

Call for press

ESA CubeSats from the Space Station: a new path for education and technology

The Danish flag will fly high on 5 October as two ESA CubeSats, entirely designed and developed in Denmark, will be released from the International Space Station (ISS) and start their mission in space: the student-built AAUSAT5 and the professional technology demonstrator GomX-3.

On the same day, media are invited to follow the satellites' deployment live at a press event taking place at Aalborg University, at the presence of ESA astronaut Andreas Mogensen.

CubeSats, small satellites the size of a cube 10x10x10 cm (or multiples of it), are gaining increasing popularity in the space sector. They can be used as a cheaper and faster way – with respect to conventional satellites of bigger size and higher cost - to demonstrate the use of miniaturised technology in space for a number of applications. These include the new radio technology to be demonstrated by GomX-3, eventually aimed at supporting the positioning of civilian aircraft and measuring telecommunication satellite signal quality, and that of AAUSAT5, tracking ships at open sea.

CubeSats are also an excellent way for university students to gain experience in the full life-cycle of a space project – from design to launch and operations – before they start their space professions. Since 2012 the ESA Education programme is engaging students across Europe in the development of CubeSats through the Fly Your Satellite! initiative. ESA mentors the student throughout their CubeSat project, transfers expert know-how and provide launch opportunities. With AAUSAT5 ESA is inaugurating a new branch of the initiative: Fly Your Satellite from the ISS!

AAUSAT5 and GomX-3 are the first ESA CubeSat projects to be launched from the ISS.

Interested media are requested to register via email to:

Carsten Nielsen, University of Aalborg (AAU) Press

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Mobile: +45 2340 6554

For further information on **ESA's Fly Your Satellite! Programme** contact:

Piero Galeone, ESA Head of Tertiary Education Unit

Email: [Piero.galeone @ esa.int](mailto:Piero.galeone@esa.int)

For information on Andreas Mogensen's iriss mission and to invite Andreas to your premises contact:

[Rosita.Suenson @ esa.int](mailto:Rosita.Suenson@esa.int)

Event programme

5 October 2015, 15:00 – 18:00

AAU Main Canteen, Fibigerstræde 15, 9220 Aalborg East
Aalborg University, Denmark

([AAU Map](http://map.aau.dk/?location=fib15): <http://map.aau.dk/?location=fib15>)

15:20 Doors open

15:40 Welcome, Dr Eskild Holm Nielsen, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Science, Aalborg University

15:45 Introduction to AAUSAT5 and GomX-3 deployment from the ISS, Jens Schiemann, ESA ISS operations

15:55 AAUSAT5 and GomX-3 deployment: live link from the ISS, commented by Andreas Mogensen, ESA astronaut

16:05 The AAUSAT5 mission, Prof Jens Frederik Dalsgaard Nielsen

16:15 The GomX-3 mission, Lars Alminde, Chief Sales Officer, GomSpace

16:25 CubeSats at ESA, a new path for Education and Technology, Hugo Marée, Head of ESA Education and Knowledge Management Office, and Roger Walker, ESA Technology CubeSats Manager

16:40 Lecture: Living and working on the ISS, Andreas Mogensen

17:40 AAUSAT5 and GomX-3: what next? Prof Jens Frederik Dalsgaard Nielsen, and Kim Toft Hansen, GomX-3 Project Manager, GomSpace

17:50 Q&A & interviews

18:30 End of event