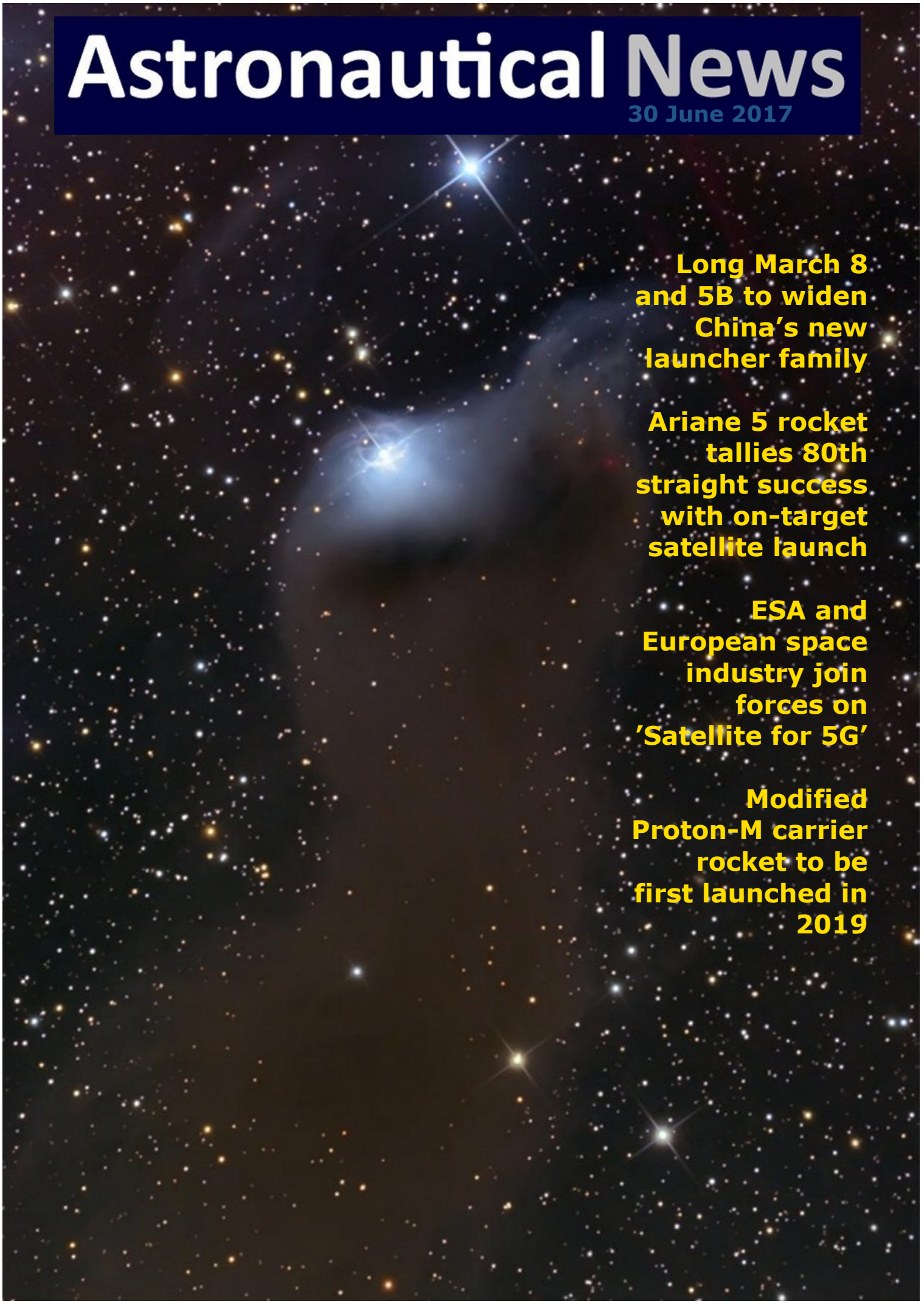
Astronautical News

30 June 2017



Long March 8 and 5B to widen China's new launcher family

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Collator
Scott Hatton

Graphic Design
Takiss Vessim

In cooperation with
The British Interplanetary Society

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The existence of orbiting supermassive black holes finally confirmed After a 12 year study, scientists finally confirm the existence of a pair of orbiting super massive black holes around 750 million light-years away

Long March 8 and 5B to widen China's new launcher family Calt will make Long March 8 with propulsion modules from other space launchers. Long March 5B will omit a module.

