9 June 2017

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Astronautical News

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In cooperation with
The British Interplanetary Society

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NASA introduces its 12 new astronauts NASA has named a dozen new astronauts - seven men and five women - selected from a record pool of more than 18,000 applicants, more than double the previous high of 8,000.

Ariane 6 to be 50% cheaper to produce than Ariane 5 Devised to counter SpaceX, ArianeGroup's cost reduction effort is well underway. While SpaceX focuses on reuseable launchers, Arianespace looks to compete by drastically lowering the costs of its expendable ones.

New law and space agency to support Luxembourg's space resources ambitions The government of Luxembourg expects to soon have in place both a new national space law and a national space agency, two key steps in the small European country's outsized contribution to the development of a space resources industry.

ISRO launches GSLV Mk III, its most powerful rocket yet GSLV Mk III's success is good news for ISRO, which hopes to build on a growing reputation in the $300 billion commercial satellite launching business.

French court to consider unfreezing Roscosmos assets The French Court of Appeal will consider unfreezing assets of the Russian space agency Roscosmos at a session on June 29, Roscosmos chief Igor Komarov said.

Eutelsat signs new launch contract with Arianespace Following the launch of the Eutelsat 172B satellite, Eutelsat Communications announced a new launch services contract with Arianespace.

SpaceX successfully launches used Dragon cargo ship in a historic first For the first time in the history of commercial spaceflight, a used spacecraft has blasted off on a mission to deliver cargo to the International Space Station (ISS).

NASA's dark-energy probe faces cost crisis The US space agency is taking a hard look at plans for its next big space observatory.

Roscosmos says cooperation with NASA unaffected by 'political outbursts' Sergey Krikalev stated that the cooperation between Russia's Roscosmos space corporation and NASA is going normally and successfully. Political "outbursts" have little effect on space agencies, the Executive Director for manned space flight programs told Sputnik.

China discloses Chang'e 5 lunar probe landing site China's Chang'e 5 lunar probe is expected to land in the Mons Rumker region, and to take moon samples back to earth at the end of the year, according to a Chinese space official.

Russian rocket returns to service with launch of US satellite Russia sent into space a Proton rocket carrying a US telecom satellite, Echostar-21, the first launch in a year after an engine glitch sparked a probe into manufacturing flaws. The Proton-M was successfully launched from the Baikonur cosmodrome in southern Kazakhstan, the Russian space agency Roscosmos said.

ISRO to work on electric propulsion for large satellites The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is set to work on incorporating and utilizing electric propulsion in its spacecraft which will be more cost effective and can help in interplanetary missions. Electric propulsion system will replace the currently used chemical propellants.

Russia on the way to adopt new programme on development of space centres The federal programme for the development of Russian space launch centres for the period of 2017-2025 may be adopted as early as by September, the head of Roscosmos State Space Corporation Igor Komarov said. Komarov said in May that the programme had been submitted to the government, and it was expected to keep within the budget not exceeding 340 billion rubles (some $6 billion).

Recent Launch Activities

Russian rocket returns to service with launch of US satellite Russia sent into space a Proton rocket carrying a US telecom satellite, Echostar-21, the first launch in a year after an engine glitch sparked a probe into manufacturing flaws. The Proton-M was successfully launched from the Baikonur cosmodrome in southern Kazakhstan, the Russian space agency Roscosmos said.
(9 June 2017)

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(4 June 2017)

Japan launches second satellite for home-grown GPS system Japan on Thursday launched a satellite that provides more accurate geolocation information in combination with GPS, making it possible to improve guidance services for the emergence of self-driving cars and delivery drones. The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. launched an H-IIA rocket carrying the Michibiki No. 2 satellite from Tanegashima Space Centre.
(2 June 2017)

Development Activities

China discloses Chang'e 5 lunar probe landing site China's Chang'e 5 lunar probe is expected to land in the Mons Rumker region, and to take moon samples back to earth at the end of the year, according to a Chinese space official.
(9 June 2017)

