



SPACEtalks

5th Edition

25th – 27th February 2025

Magali Vaissiere Conference Centre
at ESA–ECSAT, Fermi Ave, Harwell, Didcot OX11 0FD, UK



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ABOUT

WELCOME TO SPACETalks

SPACETalks brings together the brightest minds from across the industry, uniting visionaries, government experts, and industry professionals to deliver captivating presentations and engage in transformative discussions on space technology and the future of the industry.

Our content-focused conference is meticulously curated to provide unparalleled insights into the subjects, obstacles, and prospects that are paramount to you. We prioritise high-impact sessions and deliver exceptional learning experiences.

Excitingly, this year marks the expansion of our event to two full days. We'll feature enlightening presentations and discussions that tackle the most pressing challenges in both the Upstream and Downstream sectors, offering a comprehensive exploration of the latest developments and innovations in space exploration and utilisation.

DAY 1 | EXISTING MARKETS

25th February 2025

AGENDA

08:30 – 09:30 **REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**

09:30 – 09:45 Opening Remarks

Nick Appleyard, Head of Space Solutions, [European Space Agency](#)

09:45 – 10:05 Keynote Presentation

Steve O'Brien, Founder, CEO, [Newicon](#)

SESSION 1 – SATELLITE SERVICES

10:05 – 10:20 **Stand-Alone Presentation | Overview of Satcom Trends and Directions for Europe**

Xavier Lobao, Head Future Programmes Division, Telecommunications Department, [European Space Agency](#)

10:20 – 11:05 **Panel | Transforming Connectivity:
The Next Era of Satellite Communications**

Tim Deaver, VP of Global Sales and Solutions, [Mynaric](#)

Christian Keogh, Senior Associate, [DLA Piper](#)

Agnes Lahure-Lecompte, Director, EU Space Systems, [Stellar Solutions Aerospace France](#)

Alain Gavin, Chief Investment Officer, Managing Partner, [Psion Partners](#)

11:05 – 12:05 **Coffee, Tea & Networking Break**

DAY 1 | EXISTING MARKETS

25th February 2025

AGENDA

SESSION 2 – SPACE APPLICATIONS

12:05 – 12:20

Stand-Alone Presentation | The Road to Investability:

A presentation outlining some of the funding challenges faced by space start-ups and how they might be addressed

Nayen Pankhania, Investment & Strategic Finance Director, [Satellite Applications Catapult](#)

12:20 – 13:20

Panel | Earthbound Problems, Spacebound Solutions: Harnessing the Power of Space

Eric Hewitson, Head of Communications, [Wyld Networks Limited](#)

Judy Lai-Norling, COO, [Carbon Mapper](#)

Maxime Lemièrre, Head of Corporate Development, [CAILabs](#)

Asimina Syriou, Business Applications & Partnerships, Energy Lead, [The European Space Agency](#)

Patrick Sheehan, Managing Partner and Founder, [ETF Partners](#)

Geoff Busswell, Vice-President of Business Growth, [Telespazio UK](#)

13:20 – 13:30

Pitch | Unlocking the Moon's Resources for a Sustainable Future:

The clean energy transition is driving unprecedented demand for critical materials, yet terrestrial mining faces declining ore grades, rising costs, and environmental concerns. TOM is pioneering a novel approach to lunar regolith processing, enabling sustainable in-situ resource utilization (ISRU) for oxygen, metals and construction. Our Moon-Autonomous Extractor Lander (M-AEL) technology significantly reduces costs and accelerates innovation in space mining. This pitch explores how TOM is positioning itself as a key enabler of the lunar economy, supporting space exploration, infrastructure development, and beyond.

Luis Torres, CEO & Founder, [OrbitalTom](#)

DAY 1 | EXISTING MARKETS

25th February 2025

AGENDA

13:30 – 14:30

Networking Lunch

SESSION 3 – CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

14:30 – 14:45

Keynote Presentation | Shaping the Future: Ideas and Influence in the New Age of Space

Harry Readhead, Co-founder and Creative Director, [Sonder London](#)

14:45 – 15:35

Panel | Space Proofing the Future:
Fortifying Critical Infrastructure through Space

Felix von Schubert, Executive Chairman and Partner, [NewSpace Capital](#)

Robert Brüll, CEO and Managing Partner, [FibreCoat](#)

Nick Appleyard, Head of Space Solutions, [European Space Agency](#)

Andres Catelo Garcia, Satcom Services Solution Manager, [Airbus Defence and Space](#)

George Ye, Co-Founder and Managing Director, [UBIPOS UK LTD](#)

15:35 – 16:10

Coffee, Tea & Networking Break

DAY 1 | EXISTING MARKETS

25th February 2025

AGENDA

SESSION 4 – SUSTAINABILITY

16:10 – 16:40

Fireside Chat | Space for Earth – Building a Sustainable Future Through the Space Industry

Marco Gomez-Jenkins, CEO, [Super-Sharp Space Systems Ltd](#)

Sara Mugnaini, Manager – Advanced Engineering and Technologies, [Eutelsat Group](#)

Ana Raposo, Business Applications and Partnerships Officer, [European Space Agency](#)

16:40 – 17:10

**Fireside Chat | From Orbit to Insight:
Leveraging Space Data for Global Challenges**

Barry Leeson, Founder, [AS23.Space](#)

Will Cadell, Founder & CEO, [Sparkgeo](#)

James Doherty, Founder & CEO, [Plastic-i](#)

17:10 – 17:15

Closing Remarks

Nick Appleyard, Head of Space Solutions, [European Space Agency](#)

17:15 – 18:30

Drinks Reception

DAY 1 | EXISTING MARKETS

25th February 2025

SPEAKERS



NICK APPLEYARD

Head of Space Solutions
European Space Agency



ALAIN GAVIN

Chief Investment Officer,
Managing Partner

Psion Partners



ASIMINA SYRIOU

Business Applications &
Partnerships, Energy Lead.