Ariane 5 rocket tallies 80th straight success with on-target satellite launch Two geostationary communications satellites rode an Ariane 5 rocket into orbit on 28 June from French Guiana, embarking on missions to broadcast television across Europe, the Middle East and Africa, link European air travellers with Wi-Fi, and relay video and data signals across India. The tandem satellite launch marked Arianespace's seventh mission of 2017, deploying a spacecraft shared by the Greek and Cypriot operator Hellas- Sat and London-based Inmarsat and a payload built and owned by the Indian Space Research Organisation.

China claims strong progress with lifting-body space launchers Calt is pursuing three paths to reusable space launch: lifting bodies and, for wingless rockets, parachute recovery and powered landings.

OneWeb wins FCC approval to launch a fleet of internet-beaming satellites OneWeb, backed by Richard Branson and leaders from Qualcomm and Airbus, plans to launch a constellation of as many as 720 satellites into low Earth orbit in order to beam internet to anywhere on Earth at speeds that rival that of fibre connections. The goal is to provide internet to hard-to-reach rural areas with low rates of internet connectivity, ideally bridging the digital divide. OneWeb has set out an ambitious target for connecting "every connected school" in the world to the internet by 2022.

Roscosmos, ESA and NASA to play leading roles in lunar orbital station project Russian state aerospace corporation Roscosmos, NASA and the European Space Agency will likely be the main partners in Deep Space Gateway lunar orbital station project, Roscosmos Director General Igor Komarov told reporters.

OneWeb inaugurates serial production line European aerospace giant Airbus and its partner, OneWeb, have begun the production of a satellite mega-constellation. The network will comprise at least 600 spacecraft in the first instance, but could eventually encompass more than 2,000. The aim is to deliver broadband links from orbit to every corner of the globe. The assembly line in Toulouse willto begin end-to-end validation, testing, and integration of its first satellites set for launch in just over nine months.

Russia launches classified military satellites A modified version of Russia's Soyuz rocket launched from the Plesetsk Cosmodrome, a spaceport on the edge of the Russian Arctic, with a military satellite whose mission is shrouded in mystery.

Green light for European space telescope PLATO On 20 June 2017, the European Space Agency (ESA) gave the go-ahead for the further development of the PLATO space telescope. The German Aerospace Center (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft-und Raumfahrt; DLR) is leading the international consortium responsible for the construction and scientific operation of the space telescope.

SpaceX nails second launch in three days SpaceX nailed its second launch in three days on 25 June with liftoff of a Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California carrying 10 satellites owned by Iridium Communications.

ESA and European space industry join forces on 'Satellite for 5G' The European Space Agency and 16 satellite industry leaders have signed a joint statement on their collaboration over 'Satellite for 5G'. ESA and the European space industry are joining forces to develop and demonstrate the added value that satellite brings in the context of 5G.

Modified Proton-M carrier rocket to be first launched in 2019 The first launch of the new modification of the Proton-M carrier rocket will be conducted in 2019, the press service of Russia's Roscosmos State Space Corporation said. The Proton-M is the largest carrier rocket in Russia's fleet of space launch vehicles. The rocket has lifted dozens of Russian and foreign satellites into orbit since it was first commissioned into service in 2001.

India, Portugal shake hands on space cooperation Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Lisbon agreed with Portuguese authorities on creation of alliance to advance space research, the Indian Foreign Ministry said in a statement. India, Portugal sing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the field of space, according to the statement.

Recent Launch Activities

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(25 June 2017)

SpaceX launches rocket with "highest-ever reentry force" The company has now landed a recycled rocket for the second time.
(24 June 2017)

Development Activities

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(27 June 2017)

ESA okays project to seek alien life Europe has approved the launch of a deep-space observatory to sniff out habitable planets in other star systems, along with any life forms they may host. "The PLATO mission will address fundamental questions such as 'how common are Earth-like planets?' and 'is our solar system unusual or even unique?'," the University of Warwick, whose scientists will take part in the project, said.
(25 June 2017)

Europe selects grand gravity mission The European Space Agency has given the green light to the LISA mission to detect gravitational waves. Ground-based laboratories in the US have recently begun detecting gravitational waves from coalescing objects that are 20-30 times the mass of our Sun. But by sending an observatory into space, scientists would expect to discover sources that are millions of times bigger still and to sense their activity all the way out to the edge of the observable Universe.
(23 June 2017)

LISA gets green light from ESA LISA - a mission to master the gravitational Universe was selected by ESA as part of its Cosmic Vision, along with PLATO that will search for Earth-like worlds.
(22 June 2017)

China to launch four more probes before 2021 China will launch a further four space probes before 2021 as part of the efforts to develop space science, according to the State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence. The first of these, the China-Italy Electromagnetic Monitoring Experiment Satellite, will be launched this August to study phenomena related to earthquakes from space.
(19 June 2017)

