



## SpaceOps Newsletter – Summer 2023

### Dear SpaceOps Colleagues,

This edition of the SpaceOps Newsletter contains information of interest to the space operations community. *In this issue...*

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### SpaceOps 2023 Conference Review – Dubai, UAE



For the first time in the Arab world, the Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) hosted the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Conference on Space Operations in Dubai (March 6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023). SpaceOps2023 was the largest ever SpaceOps conference in the history of the event. The much-awaited face-to-face conference was back in “full scale” providing international and regional scientists, managers, operators, practitioners, engineers, and leaders in the space industry a platform to meet again. The conference witnessed more than 1,100 participants from over 70 countries, attend the 5-day event filled with plenary sessions, informative lectures, in-depth technical sessions, and interactive electronic presentations. More than 100 technical sessions were held under the theme “Invest in space to serve Earth and beyond”, with more than 550 papers and abstracts submitted.

SpaceOps 2023 also saw the participation of seven space agencies from around the world, which included NASA, European Space Agency (ESA), Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI), South African National Space Agency (SANSA), French Space Agency (CNES), Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI) and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). A total of 30 space exhibitors from around the world, also had their stands at the event’s exhibition showcasing the latest innovation and services in the space sector.

The 5-day event was endorsed by multiple sponsors from across the globe, including platinum sponsor GMV, gold sponsor Yahsat, silver sponsors, ESA and SANSA, bronze sponsors, Telespazio, ASI, SpaceNav and others.



International committee on  
Technical Interchange for  
Space Mission Operations  
and Ground Systems



## Some Highlights from SpaceOps 2023 in Dubai...





## 2024 Workshop Preparation – “Cité de l’espace” Toulouse, France

CNES, the French Space Agency, will host the next SpaceOps workshop scheduled to take place June 25 - 27, 2024. This biannual event, which takes place in between the SpaceOps conferences, aims to explore new subjects, new paradigms, new issues related to space systems operations. It is indeed a question of bringing together a few experts to discuss the relevance of introducing new topics, new problematics, and new challenges within the scope of the international space operations community. The workshop will bring together a focused group of space professionals including 20 to 30 invited speakers and is planned to be held over 3 days, organized around 3 to 5 themes.

The preparation has started with the collection of potential themes and the final selection is scheduled for the upcoming Fall meeting of the SpaceOps committee. Then, it will be necessary to identify the invited speakers and presentations in each of the themes that will feed the discussions for the thematic round tables.

To learn more about this event, please contact the organizers:

- **Chair:** Gérard GALET – CNES – [gerard.galet@cnes.fr](mailto:gerard.galet@cnes.fr)
- **Co-Chair:** Jay TRIMBLE – NASA Ames Research Center - [jay.p.trimble@nasa.gov](mailto:jay.p.trimble@nasa.gov)



Cité de l’espace” Museum in Toulouse, France



## July 2023 Edition

The multidisciplinary [Journal of Space Operations & Communicator](#) (JSOC) is jointly published by the Space Operations and Support Technical Committee (SOSTC) of AIAA and the SpaceOps Organization. JSOC is an internationally registered online journal (ISSN 2410-0005) and acknowledged by the renowned [ResearchGate platform](#) specialized on scientific papers and articles publication.

This Journal is YOUR, i.e. the SpaceOps Community's Journal to "foster continuous interchange on all aspects of space mission operations and ground systems, and to promote and maintain an international community of space operations domain experts" according to its charter. The Journal is published quarterly and is in its 19th publishing year - no subscription necessary. Back issue papers, articles and all book reviews are accessible via the available search machine on the homepage. The editors invite and promote submissions from its members and partners on all relevant topic areas related to space operations and ground support.

Representatives of agencies, academia and industry are encouraged to submit their work either to Ronald H. Freeman (ronaldhoracefreeman@gmail.com) Editor-in-Chief or Joachim Kehr (joachimkehr@aol.com) Editors SpaceOps News directly or use the contact information provided within the Journal.

The Quarter#3 Issue (July 1, 2023) includes papers, articles, and book reviews with the following highlights:

- Who Owns the Moon and its Resources?
- Apollo-14 Moon Trees and other Space Plants.
- Shoemaker-Levy Comet Crash and Consequences.
- What happened to the Mars One Mission?
- Without a Doubt: AI Models projecting Climate Change
- New SBSP Space Race with China?

*Plus 2 Book Reviews:*

	<p><b>Existential Physics:</b> A Scientist's Guide to Life's Biggest Questions (Sabine Hossenfelder)</p>
	<p><b>Chasing the Moon</b> (Robert Stone, Alan Andres)</p>



## International Space Station – Axiom-2 Mission Summary

The second all private astronaut mission to the International Space Station (ISS) occurred from May 21 – 30, 2023. The international crew of four Axiom astronauts included Commander Peggy Whitson, Pilot John Shoffner, both from the USA and Mission Specialists Ali Alqarni and Rayyanah Barnawi - the first astronauts from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to visit the ISS. Barnawi is also the first Arab woman to fly in space. The objective of the Axiom 2 mission was to expand access for commercial users to conduct robust scientific research, bio manufacturing, technology demonstrations in Low-Earth orbit. As the second private mission to the ISS, Axiom-2 was an important step for Axiom Space and its academic and industrial partners to perform proof-of-concept studies and cutting-edge advancements in microgravity. The Axiom crew launched on a Space-X Falcon 9 rocket from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida on May 21 and splashed down off the coast of Florida on May 31.



*The Axiom Mission-2 and Expedition 69 crew members aboard the ISS.*

## Join the SpaceOps Organization!

As the international space operations community grows, we encourage your organization to join SpaceOps. SpaceOps has recently created a new membership category for industrial members and other interested organizations. Participation in SpaceOps as a Partner or a Member will bring you beneficial association with the agencies and partner organizations focusing on space operations, allow you to help determine the content of the biennial conferences, and help shape the future of the community. Please forward this information to your colleagues and co-workers so that they too can stay on top of what is happening in space operations! To be added to the SpaceOps mailing list or for more information about becoming a Partner or a Member of the SpaceOps Organization, please email the SpaceOps Secretariat at [secretariat@spaceops.org](mailto:secretariat@spaceops.org).

For more information about the SpaceOps Organization visit <http://www.spaceops.org>.