The European Space Agency



PATRICK SHEEHAN

Managing Partner and Founder

ETF Partners



LUIS TORRES

CEO & Founder

OrbitalTom



XAVIER LOBAO

Head Future Programmes Division,
Telecommunications Department

European Space Agency



JUDY LAI-NORLING

COO

Carbon Mapper



NAYEN PANKHANIA

Investment & Strategic Finance
Director

Satellite Applications Catapult



HARRY READHEAD

Co-founder and Creative Director

Sonder London

DAY 1 | EXISTING MARKETS

25th February 2025

SPEAKERS



CHRISTIAN KEOGH

Senior Associate

DLA Piper



FELIX VON SCHUBERT

Executive Chairman and Partner

NewSpace Capital



TIM DEAVER

VP of Global Sales and Solutions

Mynaric



ROBERT BRÜLL

CEO and Managing Partner

FibreCoat



ERIC HEWITSON

Head of Communications

Wyld Networks Limited



GEOFF BUSSWELL

Vice-President of Business Growth

Telespazio



ANDRES CATELO GARCIA

Satcom Services Solution
Manager

Airbus Defence and Space



GEORGE YE

Co-Founder and Managing
Director

UBIPOS UK LTD



MARCO GOMEZ-JENKINS

CEO

Super-Sharp Space Systems Ltd



BARRY LEESON

Founder

AS23.Space



WILL CADELL

Founder & CEO

Sparkgeo



SARA MUGNAINI

Manager - Advanced Engineering
and Technologies

Eutelsat Group

DAY 1 | EXISTING MARKETS

25th February 2025

SPEAKERS



JAMES DOHERTY

Founder & CEO

Plastic-i



ANA RAPOSO

Business Applications and
Partnerships Officer

European Space Agency



**AGNES LAHURE-
LECOMPTE**

Director, EU Space Systems
**Stellar Solutions Aerospace
France**



MAXIME LEMIÈRE

Head of Corporate Development

CAILabs



STEVE O'BRIEN

Founder, CEO

Newicon

DAY 2 | FUTURE MARKETS

26th February 2025

AGENDA

08:30 – 09:30

REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST

09:30 – 09:35

Opening Remarks

Mark Drinkwater, Head, Earth & Mission Science Division, [European Space Agency](#)

09:35 – 09:50

Keynote Presentation by [ESA](#) | [ESA Earth Observation: Future Mission Landscape](#)

Mark Drinkwater, Head, Earth & Mission Science Division, [European Space Agency](#)

09:50 – 10:10

Fireside Chat

Mariam Fardous, Astronaut, [Saudi Space Agency](#)

Timo Karakashev, CEO, [Cosmonauts](#)

SESSION 1 – ROBOTICS

10:10 – 10:20

Stand-Alone Presentation | [Rethinking Satellite End-of-Life: Unlocking Lost Revenue in Orbit](#)

Traditional planning treats end-of-life as mission termination rather than an opportunity for extension. Kall Morris Inc (KMI) challenges this mindset with a simple proposition: the only thing that needs to change is the plan, not the satellite. With REACCH, a universal grapple technology, in-space servicing becomes seamless, enabling operators to extend missions and maximize returns. If your satellite still has life left in it, why throw it away? Let's rethink end-of-life together.

Adam Kall, Co-Founder & Director of Science, [Kall Morris Inc \(KMI\)](#)

DAY 2 | FUTURE MARKETS

26th February 2025

AGENDA

10:20– 11:05

Panel | Robotics in Space:

The Future of Autonomous On-Orbit Servicing

Adam Baker, Senior Manager, [Magdrive](#)

Amin Chabi, Founder and CEO, [Lúnasa Space](#)

Jas Tiruvuru, Business Development Manager, [Orbit Fab](#)

Andrew Faiola, Commercial Vice President, [Astroscale](#)

Harry Morgan, Principal, [7percent Ventures](#)

11:05 – 11:15

Pitch | Redefining Space: The Future of Satellites in Ultra Low Earth Orbit

NewOrbit is engineering the lowest orbiting satellites on Earth to rapidly advance global connectivity and insight.

As the world leader in air-breathing electric propulsion, NewOrbit enables sustained operations in Ultra Low Earth Orbit at just 180 km altitude – one-third that of conventional satellites.

In this presentation, NewOrbit will explain how ULEO will reshape the satellite industry, the crucial role of air-breathing propulsion, and why this new era of space has already begun.