NASA eyes Neptune and Uranus for missions in the 2030s Four possible missions to the ice giants are being proposed, including orbiters and a fly-by, to tell us what they're made of and how such planets form
(17 June 2017)

ISS Activities

US spy satellite buzzes ISS Vigilent amateur satellite observers keep tabs on a recently launched US spy satellite that is getting a little to close to the ISS for comfort
(13 June 2017)

NanoRacks deploys CubeSats from Cygnus spacecraft NanoRacks said that it successfully deployed four Spire LEMUR-2 CubeSats from Orbital ATK's Cygnus spacecraft at a nearly 500-kilometre orbit.
(12 June 2017)

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)

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)

Satellite image showcases centuries of desertification in India A new image from the European Space Agency's Copernicus Sentinel-2A satellite showcases the extreme aridity of India's Thar Desert. Geologic and archaeological analysis suggests the region, which encompasses more than 123,000 square miles in India and Pakistan, was once green and lush. Centuries of farms have depleted water resources and taxed the soil, slowly drying out the land.
(24 June 2017)

Global nanosatellite market anticipated to reach $6.35 billion by 2021 According to a new market intelligence report, the global market is expected to reach $6.35 billion by 2021, growing at a CAGR of 37.91% during the forecast period. With the emergence of space technologies, which enable satellites to operate under harsh space environment, it has become easier to carry out cost-effective space missions.
(23 June 2017)

Magnetic space tug could target dead satellites Derelict satellites could in future be grappled and removed from key orbits around Earth with a space tug using magnetic forces.
(21 June 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.
(18 April 2017)

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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 releases Kepler Survey Catalog with hundreds of new planet candidates NASA's Kepler space telescope team has released a mission catalogue of planet candidates that introduces 219 new planet candidates, 10 of which are near-Earth size and orbiting in their star's habitable zone, which is the range of distance from a star where liquid water could pool on the surface of a rocky planet.
(20 June 2017)

The future of the Orion constellation A new video, based on measurements by ESA's Gaia and Hipparcos satellites, shows how our view of the Orion constellation will evolve over the next 450 000 years. Stars are not motionless in the sky: their positions change continuously as they move through our Galaxy, the Milky Way.
(17 June 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 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)

India, Portugal shake hands on space cooperation Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Lisbon agreed with Portuguese authorities on creation of alliance to advance space research, the Indian Foreign Ministry said in a statement. India, Portugal sing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the field of space, according to the statement.
(29 June 2017)

Studies into UK National Microgravity Experiments Call for Proposals The UK Space Agency is making funding available for studies...
(29 June 2017)

Russia, Brazil consider joint space launches from Brazilian spaceport #Russia and #Brazil are considering the possibility of conducting joint launches of carrier rockets from a Brazilian space centre, Russian President Vladimir Putin said.
(27 June 2017)

Vietnam, Israel sign agreement on space technology cooperation The Vietnam National Satellite Centre and the Israel Space Agency inked an agreement on cooperation in science and technology and peaceful use of outer space, in Hano. At the signing ceremony, Israeli Ambassador to Vietnam Meirav Eilon Shahar said under the agreement, the two sides will boost cooperation in such areas as earth observation, space industry, and satellite activities.
(22 June 2017)

NASA, CNES express commitment to joint exploration France and the United States have a long history of cooperation in space, combining their talents over the years to advance science and launch exploration missions whose results have been instrumental in creating entirely new fields of research. The leaders of the two space agencies, Acting NASA Administrator Robert Lightfoot, and CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall, reaffirmed the agencies' cooperation efforts.
(21 June 2017)

Galileo contract faces Brexit crunch A contract signed is giving a German-UK consortium the go-ahead to build another eight satellites for Galileo - Europe's version of GPS. OHB System of Bremen and SSTL of Guildford have so far produced all of the fully operational satellites in the constellation. But it is highly unlikely that SSTL, which assembles the timing and navigation payloads on the spacecraft at its Surrey factory, will have completed its share of the production effort by Friday 29 March, 2019 - the date for Britain's withdrawal from the EU.
(21 June 2017)

Plan aims to secure UK space sector A government plan to secure growth in the UK's £13.7bn space industry is laid out in the Queen's Speech. The stated purpose of the new Bill is to make the UK the most attractive place in Europe for commercial space - including launches from British soil. It would help increase the UK share of the global space economy from 6.5% today to 10% by 2030.
(21 June 2017)