NASA mission into sun's atmosphere named after astrophysicist The Parker Solar Probe will go closer to the surface of the sun than any previous probe, in order to discover more about the physics of stars and the origins of the solar wind
(1 June 2017)

NASA moves up launch of Psyche mission to a metal asteroid Psyche, NASA's Discovery Mission to a unique metal asteroid, has been moved up one year with launch in the summer of 2022, and with a planned arrival at the main belt asteroid in 2026 - four years earlier than the original timeline.
(27 May 2017)

Russia to create new Super-Heavy Class rocket after 2025 Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin stated that Russian President Vladimir Putin posed the task before Roscosmos to speed up creating a super-heavy class rocket. President Vladimir Putin has asked the Roscosmos state space corporation to speed up the work to build a super-heavy class rocket, this type will appear after 2025 and will make it possible to fly around the moon,
(26 May 2017)

NASA-ISRO satellite to be put in space by Indian GSLV rocket in 2021 NISAR is the first big collaboration between NASA and ISRO, certainly on RADAR but just in general as well. This is two frequency RADAR, it is an L-band 24 centimetre RADAR and S- band 13 centimetre. S-band is being built by ISRO and L-band by NASA. It is a major collaboration both in terms of the technical building of the satellite as well as working together across the Pacific between India and US.
(24 May 2017)

NASA asks science community for Europa Lander Instruments ideas NASA is asking scientists to consider what would be the best instruments to include on a mission to land on Jupiter's icy moon, Europa. NASA informed the science community to prepare for a planned competition to select science instruments for a potential Europa lander.
(19 May 2017)

Testing prepares Space Launch System for liftoff The world's most powerful rocket - NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) - may experience ground wind gusts of up to 70 mph as it sits on the launch pad before and during lift off for future missions. Understanding how environmental factors affect the rocket will help calculate a safe and reliable distance away from the launch tower during launch.
(14 May 2017)

Winning plans for CubeSats to the Moon If you could fly a CubeSat to the Moon, what could such a tiny satellite do there? ESA posed this question - and now four proposals will be studied in more detail for possible flight over the coming decade.
(14 May 2017)

ISS Activities

John Glenn Cygnus departs ISS begins secondary mission Orbital ATK reports that its Cygnus spacecraft successfully unberthed from the International Space Station, beginning the next phase of its mission before it reenters Earth's atmosphere. The "S.S. John Glenn" now conducts three secondary payload missions including the Saffire-III fire experiment, deployment of four CubeSats and an experiment to further study spacecraft conditions upon
(7 June 2017)

Thomas Pesquet returns to Earth ESA astronaut Thomas Pesquet landed on the steppe of Kazakhstan today with Russian commander Oleg Novitsky in their Soyuz MS-03 spacecraft after six months in space. Touchdown was after a four-hour flight from the International Space Station.
(2 June 2017)

Russia thinks microorganisms may be living outside the space station Officials with Russia's space agency, Rosmoscos, say their scientists have identified plankton and other microorganisms among dust samples collected from the outside of the International Space Station. "The micrometeorites and comet dust that settle on the ISS surface may contain biogenic substance of extra-terrestrial origin in its natural form," Roscosmos officials said in a news release.
(29 May 2017)

Astronauts restore Space Station to full health in quick repair spacewalk NASA astronauts sped through an urgent spacewalk May 23 to replace a malfunctioning computer relay box outside the International Space Station.
(25 May 2017)

SpaceX Dragon to deliver research payloads to Space Station SpaceX is scheduled to launch its Dragon spacecraft for its eleventh commercial resupply mission to the International Space Station June 1 from NASA's Kennedy Space Center's historic pad 39A. Dragon will lift into orbit atop the Falcon 9 rocket carrying crew supplies, equipment and scientific research to crewmembers living aboard the station.
(22 May 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)

Quantifying the effects of climate change Last year was the hottest on record, Arctic sea ice is on the decline and sea levels continue to rise. In this context, satellites are providing us with an unbiased view of how our climate is changing and the effects it is having on our planet.
(6 June 2017)