Anatolii Papulov, CEO and Founder, [NewOrbit Space](#)

11:15 – 12:15

Coffee, Tea & Networking Break

DAY 2 | FUTURE MARKETS

26th February 2025

AGENDA

SESSION 2 – AI

12:15 – 12:25

Stand-Alone Presentation | Emerging Space Economies: New Policies to Grow at Global Level

Veronica La Regina, International Advisor, [Inter-American Development Bank](#)

12:25 – 13:25

Panel | The AI Revolution:
The Role of AI in Disrupting the Space Industry

Katherine Courtney, Chair, [Global Network On Sustainability In Space](#)

Gaurav Bajaj, Co-Founder, [Little Place Labs](#)

Tomas Navarro Reverte, Future Projects Engineer, [European Space Agency](#)

David Pollington, Head of Research, [Bloc Ventures](#)

Ashley Modeste Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, Founder, [Applied Atomics](#)

Steve O'Brien, CEO, [Newicon Ltd](#)

13:25 – 13:40

Stand-Alone Presentation | Spacetechn Investment From Science fiction to science fact

Rob Desborough, General Partner, [Seraphim Space](#)

13:40 – 14:40

Networking Lunch

SESSION 3 – SCALING UP

14:40 – 14:55

Stand-Alone Presentation

Katie King, CEO, [BioOrbit](#)

DAY 2 | FUTURE MARKETS

26th February 2025

AGENDA

14:55 – 15:20

Fireside Chat | Scaling Innovation:

Navigating R&D Challenges for Emerging Space Companies

Arthur Cunningham, Product Engineer, [NanoAvionics](#)

Stuart Laws, Innovation Partnerships & Outreach AH Defence Innovation Unit, [Ministry of Defence](#)

Fabrizio Pisani, Co-Founder & CEO, [Meta Futura Aerospace](#)

15:20 – 16:00

Panel | Funding the Final Frontier:

Overcoming Financial Barriers in the Space Sector

Sam Adlen, Co-CEO, [Space Solar](#)

Catherine Holt, Horizon Europe National Contact Point Space, [Innovate UK](#)

Andy Challen, VP Missions UK, [ICEYE](#)

Stephanie Ayres, Head of Policy, [UKspace](#)

16:00 – 16:40

Coffee, Tea & Networking Break

SESSION 4 – QUANTUM

16:40 – 16:50

Stand-Alone Presentation | Challenging Conventions and Breaking the Rules

Five years of building a brand-new space business and rethinking the technology that will search for signs of life in Venus's atmosphere.

Christopher Isaac, CEO, [SpaceAM](#)

DAY 2 | FUTURE MARKETS

26th February 2025

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16:50 – 17:20

Fireside Chat | Future-Proofing Space:

The Role of Quantum Technologies in Modern Systems

Mike Collet, Managing Partner, [Promus Ventures](#)

James Conning, Applications Lead, [Craft Prospect](#)

Sonali Mohapatra, Quantum Innovation Sector Lead, [National Quantum Computing Centre](#)

17:20 – 17:25

Closing Remarks

Mark Drinkwater, Head, Earth & Mission Science Division, [European Space Agency](#)

17:25 – 18:30

Drinks Reception

DAY 2 | FUTURE MARKETS

26th February 2025

SPEAKERS



MARK DRINKWATER

Head, Earth & Mission Science Division
European Space Agency



DAVID POLLINGTON

Head of Research
Bloc Ventures



MIKE COLLET

Managing Partner
Promus Ventures



MARIAM FARDOUS

Astronaut
Saudi Space Agency



STEPHANIE AYRES

Head of Policy
UKspace



KATHERINE COURTNEY

Chair
**Global Network On Sustainability
In Space**



VERONICA LA REGINA

International Advisor
**Inter-American Development
Bank**



ROB DESBOROUGH

General Partner
Seraphim Space



ANATOLII PAPULOV

CEO and Founder
NewOrbit Space

DAY 2 | FUTURE MARKETS

26th February 2025

SPEAKERS



HARRY MORGAN

Principal

7percent Ventures



AMIN CHABI

Founder and CEO

Lúnasa Space



CHRISTOPHER ISAAC

CEO

SpaceAM



ADAM BAKER

Senior Manager

Magdrive



ANDREW FAIOLA

Commercial Vice President

Astroscale



GAURAV BAJAJ

Co-Founder

Little Place Labs



ARTHUR CUNNINGHAM

Product Engineer

NanoAvionics



JAMES CONNING

Applications Lead

Craft Prospect



**ASHLEY MODESTE
JOHNSON**

Chief Executive Officer, Founder

Applied Atomics



STUART LAWS

Innovation Partnerships &
Outreach AH Defence Innovation
Unit

Ministry of Defence



SAM ADLEN

Co-CEO

Space Solar



SONALI MOHAPATRA

Quantum Innovation Sector Lead

**National Quantum Computing
Centre**

DAY 2 | FUTURE MARKETS

26th February 2025

SPEAKERS



ADAM KALL

Co-Founder & Director of Science

Kall Morris Inc (KMI)



CATHERINE HOLT

Horizon Europe National Contact
Point Space

Innovate UK



ANDY CHALLENG

VP Missions UK

ICEYE



JAS TIRUVURU

Business Development Manager

Orbit Fab



KATIE KING

CEO

BioOrbit



FABRIZIO PISANI

Co-Founder & CEO

Meta Futura Aerospace



**TOMAS NAVARRO
REVERTE**

Future Projects Engineer

European Space Agency



TIMO KARAKASHEV

CEO

Cosmonauts Ltd.



