LOCATION ESTEC, Noordwijk Netherlands. DUTIES The Radio Frequency Equipment Technology Section provides functional support to ESA projects and carries out technological research RD in the fields of Radio Frequency RF equipment and building blocks, active and passive components, and related design and characterisation tools. Reporting to the Head of Section and within the above technical fields, the posthol...

Network Infrastructure and Solutions Development and Deployment Consultancy fm
For our customer Eumetsat we are looking for a suitable candidate on the base fulltime unlimited contract for the location Darmstadt, Germany starting in September 2017 for the position Network Infrastructure and Solutions Development and Deployment Consultancy fm Ref. 2017325 Your responsibilities Leveraged Comms Team The Consultant shall be part of a leveraged allmission team, requiring the ability to switch rapidly between the multitudes of roles e.g. project support, operations as required. The team support the full range of Comms Systems, from provision of support to new networks systems requirement and design, support of operational systems and those transitioning to operations status, and integration of legacy systems and their eventual replacement or decommissioning. The Comms Team performs the following activities Specification of customer networking needs for both LAN and WAN systems. Identification, extractioncollection, analysis consolidation of required data flows and spe...

Network infrastructure and solutions development and deployment Consultancy mw
Vitrociset Belgium, a Vitrociset Group company, can claim almost 30 years of experience in the field of space operations engineering activities, starting in 1982 with the European Space Agency. Today Vitrociset Belgium is the Corporate Groups center of gravity for the Space activities in central Europe. With the headquarter located in Belgium and permanent offices presence close to ESAs centers ESOC D, ESTEC NL and ESAC SP, the company offers you major opportunities at its many sites abroad, an international environment and assignment to prestigious clients ESA, ESO, CNES, EUMETSAT, ASTRIUM. Please send your application for this role to Ms. Roxana Sasu at r.sasuvitrocisetbelgium.com Deadline 14.05.2017 Key Responsibilities Leveraged Comms Team The key person shall provide consultancy to a leveraged allmission team, requiring the ability to switch rapidly between the multitudes of roles e.g. project support, operations as required. The team support the full range of Comms Systems, fro...

Post Material Process Engineer
HE Space is a successful international space company. For over 30 years, we have been supporting our customers with qualified experts in the field of engineering, science and administration. We are currently looking for a Post Material Process Engineer to support our customer in Germany. Post Material Process Engineer Key Tasks and Responsibilities As part of the PMP Post Material Process Team for Ariane 56, you will have the following responsibilities Selection of materials and processes for launchers and space industry Definition of key parameters for manufacturing processes Support for qualification of new materials and processes Definition of inspection and test procedures Testing of metallic materials Treatment of nonconformances Establishment of lists of materials, mechanical parts and processes. Skills Experience You will have the following qualifications and relevant experience Master Degree in Engineering or Composite material A good knowledge in metallic and nonmetallic mate...

ProgrammeProject Controller
Work Package Overview Support to the planning, preparation, execution and followup of projects programmes activities in terms of schedule, related procurement actions, costs including preparation of CaC as relevant, manpower including support, etc. including o assisting in preparing, developing and maintaining programme level plans o assisting in the definition and in maintaining related workprocurement plans and related execution and contract actions plans using local tools as applicable o monitoring of the implementation of the programmes and of activities, as appropriate, and preparation of related reports and provision of management information as required o evaluating the results and main achievements of the programme, elaborating related KPIs, and preparing periodic overview publications In the field of resources i.e. financial and manpower for programmeprojects o assisting in the preparation of longterm, medium term and inyear resource plans o monitoring and controlling the ...

Radio Navigation System Engineer
Vacancy in the Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality ESA is an equal opportunity employer, committed to achieving diversity within the workforce and creating an inclusive working environment. Applications from women are encouraged. POST Radio Navigation System Engineer in the Radio Navigation Systems Implementation and Verification Section, Radio Frequency Systems Division, Radio Frequency Systems and Payloads, Office, Electrical Department, Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality. This post is classified in the A2A4 grade band on the Coordinated Organisations salary scale. This position forms part of ESAs Advance Recruitment Scheme which is established to provide appropriate staffing resources when requirements materialise. Appointments are therefore made for an initial duration of two years after which the selected candidate may be appointed to a permanent post at the Agency. LOCATION ESTEC, Noordwijk Netherlands. DUTIES The Radio Navigation Systems Implement...

