

Space: a constantly changing sector



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SPACE: A CONSTANTLYCHANGING SECTOR

We are seeing a transformation of the space sector, triggered by disruptions in the launcher market, as well as emerging satellite application needs. New initiatives are emerging, innovation is increasingly audacious, and time-to-market for new concepts has speeded up considerably.

- Major operators demand shorter delivery times, greater standardization to significantly reduce costs, and a large increase in onboard capacity.
- Telecom satellites must therefore combine high power, very high throughput, adaptability, flexibility and electric propulsion systems.

- There is a revival of interest in mega-constellations, especially «Internet for everybody» type missions, with the advent of new players generating new business models and disruptions in the supply chain.

- The management of the environment, natural or industrial risks and the climate are still top priorities, including alternative solutions and systems designed to complement satellites.

- A renewal of interest in scientific and exploration missions.

Furthermore, the life of the International Space Station has been extended until 2025, generating new requirements for supply missions for its astronauts.

MARKET DATA SHEET

THALES ALENIA SPACE SOLUTIONS

- Thales Alenia Space offers a complete range of satcom solutions, from components and subassemblies to turnkey systems, and from geostationary orbit to constellations.
- Thales Alenia Space has introduced new product lines: Spacebus NEO for telecom satellites, including an all-electric version, Earth-Observer Optical and Earth-Observer Radar for high-resolution observation.
- Thales Alenia Space makes flexible, very-high-throughput, totally integrated payloads, adaptable to all types of missions.
- Thales Alenia Space has expanded its footprint in Europe with the opening of new facilities in Belgium, the UK, Poland and Switzerland, and has formed technological and scientific partnerships in Brazil, Singapore and Poland.
- Thales Alenia Space has increased its R&D spending by 40% in two years to address new market requirements.
- Thales Alenia Space develops innovative solutions in other areas, for example with StratoBus, a stratospheric airship that's a cross between a drone and a satellite.
- Thales Alenia Space is transforming its industrial processes, including the introduction of robotics, cobotics and additive manufacturing in its production lines. The L'Aquila plant in Italy is a state-of-the-art production facility.

- Thales Alenia Space continues to stand out as the European center of excellence in satellite navigation systems (EGNOS, Galileo).
- Thales Alenia Space has developed key expertise in enabling technologies for pressurized modules (ATV, Cygnus resupply spacecraft) for the International Space Station, and validated atmospheric reentry technologies on the successful IXV mission.
- Through the ExoMars and Euclid programs, Thales Alenia Space takes a pivotal role in key scientific missions.

THALES ALENIA SPACE AT A GLANCE

- All-electric: three new telecom satellites ordered from Thales Alenia Space will use the new all-electric Spacebus NEO platform.
- Thales Alenia Space is the prime contractor for the world's largest constellation: Iridium Next, with 81 satellites.
- Thales Alenia Space has built all European meteorological satellites: three generations of Meteosat, 17 satellites in all.
- 50% of the pressurized volume on the International Space Station was provided by Thales Alenia Space.

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