STEVE O'BRIEN

CEO

Newicon Ltd

DAY 3 | SECURITY

27th February 2025

AGENDA

08:30 – 09:30 **REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**

09:30 – 09:35 **Opening Remarks**

Holger Krag, Head of Space Safety Programme Office, [European Space Agency](#)

09:35 – 09:50 **Keynote Presentation by [ESA](#) | Protection from space hazards –
ESA's space safety programme**

Holger Krag, Head of Space Safety Programme Office, [European Space Agency](#)

SESSION 1 – RESILIENCE

09:50 – 10:05 **Stand-Alone Presentation | [UK Space Command Building Resilience](#)**

David Waller, [UK Space Command](#)

10:05 – 10:30 **Fireside Chat | Space Situational Awareness:
Enhancing Security through Advanced Monitoring**

Simon Agass, Director, [Riskaware](#)
Kieran Jones-Tett, Co-Founder, [Astron Systems](#)

10:30 – 10:45 **Stand-Alone Presentation**

Emma Ryan, Challenge Manager, [NATO DIANA](#)

DAY 3 | SECURITY

27th February 2025

AGENDA

10:45 – 11:45 Coffee, Tea & Networking Break

SESSION 2 – SPACE DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

11:45 – 12:00 **Stand-Alone Presentation | Space Debris and Human Presence in LEO: The Impact**

Matej Poliaček, ISS Columbus Flight Director, [German Aerospace Center \(DLR\)](#)

12:00 – 12:45 **Panel | Securing the Final Frontier:**
Mitigating Risks and Safeguarding Space Assets through Effective Space Debris Management

Richard Kivel, Managing Director, [GraySpace Capital](#)

Valentin Valhondo, Program Manager / Systems Engineer, [ClearSpace](#)

Jonathan Heirons, Senior Propulsion Engineer, [EUROPEAN ASTROTECH LIMITED](#)

Alun Williams, Deputy Director, Space, [ADS](#)

Maria Kalama, Managing Director, [Open Cosmos](#)

12:45 – 13:45 Networking Lunch

SESSION 3 – REGULATION

13:45 – 14:00 **Stand-Alone Presentation | A new Business Cluster – The Regional Defence and Security Cluster and how it can help you**

Mark R H Burrows, Head of Business Incubation, [STFC](#)

DAY 3 | SECURITY

27th February 2025

AGENDA

14:00 – 14:45

Panel | No Space for Mistakes – The Search for a Homogeneous Approach to Space Regulation

Matt Bull, In-Orbit Regulation Lead, [UK Space Agency](#)

Joshua Broom, Head of Space, [Department of Business and Trade](#)

Andres Guitierrez, VP of Strategy, [Orbex](#)

Chris Newlands, CEO, [Space Aye](#)

Pamela Vera, Aerospace Innovation & Technology Manager, [ADS Group](#)

14:45 – 15:30

Coffee, Tea & Networking Break

SESSION 4 – CYBERSECURITY

15:30 – 15:45

Stand-Alone Presentation | DASA – Innovation for A Safer Future

Mark Helliker, Innovation Partner – South East Region, [Defense and Security Accelerator \(DASA\)](#)

15:45 – 16:05

Fireside Chat | Guardians of the Cosmos – Navigating Cybersecurity in an Evolving Space Industry

Richard Kivel, Managing Director, [GraySpace Capital](#)

Yuri Andersson, Executive Director, [Angoka](#)

16:05 – 16:10

Closing Remarks

Holger Krag, Head of Space Safety Programme Office, [European Space Agency](#)

DAY 3 | SECURITY

27th February 2025

SPEAKERS



HOLGER KRAG

Head of Space Safety Programme Office
European Space Agency



MATT BULL

In-Orbit Regulation Lead
UK Space Agency



JOSHUA BROOM

Head of Space
Department of Business and Trade



MARK HELLIKER

Innovation Partner – South East Region
Defense and Security Accelerator (DASA)



MATEJ POLIAČEK

ISS Columbus Flight Director
German Aerospace Center (DLR)



RICHARD KIVEL

Managing Director
GraySpace Capital



ALUN WILLIAMS

Deputy Director, Space
ADS Group



ANDRES GUITIERREZ

VP of Strategy
Orbex



SIMON AGASS

Director
Riskaware

DAY 3 | SECURITY

27th February 2025

SPEAKERS



DAVID WALLER

Industry Liaison

UK Space Command



KIERAN JONES-TETT

Co-Founder

Astron Systems



EMMA RYAN

Challenge Manager

NATO DIANA



JONATHAN HEIRONS

Senior Propulsion Engineer

EUROPEAN ASTROTECH LIMITED



CHRIS NEWLANDS

CEO

Space Aye



PAMELA VERA

Aerospace Innovation &
Technology Manager

ADS Group



VALENTIN VALHONDO

Program Manager / Systems
Engineer

ClearSpace



MARIA KALAMA

Managing Director

Open Cosmos



YURI ANDERSSON

Executive Director

Angoka



MARK R H BURROWS

Head of Business Incubation

STFC

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The European Space Agency (ESA) is Europe's gateway to space. Its mission is to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the citizens of Europe and the world.

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NEW ICON



New Icon is a specialist partner for IOT, software, innovation and AI integration projects.

We are currently living in a period of the fastest innovation in human history.

Our mission empowers change makers to invent the future.

We do this by helping teams embrace this fast-paced world by adopting innovation and design practices and collaborating to invent new technology powered by IoT, Web3, AI and the latest software.

We believe in a bright future powered by human ingenuity and invention.

Built on decades of experience, our strengths lie in our ability to quickly understand and simplify complex problems. We design, develop, and deploy innovative digital products, with a focus on liberating humans from the mundane, providing better experiences, and creating positive change for people and the planet.