Recruitment Manager
Solenix is specialized in the provision of highquality software engineering, technical consulting and operations services in the aerospace domain. This vacancy note concerns an onsite consulting position at EUMETSAT in Darmstadt, Germany. Recruitment Manager 172056 Job Description Solenix is a privately owned, independent and internationally active company providing highquality software engineering, operations and consulting services, and software products in the space market and other hightech domains. Our main customers are ESA, EUMETSAT, national space agencies and various aerospace companies. We are looking for a Recruitment Manager to lead the recruitment activities across Europe for both our operations, consulting services and our internal resources. You will be responsible for attracting top talent and ensuring recruitment needs are satisfied in a timely and professional manner. You will represent Solenix with external candidates and coordinate recruitment activities with the o...

Senior/Senior Advanced Quality Engineer (NASA) - KBRwyle (United States)
Title: Senior/Senior Advanced Quality Engineer (NASA) Location: US-US-MD-GREENBELT Job Number: 00336429 KBRwyle seeks an experienced Quality Engineer to provide

Space Software EngineersExperts IT Security, Visualistion, Networks
About us SCISYS Deutschland GmbH provides professional engineering and consultancy services supporting space programmes and missions. We have a strong presence at ESOC and EUMETSAT, as well as serving all ESA sites and spacecraft primes. Our team is composed of university graduates and experienced professionals, comprising some of the most knowledgeable, dedicated and talented engineers across Europe. Our services cover the whole life cycle of space programmes from early concepts to operations. Our Space Division provides a dynamic, supportive and friendly atmosphere in which you are encouraged to lead with initiative. We support new ideas from our colleagues and are focused on innovation. Moreover, we actively manage your professional development, training and career progression. For various European locations we are looking for Space Software EngineersExperts . Depending on the tasks the positions may be based in Toulouse FR, Portsmouth UK, Oberpfaffenhofen DE, near Munich or Fucino...

Spacecraft SubSystem Project Manager
Airbus GroupA vacancy for a Spacecraft SubSystem Project Manager has arisen within Airbus Defence To identify and build the project team Define ensuring that the project milestones are achieved within the cost profiles, that manpower resources are adequate and to be reporting project schedule and costs on a monthly basis To identify facility or resource limitations including staff availability preventing successful project completion and ensure resolution of the issues To manage all aspects of the project on a day to day basis to ensure all technical, programme and cost issues are executed according to the company standards and customer satisfaction Coordinate and control by detailed planning of all the resources required to deliver the product To be responsible for all safety and design company policies within the project Establish a risk reduction programme at the project start and manage risk retirement throughout the projectEssential Honours degree or equivalent in related field,...

System and service engineering support
RHEA Group is currently recruiting a System and service engineering support for our client located in Prague, Czech Republic. Tasks and Activities The scope of work will include Support the preparation of the handover from the deployment phase to the exploitation phase Organise and participate to boards dealing with service provision and exploitation e.g. GSA engineering boards, ESA engineering boards Preparing minutes of the boards and ensuring the followup of the actions Support to exploitation reporting drafting and review Support the configuration management and ensure respect of the exploitation obligations defined in the PMP Support to the coordination baseline documentation Skills and Experience The following skills and experience are mandatory You have an university Degree with at least 5 years of relevant work experience You have at least 2 years of work experience in space GNSS programs You have at least 2 years of work experience on the Galileo project You have a good under...

System IVV Engineer
We are looking for National InstrumentsLabview software developers that will be developing testing tools and performing the verification and validation of aircraft onboard SW for IP communications between commercial aircraft and satellites in flight. Requirements skills and instruments National Instruments NI LabVIEW VB DXL Scripting C LV Internet tool kit LV Report Generation toolkit LabVIEW RT IBM Rational DOORs IBM Quality Management Tool NI DIAdem NI Multifunction DAQ Cards NI Switches NI DMM NI CAN NI Function Generator NI Oscilloscope NI cRIO FPGA GPIB VISA tool MKS Synergy SVN IBM Rational Team Concert RTC LabVIEW or scripting for square peg test sets

System Operations Development Consultant

Work as a System Operations Development Consultant at a renowned company based in Darmstadt, Germany that offers great opportunities to advance and learn alongside accomplished leaders. Our Company Profiler is a leading provider of expertise through corporate consulting, staffing solutions and HR services. We form the link between experts and companies from a wide range of industries. Our focus is in the IT, Communications Design and Aerospace Sectors POSITION ID 3006 ROLEFUNCTION System Operations Development Consultant in Darmstadt, Germany GENERAL CONDITIONS START ASAP LOCATION Darmstadt TYPE OF BUSINESS Aerospace CONTRACT FullTime Employment WORKING LANGUAGE English, French is considered an advantage DEADLINE 14 Jun 2017 MUSTHAVE SKILLSMANDATORY In addition to having a University degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline, the key person shall have a demonstrated experience of at least five years in the field of Spacecraft Operations with specific experience as follows Good sys...

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