China launches advanced satellite navigation positioning system China has launched a national satellite navigation and positioning system, the largest in the country Li Weisen, deputy director of the National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation, said that the system consists of 2700 base stations, a national database centre and 30 provincial level database centres. The system, featuring faster speed, higher accuracy and wider coverage, will be compatible with other satellite navigation systems, such as BeiDou.
(29 May 2017)

Russia aims for 15 remote sensing satellites in orbit by 2020 Russian President Vladimir Putin stated that the remote sensing technologies must be used to boost the Russian defense and security, develop the economy and social sphere, and increase the quality of the state's governance. The number of operating Russian remote sensing satellites orbiting the Earth will reach 15 by 2020, Russian President Vladimir Putin said.
(25 May 2017)

New nano-satellite fleet starts launch in June An Australian-backed company is to launch the first three of a planned fleet of 200 new nano-satellites in the third week of June. Sky and Space Global (SAS) says the satellites will provide affordable communication services to those who are currently underserved across the equatorial belt.
(18 May 2017)

Novel use of satnav saves precious water Water conservation is a growing concern globally, and particularly for farmers in the USA, where decades of irrigating huge fields has depleted vital resources of fresh surface water and groundwater. An ESA spin-off that can help to preserve water supplies while guaranteeing crop irrigation is now undergoing final testing.
(15 May 2017)

Iridium deploys first 10 Next satellites Iridium Communications has integrated the first set of its Next satellites into the existing operational constellation to improve communications for shipping. This followed a rigorous testing and validation process of the 10 satellites in orbit.
(11 May 2017)

New look at satellite data questions scale of China's afforestation success China has invested more resources than any other country in reversing deforestation and planting trees. However, given the large scale of these programmes it has been difficult to quantify their impact on forest cover. A new study shows that much of China's new tree cover consists of sparse, low plantations as opposed to large areas of dense, high tree cover.
(8 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.
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(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)

A whole new Jupiter: First science results from NASA's Juno mission Early science results from NASA's Juno mission to Jupiter portray the largest planet in our solar system as a complex, gigantic, turbulent world, with Earth-sized polar cyclones, plunging storm systems that travel deep into the heart of the gas giant.
(26 May 2017)

Juno spacecraft has close encounter with Jupiter's cloud tops in sixth flyby Juno skimmed the cloud tops of Jupiter at a range of just 3,500 kilometres during its close approach, NASA officials said The manoeuvre marked the sixth time the Juno probe's orbit has brought it up close with Jupiter.
(21 May 2017)

LIGO could detect gravitational waves' permanent space-time warp When gravitational waves permanently distort space-time, it causes a 'memory signal' which may help LIGO find some of the universe's most exotic objects
(20 May 2017)

Fermi satellite observes billionth gamma ray with LAT instrument On April 12, one of the spacecraft's instruments - the Large Area Telescope (LAT), which was conceived of and assembled at the Department of Energy's SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory - detected its billionth extraterrestrial gamma ray.
(15 May 2017)

Astrophysicists find that planetary harmonies around TRAPPIST-1 save it from destruction When NASA announced its discovery of the TRAPPIST-1 system back in February it caused quite a stir, and with good reason. Three of its seven Earth-sized planets lay in the star's habitable zone, meaning they may harbour suitable conditions for life. But one of the major puzzles from the original research describing the system was that it seemed to be unstable.
(14 May 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 Bj?rn 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)

Roscosmos says cooperation with NASA unaffected by 'political outbursts' Sergey Krikalev stated that the cooperation between Russia's Roscosmos space corporation and NASA is going normally and successfully. Political "outbursts" have little effect on space agencies, the Executive Director for manned space flight programs told Sputnik.
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(7 June 2017)

NOAA budget request prioritizes current satellite programmes over future ones The fiscal year 2018 budget request for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration offers full funding for ongoing major weather satellite programs while deferring work on future efforts.
(2 June 2017)