New Icon has successfully undertaken complex projects and developed applications for a range of clients in multiple sectors, including Aerospace, Energy, Finance, Education, Marine and Engineering.

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The Satellite Applications Catapult is one of nine UK catapults uniquely positioned to innovate and promote the development of satellite technologies and applications. The Catapult works with business, researchers, and government across all sectors to accelerate growth by offering access to cutting-edge facilities and expertise. Key areas of focus include Earth observation, satellite communications, positioning, navigation, and timing. Encouraging collaboration and partnerships, the company also supports the commercialisation of new technology, products and services. As a major player in UK's space sector, the Satellite Applications Catapult promotes growth and development in the satellite applications industry both locally and globally.

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Fitel has been a pioneer in the realm of splicing technology. Our innovative splicing systems are paving the way for advancements in quantum communication, free space communication, fibre lasers, mass data transfer, and a host of other cutting-edge applications. The evolution of fibre optics increasingly involves fibres with intricate internal structures, such as Hollow Core Fibres (HCF) and Multi-Core Fibres (MCF). These sophisticated fibres require careful handling to achieve optimal splicing results. At Fitel, we've honed our arc calibration process to provide gentle yet accurate heat application, ensuring HCF and MCF fibres are fused with minimal loss, setting a new standard in the industry.

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At OFS, we specialize in manufacturing high-quality optical fiber, fiber optic cables, passive and active optical components for Aerospace, Fiber Lasers, Fiber Optic Sensing, FTTH & Broadband, Medicals. OFS specialty optical fibers can be customised to meet your desired specifications with state-of-the-art **coatings**, buffers, and cabling materials resistant to abrasion, chemicals, radiation, biological exposure, solvents, high-temperature, shock, and vibration. These cables can be designed for maximum flexibility, durability and to operate in wide temperature ranges.

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Amphenol is one of the world's largest designers, manufacturers and marketers of connectors and interconnect systems, antennas solutions, sensors and high-speed cable. Amphenol products are utilised across many end markets, including Commercial Aerospace, Defence Aerospace and Space. Our connectors, connector system solutions and harnesses include fiber optic interconnect, harsh environment interconnect, high-speed interconnect, power interconnect, power distribution, busbars and radio frequency (RF) interconnect products

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Stellar Solutions is Woman-owned, small business founded in 1995, by Celeste Ford and Janet Grondin is the CEO. The company has approximately 220 F/T employees and 80+ Stellar Advisors. Our core business is Aerospace Engineering & Integration Services, as well as Program Management, Strategic Planning, Mission Operations. The Headquartered in Los Altos, CA, with offices in Los Altos, Chantilly (w/SCIF) & Aurora (w/SCIF). Moreover, there are offices in London & Toulouse for non-US clients.

Stellar Solutions is a global Systems engineering business solving the most complex issues that commercial and government clients face today. Our work touches areas as broad as national security & space exploration, to the humanitarian earth-quake prediction efforts of QuakeFinder.

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Are you a Space Start Up or an Aerospace manufacturer looking to enter the Space Industry? We provide unique solutions for aerospace organisations looking to enhance their digitalisation, simulation, and digital engineering capabilities.

From simulating IOSM Robotic Satellite breakdown servicing and repairs, to ensuring that your design not just works, but is fit for Space and meets all the regulatory and compliance requirements. TECHNIA has the expertise and software tools, to help you on every step of that journey.

We're forward-thinking problem solvers, and we love working with ambitious clients. For us, it's about making sure companies overcome barriers on their way to breakthroughs. It's about bringing smarter products to market faster.

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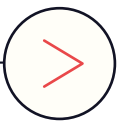
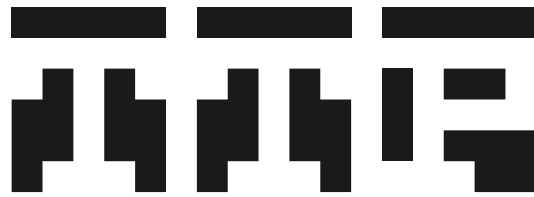
Plextek is a leading Cambridge UK based technology & engineering services business, it helps organisations of all sizes bring highly technical products and solutions to market. It is most well-known for developing low size, weight & power (SWaP) sensing, RF communication systems and radars. The company is over 35 years old, privately owned and employs around 80 engineers and scientists. In the Space & Satellite market it produces solutions including:

- In-orbit operations
- Debris detection
- Lunar navigation and landing
- Communications systems
- Payload and ground systems

www.plextek.com/markets/satellites-space/

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TTP is an independent technology and product development company. We help our customers to create innovative solutions for terrestrial and satellite communications, which include IoT, 5G, satellite payload, user terminals and electronically-steered antennas, focusing on emerging areas such as intersatellite communications, 5G Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN), connectivity for UAVs and space sustainability.

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Precision Ceramics Limited was established in 1992, supplying a wide range of advanced ceramics using ultra-precise machining services to rapidly produce custom design, high-performance components. Machinable Ceramic materials include Shapal, Boron Nitride and Macor, which are all qualified for space missions. Sintered ceramics include Alumina, Zirconia, ZTA, ATZ, Silicon Nitride, Silicon Carbide, Aluminium Nitride.

Beyond manufacturing – Precision Ceramics partner with their customers at every stage of material selection, product design and development. Our commitment lies in delivering tailored support, ensuring each customer receives the most cost-efficient ceramic solution for their application.

