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# Satellite & NewSpace Snapshot

INDUSTRY INSIGHTS - JULY 2021

## New Astronauts, New Services, and New Funding in New Space

The first half of 2021 was certainly an eventful one and the second half of the year has kicked off in style with even more exciting announcements in the world of space and satellite.

We've seen two companies launch crewed sub-orbital flights, a host of new funding announcements, new services to be launched by one of the largest players in satellite communications and the first launcher company to be listed on the Nasdaq. 2021 continues to be one of the most exciting years in recent space industry history!

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NASA

Satellogic

Facebook

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## ISAR Aerospace Raises an Additional \$75m to Expand Manufacturing and Launch Capability

Following on from a successful Series B funding round last December, German launcher start-up ISAR Aerospace have announced raising an additional \$75m in funding this month, taking the total raised to north of \$180m. This new funding will allow the company to build out further manufacturing and launch infrastructure it needs for its continued growth.

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## Astra Complete SPAC to Become First Spacetech Company Listed on the Nasdaq

Another first here this month as we see Astra become the first public rocket company to be listed on the US stock exchange. The deal, which values the company at over \$2bn, will see an additional \$500m coming into the company which will be used to complete their manufacturing facility and significantly scale the company.

[Read article](#)

## More Space SPACs in the News With Satellogic Announcing Plan to go Public With \$1.1bn Valuation

High resolution satellite imaging company, Satellogic, announced that they would be the next company to go public with a SPAC deal with Cantor Fitzgerald that values the company in excess of \$1bn. The company is hoping to raise around \$275m to add to its current constellation of 17 satellites.

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## Inmarsat Unveil New Hybrid Service, Orchestra

GEO satellite operator, Inmarsat, announce this month the launch of their latest service offering, Orchestra. A new first-of-its-kind network, Orchestra will utilise GEO, LEO and terrestrial 5G to provide a global high speed network set to revolutionise connectivity for their mobility customers across a number of sectors. Exciting times ahead at Inmarsat!

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## Amazon's Project Kuiper Announces the Acquisition of Facebook's Satellite Connectivity Group

Not wanting to get left behind the developments of their competition, most notably Starlink and OneWeb, Amazon's Project Kuiper has taken a step towards the launch of its own LEO constellation by acquiring a team of wireless connectivity experts from Facebook. Facebook pulled out of the satellite market after the loss of AMOS-6 on 2016, maybe Mark's loss will turn out to be Jeff's gain, only time will tell.

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## Virgin Galactic Complete First Fully Crewed Sub-Orbital Spaceflight

In another case of not wanting to get left behind the competition, Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic launched their first fully crewed sub-orbital mission, giving their founder his first taste of spaceflight. After the success of this launch the company are believed to be set to offer space tourists tickets to a trip above the Karman line in the very near future.

[Read article](#)

## Blue Origin Launch Jeff Bezo Into Space, Alongside Both the Youngest and Oldest People to Pass the Karman Line

Blue Origin may have announced their crewed launch before Virgin Galactic; however, it was the latter that managed to launch first. The latest New Shepard launch saw Jeff Bezos, alongside his brother Mark, oldest person to fly to space and Mercury 13 member Wally Funk as well as Oliver Daemen, who became the youngest person in space at just 18 years old.

[Read article](#)

## New Science Module, Nauka, Docks With International Space Station

Despite having a number of issues that made this far from a simple docking exercise, the ISS' latest module Nauka finally docked with the space station. The first major expansion of the ISS in over 20 years, Nauka will be used as Russia's main laboratory on the ISS as well as acting as a temporary docking compartment for the station.

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