Iran to launch sensor-operational satellite in 2018 Iran will launch its first sensor-operational satellite in 2018, a top official of Iran Space Research Centre said on Sunday.
(31 May 2017)

Ireland will be launching its first satellite into space The EIRSAT-1 satellite will be launched from the International Space Station and will orbit the earth for 12 months, gathering data on Gamma Ray Bursts and testing innovative space technologies. Researchers and students from University College Dublin and Queen's University in Belfast are leading the project, which is being developed under the European Space Agency's (ESA) 'Fly Your Satellite! 2017' programme.
(30 May 2017)

Australian satellite in orbit The first Australian satellite in 15 years, UNSW-EC0, was successfully deployed from the International Space Station, but the UNSW engineers who built it were unable to establish contact when it made its first pass above Sydney.
(28 May 2017)

Cruz to hold hearing on updating the Outer Space Treaty The chairman of the US Senate's space subcommittee said May 16 that his committee will hold a hearing to hear testimony on possible updates to a 50-year-old treaty that is the cornerstone of international space law.
(25 May 2017)

SA space agency, Airbus launch challenge to find new uses for satellite data The South African National Space Agency (Sansa) and Airbus Defence and Space has launched an open innovation challenge to entrepreneurs, universities and other interested parties seeking homegrown and novel uses for earth observation data obtained by satellites.
(23 May 2017)

Brazil starts satellite trials The Brazilian government has started the testing procedures for its first own satellite, built to boost broadband capacity in the country as well as security of critical defence information.
(21 May 2017)

Could Brexit blow a hole in UK's space ambitions? There are possible effects on the long-established cooperation of the UK and ESA.
(19 May 2017)

US military satellites in crisis as foreign weapons advance and proliferate The U.S. military's satellite communications are facing a crisis, threatened by a growing array of foreign weapons, including cyberattack capabilities, lasers, electronic jammers and anti-satellite weapons, according to a Pentagon study. An executive summary of the report by the Defense Science Board warns that military satellite communications used for global operations "will be contested by a myriad of effects ranging from reversible to destructive."
(18 May 2017)

Washington still has no engine to replace Russian-made RD-180 US aerospace company Blue Origin suffered a setback while testing its Blue Engine 4 (BE-4), a staged-combustion rocket engine designed to replace Russian-made RD-180s, meaning that Washington still does not have an indigenously built version of a key piece of equipment needed to propel its Atlas V launch vehicles or its analogues into space.
(17 May 2017)

Bulgarian satellite to launch on reused SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket in June A communications satellite built for a Bulgarian operator will be the second payload to launch on a previously-flown Falcon 9, that operator announced.
(11 May 2017)

NOAA cuts target future polar weather satellites While the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration received full funding for its ongoing weather satellite programmes, the agency is looking at options after a cut to a programme for future polar-orbiting weather satellites.
(10 May 2017)

Thales launches communications satellite for Brazil Thales Alenia Space launched two telecommunications satellites, among them the Geostationary Defence and Strategic Communications Satellite (SGDC), into orbit using an Ariane 5 launcher from the Kourou base in French Guiana on Thursday, May 04.
(9 May 2017)

Air Force's X-37B Space Plane Lands in Florida After Record-Breaking Secret Mission The record-breaking, hush-hush mission of the U.S. Air Force's robotic X-37B space plane is finally over.
(8 May 2017)

California plans for collecting taxes on spaceflight The earthly convention of paying taxes may soon extend into outer space, if California regulators have anything to say about it. The state's Franchise Tax Board is seeking public comment on its proposal for computing taxes on commercial space transportation companies..
(7 May 2017)

NASA examines effects of 2017 spending bill on science As members of Congress took credit for NASA funding levels in a fiscal year 2017 omnibus spending bill, the agency's science leadership is examining how those funds will affect its programmes.
(7 May 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".
(30 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 Coordinator Lead - Raytheon (United States)
Raytheon is looking for a NASA Support Coordinator to assist the Sponsor in planning, formulating, managing and implementing policy and security procedures for

