



## Space Special Interest Group

### eNewsletter – 18 February 2011

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#### News

**Have you signed up to the Space SIG Network JOIN NOW FOR FREE! [www.aeroktn.co.uk/SpaceSIG](http://www.aeroktn.co.uk/SpaceSIG)**

We are now reaching over 1000 people, keep up to date with the latest news and events from the Space Special Interest Group.

#### **National Space Technology Strategy – STATUS UPDATE**

Over the past 9 months the National Space Technology Steering Group and the Space Special Interest Group have been crafting the National Space Technology Strategy with underpinning roadmaps. This massive effort from all involved up and down the country has involved some 30 small workshops at sector level, three national workshops and engaged with some 200+ organisations. An effort that every member of the UK Space industry and community should be immensely proud of! Well done!! The Space Strategy Document is going through the final stages of edits and will soon be ready for publication alongside a suite of Technology Roadmaps using Vision Strategist software. The Strategy will be presented to the Space Leadership Council, co-chaired by David Willetts MP. Minister of State for Universities and Science and Andy Green, CEO Logica; this presentation, on March 3rd 2011, will be made by Sir Keith O’Nions, Rector, Imperial College who chairs the National Space Technology Steering Group.

The Space Technology Strategy will then be published through March, at this stage how and where is to be determined, but it will definitely be shouted about here in the Space SIG Newsletter and be made available through \_connect .... So keep reading the Space SIG Newsletter to be the first to know about the UK’s National Space Technology Strategy.

#### **Collaboration across Digital Industries: creating sustainable value chains**

As part of its £18m Collaboration across Digital Industries initiative, the Technology Strategy Board is to invest up to £5.8m in research that will help to create sustainable digital value chains. The investment is intended to support companies that address systemic challenges, where business opportunities are impeded by ineffective or dysfunctional digital value chains.

#### **ESA Business Incubation Centre Harwell**

The European Space Agency seeks entrepreneurs with innovative ideas for using space technology, applications and services in a non-space environment. ESA Business Incubation Centres (ESA BICs) can assist you in getting your project off the ground by providing technical expertise and business development support.

#### **IC tomorrow Digital Innovation Contest – NOW OPEN**

Digital entrepreneurs are invited to join a new £200,000 scheme aimed at helping to bring innovative UK applications to market. IC tomorrow, a Technology Strategy Board programme, will invest in up to 20 consumer trials across creative market sectors including Music, TV/Film, and Publishing.

#### **ESA and Inmarsat launch Applications Development Initiative for Alphasat – WORKSHOP 23 FEBRUARY 2011**

ESA will launch an Open Call For Proposals in March 2011 to support the Alphasat Application Development Initiative. To learn more about this initiative, a special workshop will take place at Inmarsat in London on Tuesday 23 February.

#### **Novel Technologies for Complex Weapons- Competition – NOW OPEN**

The Ministry of Defence’s Centre for Defence Enterprise, in conjunction with the MOD Weapons Technology Centre, is seeking

applications that deliver novel and low-cost technologies for future Complex Weapons.

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## Events

- 07 Mar 2011- [LECTURE: RAF Manned Space Programme 1953 -1960](#), Cranwell
- 10 Mar 2011- [The Future of Britain's Space Economy: New Challenges, Growth and Opportunities](#), London
- 10 Mar 2011- [University of Glasgow: Industry Day 2011](#), Glasgow
- 16 Mar 2011- [Yuri Gagarin's Legacy - 50 Years On](#), London
- 28 Mar 2011- [Cryogenics in UK Research Infrastructures and Space Science: a networking meeting](#), London
- 06 Apr 2011- [Remote Sensing Workshop - Meeting Industry Needs with NERC Expertise](#), London
- 14 Apr 2011- [EU GNSS Receiver Workshop 2011](#), Nottingham
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## Articles of Interest

### [Lockheed Examining Sats For Contamination](#)

Lockheed Martin officials are confident the suspected cause of a liquid apogee engine failure on the first Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) satellite — the introduction of foreign object debris (FOD) in the manufacturing process — will not pose a problem for other satellites built on the A2100 bus.

### [New dimensions to monitor Earth prove ever-more useful](#)

With interest growing in satellite radar techniques that provide 3D views of Earth's natural and urban environments, scientists from around the world recently gathered to review the latest findings and show how these methods can be used to monitor our changing world.

### [Europe's ATV space ferry ready for launch](#)

Johannes Kepler is the first operational ATV (Automated Transfer Vehicle ), following the highly successful Jules Verne qualification flight in 2008. With a total mass of over 20 tonnes, it is the heaviest payload ever launched by Europe.

### [NASA Eyes Spaceplanes For Crew Transport](#)

While its plans for replacing the shuttle are in flux, NASA has a small program underway intended to stimulate private-sector efforts to develop commercial human spaceflight services. While most of those involved are pursuing Apollo-style capsules similar to NASA's Orion crew vehicle, one is designing a spaceplane.

### [European Commissioner: Space is a must to tackle climate change](#)

In her opening address, Commissioner Hedegaard said, "We need science, knowledge and facts to formulate European policies. With those policies in place, we then need the tools to monitor them."

### [ATK and Astrium Unveil the Liberty™ Launch Vehicle Initiative for NASA's CCDev-2 Competition](#)

ATK and Astrium are working together in response to NASA's Commercial Crew Development-2 (CCDev-2) procurement. The team is offering NASA launch services with the Liberty™ rocket. This new launch vehicle combines two of the world's most reliable propulsion systems, with a collective heritage of nearly 150 successful flights.

### [New U.S. Space Strategy Announced](#)

The U.S. government is emphasizing the need for a strong and competitive space industrial base, improved acquisition processes and coordination among the Pentagon and intelligence community in its new National Security Space Strategy.

### [ESA's sharp eyes on coastal waters](#)

ESA's CoastColour project is helping scientists develop techniques to take full advantage of the unique capabilities of the

Medium Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (MERIS) sensor on its Envisat satellite.

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## Comment

Read blogs and comments from the Space community

- [Questions and Answers from Space Webinar, Huw Jones](#)
- [NanoSkills Survey - Your input required, Martin Kemp](#)
- [Knowledge Transfer, Hossein Zare-Behtash](#)

### Tell us your news!

If you have any related articles of interest that you would like to share with the Space SIG, contact [SpaceSIG@aeroktn.co.uk](mailto:SpaceSIG@aeroktn.co.uk).

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