



AIRBUS

PRESS RELEASE

Swedish Space Corporation and Airbus Defence and Space Netherlands to Collaborate in Optical Communication

Leiden, January 21st 2021 - Swedish Space Corporation (SSC) and Airbus Defence and Space Netherlands (Airbus DS NL) have signed a memorandum of understanding for collaborative activities regarding ground equipment for space-to-ground optical communication. The agreement will accelerate the development of commercially viable optical ground stations that will be offered by Airbus DS NL and used by SSC in delivering ground network services.

One of the collaborative activities in developing this capability includes optical communication tests against the CubeLCT optical terminal on the Photo Images Cross Laser (PIXL-1) Mission, organised in close co-operation with project partner TESAT. PIXL-1 will be launched the 22nd of January (<https://www.tesat.de/pixl>)



“Airbus Netherlands will be an important partner as SSC continues to add optical communication solutions to our global network of ground stations. Their modern infrastructure and industry-leading knowledge will be a vital contribution to our service offering”, says Stefan Gardefjord, CEO at SSC.

Optical communication between ground stations and satellites in orbit enables broadband connectivity via space, providing a secure and efficient solution for the fast-growing worldwide demand for data.

“Optical communication will be a game changer in this era in which we increasingly share data. We have a strong desire to work with Swedish Space Corporation to further build up our capabilities for optical ground stations, as they have been at the forefront of ground stations services for decades”, says Maarten Schippers, CEO at Airbus Defence and Space Netherlands.

- - - End press release - - -

For further information please contact:

SSC: Philip Ohlsson, +46 (0) 707-217 026, philip.ohlsson@sscspace.com

Airbus DS NL: Hella van Leeuwen, +31 71 52 45126, h.van.leeuwen@airbusDS.nl

TESAT: Nina Backes, +49 7191 930-1126, Nina.Backes@tesat.de

About SSC

Swedish Space Corporation, SSC, helps space organizations, companies, other commercial actors and research institutes to get access to space. SSC's products and services enable successful space projects within telecommunications, security, meteorology, navigation and positioning, scientific research, earth observation and other applications. Through our approximately 600 committed employees, we offer specialist expertise in satellite communications, rocket and balloon systems, launch services and flight test services. Through our local presence on all continents, we help our customers with specific solutions in space systems, subsystems, instruments, technology and other related services. www.sscspace.com

About Airbus Defence and Space Netherlands

Airbus Defence and Space Netherlands B.V. is a supplier of high-tech products and services for the international aerospace industry. The portfolio of Airbus Defence and Space Netherlands B.V. includes solar arrays, launcher structures, instruments & services, thermal-mechanical products and communication & control systems. The Leiden-based company employs more than 325 experienced professionals. www.airbusds.nl

Airbus Defence and Space Netherlands B.V. is part of Airbus, a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. In 2019, it generated revenues of €70.5 billion and employed a workforce of around 135,000. Airbus offers the most comprehensive range of passenger airliners. Airbus is also a European leader providing tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, as well as Europe's number one space enterprise and the world's second largest



AIRBUS

space business. In helicopters, Airbus provides the most efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions worldwide.
www.airbus.com