NASA Information Assurance Engineer - KeyLogic Systems, INC (United States)
As a ** NASA Information Assurance Engineer** you will become an integral part of our growing organization. As a member of the KeyLogic Team, you will be able to

NASA Journalism, Multimedia, Social Media Winter/Spring Internships - NASA (United States)
INTRODUCTION: NASA invites students working towards degrees in journalism, communications, media relations, science writing, immersive journalism, or broadcast

NASA Programs Acquisition Manager - THE CENTECH GROUP (United States)
THE CENTECH GROUP, Inc. (CENTECH(R)) is seeking a Capture Manager/ NASA Programs Acquisition Manager. The person in this position will manage the CENTECH-approved

2nd Line Support Engineer
A vacancy for a 2nd Line Support Engineer has arisen within Airbus Defence Space, to be based in either Newcastle or Guildford. The 2nd Line Support Engineers role is to deliver support to end users with respect to Airbus Defence and Space software applications within the Public Safety sector. Primarily supporting operational data management back office software applications, automated resource location asset tracking, mobile data communications systems, Emergency preparation and response systems. The successful candidate will be subject to UK National Security Clearance in order to undertake related work in accordance with business needs. Your main tasks and responsibilities will include Respond to incidents in accordance with the customers Service Level Agreement. To progress incidents and ensure incident history is updated via the Incident Management software. To undertake problem identification and resolution involving recreation of the incident, configuration analysis, data inves...

Assembly Integration and Verification AIV Facilities Group Leader
Assembly Integration and Verification AIV Facilities Group Leader Space Engineering Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Harwell Campus, Oxfordshire Salary 47,725 to 53,028 About Us The Science and Technology Facilities Council STFC is one of Europes largest research organisations. Were trusted to support, enable and undertake pioneering projects in an amazing diversity of fields. STFCs RAL Space department carries out an exciting range of worldclass space research and technology development, including developing space instruments and groundbased astronomy instruments for agencies including ESA, NASA and ESO. Weve had significant involvement in over 200 space missions and operate at the forefront of UK Space Research. About The Role We now have an excellent opportunity for a talented Group Leader within the RAL Space Assembly Integration and Verification AIV Group. The Group is responsible for the operation and development of a range of test facilities for the assembly and qualification of...

Assembly, Integration Test AIT support engineer JUICE mf
Assembly, Integration Test AIT support engineer JUICE mf Ref. No. 17 13707 Terma The hightech and innovative Terma Group develops products and systems for defense, nondefense and security applications, including command and control systems, radar systems, selfprotection systems for aircraft and vessels, space technology, and aerostructures for the aircraft industry. Terma is headquartered at Aarhus, Denmark. Internationally, Terma has subsidiaries and operations in The Netherlands, Germany, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, India, Singapore and the U.S. The Space Business Area contributes with missioncustomized software and hardware products including power systems and star trackers as well as services to support a number of inorbit pioneering European scientific and Earth observation satellite missions. Additionally, Terma is contracted for the development and delivery of software and hardware systems and services for numerous ongoing and future European, and international mis...

Business Student Trainee - NASA Pathways Intern - Goddard Space Flight Center (United States)
Tuesday 4/11/2017 (4 day(s) away) ## Job Overview Summary About the Agency The NASA Pathways Intern Program provides students with the opportunity to explore NASA

CAD Process Team Leader

A vacancy for a CAD Process Team Leader has arisen at Airbus Defence Space in the Stevenage Mechanical Design Office. The CAD Process Team Leader is in charge of the definition and development of all mechanical design processes to be applied by MDO staff in Stevenage, together with coordination of CAD Process across all Airbus Defence and Space MDO offices in cooperation with other CAD Process owners. You will provide CAD process support and training to all Stevenage MDO CAD and D.O. teams. The successful candidate will be subject to UK National Security Clearance in order to undertake related work in accordance with business needs. Main activities of the role Process owner and definition of CAD Process in support of all Stevenage MDO design and drawing office activities, principally using CATIA V5 and V6, in conjunction with related PDM and ERP software and systems3DCom, Engineering Central SPRINT, Windchill etc. Definition of tools and identification of tool development related to C...