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ANGOKA



ANGOKA is a cybersecurity company that provides solutions for securing the digital infrastructure for smart and connected systems.

With a heritage in the mobility and defence industries, including connected and autonomous vehicles and drones, the company is providing solutions for secure space communication across User, Space and Lunar segments.

For the User segment we focus on the convergence of terrestrial and non-terrestrial data links and to provide a secure communications layer across multi-path and multi-orbit data links to offer resilience across multiple modalities. The Space segment involves solutions for optical communication for space-based assets, including Inter-Satellite Links as well as ISAM facilities and Orbital Data Centres. The Lunar segment extends this multi-path communication to lunar assets complying with LunaNet standards.

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ReliaSat, established in 2020, is a British company headquartered in Swindon, specialising in advanced satellite communications technology. Our extensive product range includes state-of-the-art antennas, amplifiers, transceivers, radar systems, and Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuits (MMICs), catering to industries such as defence, aviation, automotive, and electronics. With over a century of combined experience in RF and millimetre wave engineering, we focus on high-frequency systems, particularly within the 18 to 40 GHz spectrum. Our mission is to deliver innovative and reliable solutions tailored to the unique needs of our clients, ensuring exceptional customer service and continuous technological advancement. By offering both off-the-shelf products with short lead times and custom design support for large projects, we position ourselves as a leader in the satellite communications industry.

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SONDER
LONDON



Sonder is a communications agency with offices in London, Paris and New York. It combines public relations, reputation management and executive profiling to help decision-makers increase their visibility and express themselves in the media. The team works closely with senior figures in the public and private sectors and across space technology, deeptech, climate intelligence and defence. Founded in 2018, its expertise spans legacy media, new media, professional media and social media. Its clients are frequently featured in the press, on television, at major events and online.

Website: www.sonder-london.com

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From NASA's latest discoveries to commercial satellite launches and space policy updates, SpaceDaily remains at the forefront of independent space journalism.

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ADS is the premier trade association for the UK's aerospace, defence, security, and space industries, representing more than 1,400 members. We work with those sectors to secure the UK's advantage, enhance our international positioning as a go-to destination for innovation, and deliver on our sustainable leadership goals.



UKspace is the official trade association of the UK space industry and has been its leading voice for over 35 years. We represent the interests of industry with the UK government, parliament and national and international stakeholders. To achieve the best business framework to promote growth, UKspace works alongside the ADS, techUK, UK Space Agency, Innovate UK, Satellite Applications Catapult, Satellite Finance Network, Ofcom and government departments.

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At **Eatable Adventures** we firmly believe in the transformative capacity of technology to redefine the food system, led by visionary founders and supported by the powerful synergy of corporations, investors, and governments, ensuring these innovations thrive in the global market.

Our ecosystem boasts over 25,000 changemakers creating the world's premier Agri-Foodtech community, alongside 65 corporate and government partnerships building together the future of the Agri-Food sector, and a €30M Investment Fund igniting Pre-Seed and Seed Agri-FoodTech innovators.

Our mission is building tomorrow's food system by partnering with Startups, Corporations, Governments, and Investors.



SpaceWatch.Global is a digital magazine and portal for those interested in space and the far-reaching impact that space developments have. While showcasing the technology that enables the industry to edge closer to the next frontier, SpaceWatch.Global also provides analysis, forecasts and insight into the geopolitical implications of space developments.

From space policy, exploration and missions to space weapons and technology, we provide a complete perspective on the global space sector.

The team behind SpaceWatch.Global comprises a dynamic mix of space geeks, tech junkies, space policy experts, regional space specialists and passionate writers. We fully believe that space should be used for humanity; that it enables knowledge and enriches societies. SpaceWatch.Global is published by SpaceWatch.Global GmbH, headquartered in Berlin, the Capital city of Germany. In the true European spirit from the heart of Europe, neutrality, ethics and integrity are at our core. SpaceWatch.Global abides by the Society of Professional Journalists' code of ethics; we seek truth and report it.

INTERVIEWS



INTERVIEW WITH
KIERAN JONES-TETT
Co-Founder,
Astron Systems

INTERVIEW WITH **KIERAN JONES-TETT** Co-Founder, Astron Systems



SPACEtalks is just days away and we couldn't be more excited. We interviewed a few of our highly-anticipated experts speaking at 5.0 to get their key insights.

Today, get to know Astron Systems' Co-Founder, Kieran Jones-Tett, who has been driving innovation in fully reusable small launch vehicles since 2021. Previously, he worked as a Propulsion R&D Engineer at URA Thrusters, a spin-off from the AVS Group, specializing in Hall-effect thrusters and propulsion system development. With expertise in both chemical and electric propulsion, Kieran is passionate about advancing space launch technologies.

Could you provide some insights into your background and experiences within the space industry?

"My background is in aerospace engineering. I previously worked on in-space propulsion, focusing on electric propulsion (EP), where I developed Hall-effect thrusters designed to operate on water vapor. I then co-founded Astron Systems, where we are developing fully reusable small launch vehicles—particularly after identifying a lack of similar efforts in Europe.

We conceived a vehicle concept alongside a novel propulsion system designed as the keystone of a small reusable launch vehicles. This system is capable of increasing lifetime by two orders of magnitude compared to existing alternatives—a requirement for achieving true reusability. Since founding the company, we have raised a mix of private VC capital and government support through ESA and Innovate UK. We have designed, built, and tested our first prototype propulsion system and have actively worked on building cross-European partnerships. One major advantage of a reusable vehicle is reduced sensitivity to BOM costs, allowing us to be a more horizontally integrated company.