Kazakh man dies in fire following Russian rocket launch A Kazakh man died and another was hospitalised after they were caught in a fire on the steppes triggered by falling debris from a Russian space launch, emergency services said. The blaze, reaching 15 kilometres across, was unleashed by parts of a rocket that fell to Earth after launch from the nearby Baikonur cosmodrome. The rocket had been used to successfully launch a supply ship destined for the International Space Station, emergency services in Kazakhstan said.
(17 June 2017)

Russian aerospace firm to cooperate with China on Lunar exploration missions Russia's Lavochkin Research and Production Association will work with China on designing lunar exploration missions, including orbital and return ones, Sergei Lemeshevsky, the Russian company's director general, told Sputnik.
(13 June 2017)

US House bill seeks to help commercial space companies The House Science Committee is trying to remove barriers to commercial space companies with a new bill, the American Space Commerce Free Enterprise Act of 2017.
(11 June 2017)

Chinese experiment reaches Space Station in historic first A Chinese experiment is now on the International Space Station (ISS), having reached the orbiting lab Monday (June 5) aboard a SpaceX Dragon cargo spacecraft.
(11 June 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.
(9 June 2017)

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.
(8 June 2017)

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).
(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)

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 Information Assurance Engineer - KeyLogic (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 expand

NASA IV&V Systems Engineer - Engility (United States)
is the sole provider of Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) services to the NASA IV&V Program located in Fairmont, West Virginia. At the NASA IV&V

NASA IV&V Systems Engineer - Engility Corporation (United States)
is the sole provider of Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) services to the NASA IV&V Program located in Fairmont, West Virginia. At the NASA IV&V

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

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

NASA UAS Traffic Management (UTM) project - NASA (United States)
As part of the NASA UAS Traffic Management (UTM) project, research is in progress to enable integration of small unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) into the National

Accounting Officer - Headquarters, NASA (United States)
the Agency This position serves as the Accounting Officer reporting to the NASA Deputy Chief Financial Officer for Finance, Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Assistant Programme Project Controller
Tasks and Responsibilities Secretarial Support Efficiently and proactively deal with all communications phone, email, post. Use the ESAs Mission Approval System to manage business travel for the ECSAT FM team. Partially cover for other ECSAT Administrative Assistants in case of their absence on a mutual support schema. Finance Prepare in ESAP Shopping Carts, Purchase Orders and Financial Reports relevant to the Site operation functions. Liaise directly and independently with the Procurement Office and follow up all relevant activities. Maintain a local file of all financial documents invoices etc.. Maintain the ECSAT finance database MSexcel file. Facility Management Act as interface to the Harwell Campus FM team for what concerns office maintenance. Manage registration on arrival and departure of ECSAT employees. Manage outgoing and incoming post and courier. Build and maintain positive relationships with local business contacts. Human Resources Maintain information files...

AST, Engineer Program Management - Headquarters, NASA (United States)
Job Overview ## Job Overview Summary About the Agency For the 4th year in a row, NASA has been ranked the best large Agency to work for in the Federal Government by

Business Controller
Vacancy in the Directorate of Science. 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 Business Controller This post is classified A2 A4 on the Coordinated Organisations salary scale. Location ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands Description Business Controller in the Programme Financial Planning Management Service, Management Support Office, Directorate of Science. Reporting to the Head of the Programme Financial Planning Management Service, the Business Controller is responsible for consolidating, maintaining, monitoring and reporting on Directorate Business Unit resources and activity planning over the shortmediumlong term and associated business management and controlling processes. The postholder will hold key responsibilities in supporting the Directorate management in preparing and maintaining sound plans of activities while optimising resources....

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

Client Executive, NASA / Department of Energy - VMware, Inc. (United States)
Job ID 80872BR As the NASA / DoE Client Executive, you will be responsible for driving VMware solutions to NASA and the scientific community. The ideal candidate

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

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

EarthCARE L2 processors and algorithms engineer
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. Package description Full details on application. Relocation assistance provided if applicable. Main responsibilities Management Support and assistance to the ESA ESRIN team in charge of the EarthCARE mission data quality tasks including PreparationMaintenance of EarthCARE L2 and CalVal documentation e.g. implementation plans Support to the preparation of contractual documentation e.g. SoWs and CCNs and AOs Coordination of industrial activities related to the oL2 algorithm subsystems development and L2 product quality related activities Support for calibration strategy and algorithms definition and review Reviews within EarthCARE L2 and Ca...