Client Executive, NASA - VMware (United States)
As the NASA Client Executive, you will be responsible for driving VMware solutions to NASA and the scientific community. The ideal candidate would preferably be

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 Student Trainee - NASA Pathways Intern - Goddard Space Flight Center (United States)
Tuesday 4/11/2017 (4 day(s) away) ## Job Overview Summary About the Agency The NASA Pathways Intern Program provides students with the opportunity to explore NASA

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):

GNSS Engineer
WHO ARE WE? GMV www.gmv.comis a privately owned technological enterprise group with an international presence employing more than 1.200 staff. Founded in 1984, GMV mainly operates in eight large sectors for both public and private organizations Aeronautics, Space, Defense, Health, Security, Transportation, Telecommunications and Information Technologies. GMV currently runs 8 work centers in Spain and offices in France, Germany, India, Malaysia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, USA, Colombia and United Kingdom. We recruit and hire excellent engineers, and encourage innovation, technical excellence and continuing education. Our engineers regularly present papers at technical conferences, continue their education more than 85 have a masters degree, and we reinvest more than 12 of budget in IRD projects. This striving for excellence, innovation and flexibility is a major part of our culture. We provide very competitive compensation, attractive benefits, and a great work environment with lots of...

Ground Segment Systems 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. Ground Segment Systems Operations Engineer 172014 Job Description We are looking for a Ground Systems Operations Engineer to support our client EUMETSAT. You would be working within the System Engineering and Projects Division supporting system engineering activities for Operational systems. You will be a member of a multidisciplinary system engineering team interacting with operational programmes and future programmes and will support the SEP Division with the following activities Supporting the consolidation, evolution and maintenance of the Ground Segment reference architecture. Supporting the assessment of impacts to the Ground Segment of changes required for operational systems, resulting from evolution and maintenance activities. This includes ...

Harness Design Engineer fm
Fr unseren Kunden OHB in der Raumfahrtindustrie suchen wir einen motivierten Kandidaten auf der Basis Vollzeit AG fr den Standort Mnchen, Deutschland ab sofort fr die folgende Position Harness Design Engineer fm Ref. 2017412 Aufgabenprofil Erstellung und Dokumentation von Harness Designs und Tradeoffs zur Rechtfertigung des Designs als die optimale Lsung bzgl. Zeitplan, Kosten, Risiken und technischen Anforderungen Abstimmung des Harness Designs mit anderen Disziplinen e.g. Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering AIT Einpflegen von Stecker und Kabeltypen sowie Verbindungsdaten in die HarnessDatenbank e.g. Aucotec Engineering Base Planung und Durchfhrung der typischen Harness DesignAnalysen Voltage Drop, Worst Case, Derating Erstellung von Harness Fertigungsunterlagen und Integrationsprozeduren Steuerung und Verwaltung der Materialbeschaffung Definition und Beschaffung von Fertigungs, Montage und Transporthilfen fr den Harness Betreuung von NichtKonformitten des Designs und Korr...

Infrastructure Design Authority
A vacancy for an Infrastructure Design Authority has arisen within Airbus Defence Space in Portsmouth. A senior IT systems architect is required for the Galileo GCS project to take full responsibility for the design of the supporting IT infrastructure. This is a high profile role on a major European programme to upgrade the satellite flight operations system for the Galileo GCS programme. A major refresh of the supporting IT infrastructure is a key aspect as is the migration during live operations. Your main tasks and responsibilities will include Full responsibility for the design of the IT infrastructure supporting the Galileo GCS system. Detailed specification of the hardware baseline including networking, servers, thin clients etc. Detailed specification of virtualisation layer. Specification of key supporting applications including backup system, SSO, deployment system etc. Formal documentation of the detailed design. Verification that the design has been correctly implemented. L...