Our most notable partnership is with CIRA, where we are co-developing a heat shield based on the technology they developed for ESA's Space Rider. Additionally, we participated in the Techstars Space Accelerator, run in partnership with the USSF and NASA JPL, which involved spending three months in California. This experience helped us build a strong network within the U.S. Department of Defense, providing us with a critical advantage compared to our European peers"

INTERVIEW WITH **KIERAN JONES-TETT** Co-Founder, Astron Systems



Which trends or recent advancements in space technology do you find most exciting or promising?

One of the most exciting trends in space technology is the potential for further space proliferation as launch costs continue to fall – something we are actively working toward. As access to space becomes more affordable, it unlocks a flywheel effect: lower costs enable new business models that were previously unviable, which in turn attracts greater investment, leading to further innovation. This cycle has the potential to radically expand the role of space in our daily lives.

We already rely on space more than most people realise – whether for global communications, navigation, earth observation, or climate monitoring – but the next wave of developments could be even more transformative. With cheaper, more frequent access, we can expect new industries to emerge from space-based manufacturing to in-orbit servicing and assembly. This greater accessibility will fundamentally shape sectors like energy, logistics, and even healthcare.

It is an incredibly exciting time because we are at the inflection point of this transition. Just as the internet went from a niche tool to an integral part of modern society, the growth of space will open up new markets and applications we cannot yet fully predict.

In your opinion, are there specific sectors within the space technology industry that stand out as particularly appealing for potential investors?

I might be slightly biased, but I believe launch remains one of the most appealing sectors for investors in space technology. While there is a common perception that launch is a ‘solved problem,’ we strongly disagree. In reality, very few companies—particularly in Europe—are pushing the boundaries of what is technically feasible in a way where risk and reward are proportional. Many current investments risk yielding little impact because they focus on incremental improvements—sometimes mislabeled as technical innovations (which we instead define as advancements where the risk outweighs the commercial reward)—rather than truly transformative solutions.

INTERVIEW WITH **KIERAN JONES-TETT** Co-Founder, Astron Systems



One key factor that makes launch an attractive investment is that it is fundamentally a global commodity, at least within the Western market. Not long ago, U.S. payloads were regularly shipped to French Guiana for Ariane launches; today, that trend has completely shifted, with European and international payloads routinely heading to Florida for launch on SpaceX. The lesson here is clear: access to space follows cost and capability, not nationality. While there is a broad need for sovereign capabilities, subsidies are a temporary fix rather than a long-term strategy.

Europe already has the technical foundation and history to build globally competitive solutions. From propulsion innovations that powered the Space Shuttle to advanced thermal protection systems being employed on ESA's Space Rider, we have developed world-class subsystems. What's missing is a new generation of ambitious companies willing to integrate these elements into commercially dominant services. For investors, this represents an untapped opportunity—by backing the right ventures, there is a chance to build globally leading launch companies that can thrive in an open market rather than relying on protectionist policies for survival.

INTERVIEWS



INTERVIEW WITH
ROBERT BRÜLL
CEO and Managing Partner,
FibreCoat

INTERVIEW WITH

ROBERT BRÜLL

CEO and Managing Partner,
FibreCoat



Throughout his career, Dr. Brüll has cultivated an extensive network and received numerous awards. Leveraging his expertise in project management, business strategy, and leadership, he has served as CEO of FibreCoat since 2020, driving the scale-up's strategic and economic growth.

Beyond his role as a founder, he is a strong advocate for the visibility and impact of advanced materials in industry and society.

Could you provide some insights into your background and experiences within the space industry?

My background is in advanced materials and economics, with a specialization in lightweight design. Additionally, I have experience in founding and scaling the high-performance material producer FibreCoat. Our materials cater to various applications within the space industry, including thermal regulation, radiation shielding, and the production of fibres from lunar dust. We collaborate with the space industry to reduce the costs associated with space exploration and exploitation by focusing on the fundamental building blocks of the sector.

Which trends or recent advancements in space technology do you find most exciting or promising?

The space sector is increasingly focusing on affordability and sustainability. This emphasis is particularly significant for materials, as new composites will facilitate the creation of both cost-effective and sustainable products while enhancing astronaut safety and mission success. Additionally, space manufacturing promises to introduce entirely new solutions and production methods. There is substantial potential in applying terrestrial technologies to space and celestial bodies such as the Moon, as this can reduce reliance on Earth-based resources and further humanity's presence in space.

INTERVIEW WITH

ROBERT BRÜLL

CEO and Managing Partner,
FibreCoat



In your opinion, are there specific sectors within the space technology industry that stand out as particularly appealing for potential investors?

Technologies that have applications both in space and on Earth possess significant potential for investors. For instance, affordable lightweight materials used for novel cube satellites can improve the performance of vehicles on the ground. Likewise, manufacturing adaptations made to enable in-orbit production can offer tangible benefits for the same technologies on Earth, enhancing their robustness and safety. Therefore, an investor can benefit from a company that can simultaneously grow in both space and terrestrial markets.

How do you perceive the influence and impact of thought leaders in space technology on advancing the industry's agenda, both nationally and globally?