ERT Officer NASA -Ci (Titusville FL) - Chenega Corporation (United States)
to support emergency response operations. TheERT Officer,after completion of required NASA Federal Arrest Authority and if required, Federal Magistrate Program

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):

Human Resources Specialist (Human Resource Development) - Headquarters, NASA (United States)
community. Comments: To receive consideration, you must submit a resume and answer NASA -specific questions. The NASA questions appear after you submit your

IT Service Manager
Thorn SDS is recruiting for an IT Service Manager to support our team at ESA. This is a great opportunity to showcase and develop your IT Service Management skills in an exciting and highly operational environment. Task Description You will be required to support the key functions of Service Management functions including Support to SLA monitoring and management with internal and management with internal and external suppliers Support to the management of the IT Service Management ITSM tool and related tool sets You will also provide Support to Management of Service Level Agreements Retrospective review of SLAs Evaluation of industrial support capabilities Mapping of effective ad achievable SLAs within the service design and definition phase Support to Continuous Service Improvement Processes Analysing of reports and indicators to highlight improvement areas Interfacing with Service Design processes Support to Management of Supplier Operational Level Agreements Monitor and manage perf...

Part-Time Institutional Assistant/ NASA Finance Coordinator - University of Arkansas at Little Rock (United States)
Qualifications Posting Number FNC00902 UALR Functional Title Part-Time Institutional Assistant/ NASA Finance Coordinator / P98024 Position Number P98024 Department

Payable Accountant
Vacancy in the Directorate of Internal Services. 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 Payable Accountant This post is classified B5B6 on the Coordinated Organisations salary scale. Location ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands Description Payable Accountant in the ESTEC Financial Operations Section in the Financial Operations Division, Finance, Planning and Controlling Department, Directorate of Internal Services. Duties Analysing, validating and approving all Agency payments to suppliers in compliance with ESA rules Carrying out the related financial operations and the related interfacing with ESA stakeholders and suppliers Operating the accounts payable subsystem and its interfaces with the other elements of the financial applications in compliance with the Agencys accounting policies Contributing to the verification of contractspurchase ord...

Performance Simulation Engineer
ACS is looking for a Performance Simulation Engineer. ACS has almost 40 years experience in delivering solutions for Earth Observation satellites Ground Segments. Based in Rome, Italy and in Darmstadt, Germany, we delivered systems currently in operation in 20 countries worldwide and have a long record of successful projects carried out for ESA, EUMETSAT, EMSA and many other Space Agencies and Research Centres. ACS offers pleasant, international working environment at customer site very competitive salary attractive benefit package tailored on specific exigencies training and personal growth within ACS group. Tasks Operate and control the instrument simulators and data processors HW SW infrastructure, including task preparation in the perspective of rehearsalscommissioning activities Generation of instruments simulated Packets using instrument simulators SPS Generation of Optical and Topography products using processors GPP Analysis of results on packet level visavis a defined success...

Program Manager - Headquarters, NASA (United States)
developing products dedicated to reaching and engaging the public and other NASA stakeholders. The following competencies are desired of all applicants interested in

SCCM Administrator 3rd Line Desktop Engineer
A vacancy for a SCCM Administrator 3rd Level Desktop Engineer has arisen within Airbus Defence Space Stevenage. The SCCM Administrator 3rd Level Desktop Engineer is responsible for providing technical assistance and solutions to customers and providing an interface to other technical stakeholders across all UK sites. 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 To provide problem management and support to 1st and 2nd line teams. Identify RCA of complex issues. Collaborate with international colleagues to identify and deliver best in class solutions. Deployment planning scripting of complex software packages to a large estate of windows 7 devices. OS deployment and build creation Windows 7 10 Troubleshooting SCCM issues including Software Update Management, Software Deployment, Inventory, OS deployment, Patch Management. Monitor and m...

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,

Senior Full Stack Node.js Developer, NASA Project Open Data - Senior Software Engineer V - SGT Inc (United States)
Senior Full Stack Node.js Developer, NASA Project Open DataInterested in improving the discoverability and accessibility of NASA ’s open source data and code?The

Senior/Senior Advanced Quality Engineer (NASA) - KBRwyle (United States)
Title: Senior/Senior Advanced Quality Engineer (NASA) Location: US-US-MD-GREENBELT Job Number: 1049577 **There are no relocation funds, however we are offering a

Software Developer
Software Developer 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 missions. Terma Space operates out of Denmark, The Netherlands...

Software developer mf 2 positions
Software developer mf, ESTEC 2 positions Ref. 161737B 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 missions. Terma Space ope...

Supervisory Information Technology Specialist - Headquarters, NASA (United States)
Job Overview ## Job Overview Summary About the Agency For the 5th year in a row, NASA has been ranked the best large Agency to work for in the federal government by

Systems Capability Leader for In Situ Resource Utilization (Isru) - Headquarters, NASA (United States)
across the Agency for in situ resource utilization (ISRU) in support of NASA ?s human exploration missions. Provides stewardship of NASA ’s critical capabilities

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