Ingnieur programmation mission satellite Observation de la Terre HF
CS est un acteur majeur de la conception, de lintgration et de lexploitation de systmes critiques. La Business Unit ESPACE contribue depuis plus de 30 ans au dveloppement des programmes spatiaux Franais et Europens. Elle travaille depuis de nombreuses annes dans le domaine de la mission, depuis les phases dingnierie jusquaux oprations. Afin de renforcer notre quipe, nous recherchons un Ingnieur programmation mission satellite Observation de la Terre HF. Vous participez au dveloppement des activits de mission satellite dobservation de la Terre ou scientifique. La programmation mission est une tape essentielle qui permet de programmer le satellite pour quil remplisse sa mission initiale. In fine elle permet lutilisateur ou loprateur final de consulter des images prises par le satellite ou de rceptionner des donnes scientifiques qui seront traites puis exploites par des experts. Ingnieur de formation ou quivalent universitaire, vous bnficiez dune premire exprience dans le domaine spatial...

Meteosat Third Generation MTG Test Data Development Coordinator
We are ready to start testing the data anticipated from our third generation meteorological satellite system and are looking for you to join our team! Are you inspired by the idea of working in a global operational satellite agency based in the heart of Europe? We are currently developing the Meteosat Third Generation MTG meteorological satellite system in cooperation with the European Space Agency ESA. This is one of our larger future satellite programmes and it is entering a critical phase. This is a unique opportunity to work with our partners in developing and running test schedules to ensure the accurate flow of data from the space to ground segment. You will be working in the MTG System Engineering Team, reporting to the Instrument Functional Chain Team Leader. You will lead the development of the scientific test data needed for ground segment and system testing. Managing this project will be very demanding. You will need to be a strong team player with the ability to coordinate...

Operations Research Analyst - Headquarters, NASA (United States)
Headquarters, NASA 1 vacancy in the following location: * Washington DC, DC Work Schedule is Full Time - Permanent Opened Thursday 1/12/2017 (14 day(s) ago) **

Principle Design Engineer
A vacancy for a SeniorPrinciple Design Engineer has arisen within Airbus Defence Space in Stevenage. You will join the Mechanical Design Office. You will carry out Lead Designer activities for Spacecraft Structure design tasks. You will oversee day to day activities for a small team of Design Engineers ensuring all customer requirements are supported. Your main tasks and responsibilities will include Responsible for the control, correctness, accuracy and relevance of all drawings, models, Digital Mock Up DMU, bills of materials and Engineering Change Notes as related to the configured items for allocated project s to cost and schedule. Ensuring all outputs from the Mechanical Design Office MDO are correct to the project requirements as stated by the core team generally the Responsible Engineer All the project DO outputs must be checked, signed and stamped by the lead design engineer to the checklists and CATIA procedures. Authorised design signatory for manufacturing drawings, BoMs an...

SAP Financials Support Officer
This position will be offered as 1 year fixedterm contract with possibility of extension becoming permanent. Job Introduction Serco is a specialist at delivering vital services on behalf of European, National and Local Governments. Serco Europe employs a large workforce in Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Spain, Italy and the UK. Our European operations have ca. 2,000 employees delivering critical services to public institutions throughout Europe. Main Responsibilities As SAP Financials Support Officer you will be responsible for the following tasks Support daytoday operation of the EUMETSAT SAP System with emphasis on SAP Financials related topics by Providing SAP application support to EUMETSAT endusers in the use of the SAP ERP and BI Reporting system. This comprises navigation, functional support, particularly in the Financials area and also ESS and workflows functional support Providing root cause analysis and reporting for end user requests and proble...

Satellite Telecommunications Engineer
Satellite Telecommunications Engineer ESTEC, Ref no 17 14123 Terma The hightech and innovative Terma Group develops products and systems for defence, nondefence and security applications, including command and control systems, radar systems, selfprotection systems for aircraft and vessels, space technology, and aerostructures for the aircraft industry. Terma is headquartered at Aarhus, Denmark. Internationally, Terma has subsidiaries and operations in The Netherlands, Germany, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, India, Singapore and the U.S. The Space Business Area contributes with missioncustomized software and hardware products including power systems and star trackers as well as services to support a number of inorbit pioneering European scientific and Earth observation satellite missions. Additionally, Terma is contracted for the development and delivery of software and hardware systems and services for numerous ongoing and future European, and international missions. Terma Spac...

