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Global Recruitment & Executive Search | Satellite & NewSpace Specialists

JANUARY 2021

# Satellite & NewSpace Snapshot

INDUSTRY INSIGHTS - LATEST NEWS

## A Year & Decade Of Great Promise For Satellite & Space

As we welcome in a new year, we hope on a global level that it will prove to be better than the one we've just left behind. We are quite confident on an industry level that it will be a year of continued innovation, exploration and overall growth. Certainly, activity and announcements at the tail end of last year suggest this to be the case.

Industry innovations continue to blossom and propel us forward. In-orbit activity is set to increase considerably and launches continue to happen at a growing rate, bringing with them an increased need to manage and create a more sustainable space. Investors continue to further their involvement with satellite & space companies, and valuations continue to rise. It is a year of many exciting missions and we look forward, beyond that, to a decade that is shaping up to be huge for our industries.

Happy 2021 and here's to making the twenties a decade to remember for all the right reasons.

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[NASA Awards CubeSat Launch Services Contracts To Firefly Black, Astra Space And Relativity Space](#)

Vodafone Group

HawkEye 360

AST  
SpaceMobile

Capella Space

NASA

Voyager Space  
Holdings

Firefly Black

Nanoracks

Astra Space

OneWeb

Relativity Space

Amazon

Orbit Fab

## Vodafone And AST SpaceMobile Announce Plans For Space-Based Mobile Network

AST SpaceMobile, partnered with Vodafone Group, have unveiled their plans to launch the first phase of their space-based commercial mobile communications service in 2023. This move should allow for more affordable mobile connectivity, with a space-based mobile network that can connect directly to 4G & 5G smartphones.

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## NASA Awards CubeSat Launch Services Contracts To Firefly Black, Astra Space And Relativity Space

NASA's CubeSat Launch Initiative sees multiple contracts to launch small satellites into orbit awarded to Firefly Black, Astra Space and Relativity Space. With a continued increase in SmallSat launches and constellations, we expect to see many more contracts of this nature moving forward.

[Read article](#)

## Orbit Fab Extends Seed Round To \$6m For Gas Stations In Space

In-orbit servicing start-up, Orbit Fab, have added an additional investor to its seed funding round, a move that sees the lofty idea of gas stations in space take a closer step to becoming reality. A great step for sustainability in space. Perhaps one day we'll have our very own Milliways above Earth!

[Read article](#)

## HawkEye 360 Ship Next-Gen Satellites For Launch

RF geoanalytics company, HawkEye 360, have shipped their next-generation satellites to Cape Canaveral for launch on Space X's Falcon 9. The launch of Cluster 2 will be the first in a series of next-gen deployments, culminating in the completion of HawkEye's baseline constellation and firmly establishing them as a leader in advanced RF geoanalytics.

[Read article](#)

## Capella Space Announce World's Highest Resolution Commercial SAR Imagery

America's commercial Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) imagery provider, Capella Space, have announced their Spotlight imaging product, Spot, is capable of a resolution of 50cm x 50cm. This puts Capella Space in a great position in what is shaping up to be an increasingly competitive and compelling market.

[Read article](#)

## Voyager Space Holdings Acquires In-Space Services Nanoracks

In-Space Services company, Nanoracks, have been acquired by global space-focussed holding company, Voyager Space Holdings. Nanoracks' Bishop Airlock is the first permanent, commercial addition to the ISS, and their space Outpost program will be an integral and influential element of in-space infrastructure, an area set to grow considerably over this decade.

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## OneWeb Confirms Successful Launch With 110 Satellites Now In Constellation

Phoenix-from-the-ashes LEO SatComs company, OneWeb, confirm the successful launch and subsequent contact of an additional 36 satellites, bringing their in-orbit constellation size to 110. They are on track to launch regional commercial services this year and a global service in 2022.

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## Amazon Reveal Phased Array Antenna Breakthrough For Project Kuiper

Amazon have announced a major breakthrough relating to Project Kuiper in the shape of a custom-built phased array antenna. The Ka-band antenna is based on a new architecture and the prototype is already delivering speeds of up to 400 Mbps, with an increase in performance to continue in the future.

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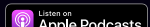
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