By engaging with the public and raising awareness about space exploration, thought leaders play a crucial role in inspiring future scientists, engineers, and entrepreneurs. Their efforts to educate and excite the public about space can lead to increased support and funding for space programs. This support can be further maximized by promoting collaborations between academia, industry, and government agencies. These partnerships facilitate resource sharing, knowledge exchange, and coordinated efforts to address complex challenges in space exploration. However, it is essential for European thought leaders to exert more influence on governments to shape policies and regulations that support the growth and sustainability of the sector. For example, there should be more direct engagement with the startup sector to leverage and enable groundbreaking innovation.

INTERVIEW WITH

ROBERT BRÜLL

CEO and Managing Partner,
FibreCoat



What challenges or obstacles do you foresee in the near future for the space industry, and how might these be addressed?

There are two significant challenges facing the space industry in the near future: accessibility and international collaboration. Despite advancements, space missions continue to be expensive, which limits accessibility for smaller companies and countries. Innovations in reusable rocketry, cost-effective manufacturing techniques, and public-private partnerships have the potential to reduce costs and make space more accessible. Affordable space exploration and commercialization benefit from international cooperation. With policy changes in the US and other countries, along with increasing tensions within the European Union, the risk of a split between long-standing partners is greater than ever before. It is essential for Europe to demonstrate that joint efforts are feasible to encourage collaboration in other sectors, such as defence.

As the space industry continues to evolve, what potential collaborations or partnerships do you think could significantly contribute to its growth and innovation?

As a startup founder, I believe that investment in space and adjacent startups by venture capital firms can significantly foster innovation and bring new technologies to market. These startups often focus on developing cost-effective solutions for space travel, satellite technology, and space-based services. However, venture capital is only one aspect of the necessary support. It is essential to secure more contracts from government agencies within the startup sector. Such revenues will stimulate developments targeted at space applications and facilitate fundraising efforts, thereby further boosting the sector's growth.

INTERVIEW WITH

ROBERT BRÜLL

CEO and Managing Partner,
FibreCoat



Can you highlight any key policy or regulatory changes that you believe could shape the future landscape of the space technology sector?

It is essential to revise national space laws to promote innovation and support entrepreneurship. These laws should streamline the licensing process, reduce regulatory obstacles, and encourage private sector investment in space activities. By adopting a progressive approach, governments can create a favorable environment for both startups and established companies, fostering collaboration and partnerships that drive advancements. Additionally, updated space laws can address issues related to space debris management, ensuring the sustainable utilization of outer space resources.

How important is international cooperation in achieving breakthroughs and advancements within the space industry, and are there any notable examples you find inspiring?

Cooperation promotes peaceful relations between nations and reduces the risk of conflicts in space. For example, the Artemis Accords, led by NASA, are an international agreement that outlines principles for cooperation in the civil exploration and use of the Moon, Mars, and other celestial bodies. Countries signing the accords commit to peaceful exploration and transparency. International partnerships can also drive innovation and economic growth by creating new markets and opportunities. For instance, the ESA's partnership with private companies through the Copernicus program provides valuable Earth observation data, supporting various industries and environmental monitoring efforts. These initiatives could be extended to other industries as well.

What are you most looking forward to at SPACEtalks 5.0?

I am eager to gain insights from industry leaders and innovators in the field of space exploration. This serves as an invaluable opportunity to engage with experts and reevaluate my strategies for addressing the current market conditions.

INTERVIEWS



INTERVIEW WITH
JONATHAN HEIRONS
Senior Propulsion Engineer,
EUROPEAN ASTROTECH LIMITED

INTERVIEW WITH

JONATHAN HEIRONS

Senior Propulsion Engineer,
EUROPEAN ASTROTECH LIMITED



Could you provide some insights into your background and experiences within the space industry?

I have been a propulsion engineer for EAL for 8 years, I have personally supported 27 satellites reaching orbit via launch site propulsion testing and SCAPE loading activities.

In your opinion, are there specific sectors within the space technology industry that stand out as particularly appealing for potential investors?

I think resource collection and in orbit manufacture is appealing as it will open up a whole new market for the space market that will support a lot of new innovations.

How do you perceive the influence and impact of thought leaders in space technology on advancing the industry's agenda, both nationally and globally?

I think they play a role and are great at creating a story but i am cynical in why they advance industry agenda.

INTERVIEW WITH

JONATHAN HEIRONS

Senior Propulsion Engineer,
EUROPEAN ASTROTECH LIMITED



What challenges or obstacles do you foresee in the near future for the space industry, and how might these be addressed?

I think a proliferation of small satellites from new space intent on using new propulsion systems only worsen the problem of space debris. I think that green propellants are intriguing and add to the options available for users but the conversation has been at the expense of the traditional and reliable propellant options by making them a bogey man. This has limited investment into pushing the boundaries of propulsion systems based on these propellants which will help new systems unlock profitable services quicker. Alongside the space sector the other obstacles facing the progress are bottlenecks in payload processing capacity at launch sites.

Can you highlight any key policy or regulatory changes that you believe could shape the future landscape of the space technology sector?

From direct impact, REACH initiatives on hypergolic propellants needs to be decided one way or another. At the minute it is a shadow over the shoulder but everyone major ESA/NASA project for the next decade and half is still looking at using the legacy propellant combination. I think robust debris avoidance regulation is a must.

How important is international cooperation in achieving breakthroughs and advancements within the space industry, and are there any notable examples you find inspiring?

Very; I have had the opportunity to work on Euclid and HERA ESA missions as well as see the JWST when it was in Kourou. All these science missions require the international co-operation to deliver really inspiring mission outcomes.

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