Science Driven Long Duration Venus Lander Concepts (NASA Space Academy at Glenn) - NASA (United States)
1. Brief background & NASA mission/program support: Venus is a key planet to help better understand Earth and our solar system. Due to the thick acidic cloud layers,

Secure Communications System Engineer
Secure Communications System Engineer ESTEC, Ref no 17 14124 Terma The hightech and innovative Terma Group develops products and systems for defence, nondefence and security applications, including command and control systems, radar systems, selfprotection systems for aircraft and vessels, space technology, and aerostructures for the aircraft industry. Terma is headquartered at Aarhus, Denmark. Internationally, Terma has subsidiaries and operations in The Netherlands, Germany, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, India, Singapore and the U.S. The Space Business Area contributes with missioncustomized software and hardware products including power systems and star trackers as well as services to support a number of inorbit pioneering European scientific and Earth observation satellite missions. Additionally, Terma is contracted for the development and delivery of software and hardware systems and services for numerous ongoing and future European, and international missions. Terma Spac...

Senior Project Leader Supporting NASA - The Aerospace Corporation (United States)
Lead to join a team that takes pride in their products to the NASA Centers. The successful candidate will be working with and coordinating on business development

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

Software developer VB.NET
WHO ARE WE? GMV INSYEN is a German company, being part of GMV, a global technology group in Space, Defense, ICT and Intelligent Transport Systems employing 1500 staff. Our activities in Germany are related to hightech aerospace projects, space operations, ground systems, mission analysis, navigation and flight dynamics. GMV INSYEN also specializes in software and hardware systems for simulation, emulation, 3D visualization and operations support. We are headquartered in Oberpfaffenhofen near Munich and have offices in Darmstadt. At GMV INSYEN you will find a unique work environment that requires talent, imagination and personal effort. We are an international team bound together by the passion for challenge, innovation, technology and customer service. This allows us to offer the right response, unique and always trustworthy. Having the best professionals on board is the true source of our competitive advantage. We recruit excellent engineers and encourage innovation, technical excell...

STEM Didactics Expert
You will have the opportunity to develop and deliver didactic content and activities related to STEM subjects Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics at secondary school education level with a special focus on sciences physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology, geography,etc.. Tasks and Activities The scope of work will include You design and deliver teacher training modules onsite and, when needed, offsite that use space science as a teaching and learning context for secondarylevel curricular subjects in particular, whenever applicable and in close collaboration with the ESERO Science Project Coordinator, coordinate with the ESA ESERO national offices for the design, coproduction and delivery of such training modules to the benefit of ESA Member States You design and produce classroom resourcesactivities on the subjects covered by the above teacher training modules in different formats classical printed lessons, practicallab activities, tablet applications and content, etc. i...

Student Trainee (Engineering Technician) - NASA Pathways Intern Employment Program - Armstrong Flight Research Center (United States)
4/12/2017 (5 day(s) away) ## Job Overview Summary About the Agency The NASA Pathways Intern Program provides students with the opportunity to explore NASA

Student Trainee (Engineering) - NASA Pathways Intern Employment Program - Armstrong Flight Research Center (United States)
4/12/2017 (5 day(s) away) ## Job Overview Summary About the Agency The NASA Pathways Intern Program provides students with the opportunity to explore NASA

Student Trainee (Engineering) - NASA Pathways Intern Employment Program - John Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field (United States)
About the Agency To receive consideration, you must submit a resume and answer NASA -specific questions. The NASA questions appear after you submit your resume

Student Trainee (Resources Analyst) - NASA Pathways Intern Employment Program - Armstrong Flight Research Center (United States)
4/12/2017 (5 day(s) away) ## Job Overview Summary About the Agency The NASA Pathways Intern Program provides students with the opportunity to explore NASA

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