# Beyond Exploration 2026

*23/24/25 September*

## Legend

- Agriculture & Food
- Beyond Tech Communication
- Cross-Cutting Events
- Earth Observation
- Emerging Professions
- Entrepreneurship, Economy & Finance
- General Assembly of the Space Economy
- Industrial Diversification and Transition to the Space Sector
- Networking Events
- Opening Event
- Resources Exploitation and Sustainability
- Space Laws
- Space Physiology, Healthcare, Wellness, Pharmacy
- Space Sciences & Earth Applications
- Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch
- Tech Fashion & Textile
- The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks
- Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration

*Wednesday 23 September*
10:00 - 10:30

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## How to See the Earth from Space: A beginner's guide to satellite imagery and Earth Observation

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

What can satellites actually see? How is satellite imagery produced and how can it become useful information? A practical introduction to Earth Observation, designed for anyone approaching EO for the first time.
Event aimed at: students, professionals and anyone curious about Earth Observation.

**Programme**

*Speaker*
Daniela Valentino, Planetek Italia

*Wednesday 23 September*
10:00 - 10:30

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## A Next Generation of Space Windows: Resilient, Fail-Safe and Glass-Based

**Organized by: SpaceGlass**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

Spacecraft windows occupy a uniquely emotional intersection of human psychology and aerospace engineering. While long-duration military submersible operations proved that humans can endure extended missions inside windowless pressurized hulls, NASA has consistently faced unwavering demands to incorporate viewing ports into crewed vehicles. These psychological and operational desires are so powerful that they routinely override standard engineering logic, which naturally dictates avoiding holes in a pressure shell - especially when those openings must be plugged with materials heavily penalized by potential brittle fracture from debris impact or static fatigue. While NASA has encouraged a shift toward lightweight polymers like acrylic and polycarbonate over the past 15 years, these alternatives lack extensive long-duration flight heritage and face durability limits in harsh space environments.

Spaceglass SRL, a spin-off of the University of Parma, introduces a patented space window architecture that bridges the gap between the optical clarity of glass and true structural resilience. The unitized design features slightly curved panes made of chemically-tempered glass, laminated using space-grade silicones capable of withstanding severe solar radiation and thermal environments far better than terrestrial carbon-based interlayers. The laminated element is enclosed by a contouring aluminum framing element, providing advanced structural hooping.

We present theoretical comparisons between this novel unitized assembly with laminated panes and traditional multi-pane fused silica or acrylic configurations. Experimental validation is achieved in a custom-built testing chamber, subjecting the windows to 3 bar differential pressures combined with simulated solar radiation. Most notably, resilience testing demonstrates that even after artificially inducing a crack in a glass ply, the window sustains full 3 bar pressure differentials without catastrophic collapse or loss of airtightness. The silicone interlayers safely secure fragmented pieces while the aluminum frame establishes a robust load-bearing path through direct fragment contact, offering a fail-safe, reassuring leap forward for crewed extraplanetary exploration and orbital debris mitigation.

Gianni Royer Carfagni, President and CEO of SpaceGlass S.r.l.

*Wednesday 23 September*
10:30 - 11:45

Exploration Arena, Hall C1

**Space Sciences & Earth Applications**
***Click here***

## Beyond the Lab: Space It Up! and the new perspectives of the Italian space industry

**Organized by: SCARL Space It Up!**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

Over the past few years, the European space sector has entered a new phase of acceleration, shaped by the need to strengthen Europe's strategic role in space and reinforce its technological autonomy. Within this evolving landscape, Italy stands out for its combination of scientific excellence, industrial capability and institutional vision, supported by national strategies aimed at consolidating the country's position in the global space economy.

In this context, the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) has provided a significant boost to Italy's space ambitions, enabling advanced initiatives such as **Space It Up!**, the programme funded by the Italian Space Agency (ASI) and the Ministry of University and Research (MUR). Bringing together universities, research centres, companies and institutions, Space It Up! was created to overcome the fragmentation of Italian space research and build a shared framework where knowledge, technologies and expertise can converge to generate value for the national ecosystem.

Two years after the start of the programme, this panel will move beyond a presentation of results to open a broader discussion on the impact Space It Up! is generating across the Italian space sector.

Together with experts who have directly contributed to the programme's development, the discussion will explore the milestones achieved so far, the collaborations enabled by the programme, the role of knowledge transfer between research and industry, and the challenges shaping the path ahead.

Through the lens of Space It Up!, the panel will offer a concrete perspective on how research, industry and institutions can work together to strengthen Italy's role in the space sector.

**Programme**

*Moderator:*
Margherita Righini, Hub Space It Up!

Antonio Moccia, University of Naples Federico II

Nunzia Favaloro, CIRA - Italian Aerospace Research Center

Alfredo Renga, University of Naples Federico II

Fabrizia Buongiorno, National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology - INGV

Mauro Ravaioli, Leonardo S.p.A.

Gilles Mariotti, SITAEL S.p.A.

Kamel Besbes, University of Monastir, CRMN Sousse

*Wednesday 23 September*
10:40 - 11:10

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## Space for Engineering: Earth Observation for civil infrastructure design, monitoring and maintenance

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

Discover how satellite data can support engineers and infrastructure managers throughout the lifecycle of roads, bridges, buildings, and other critical assets.
Event aimed at: engineers, civil infrastructure managers and technical professionals.

**Programme**

*Speaker*
Adriano Vulpio, Planetek Italia

*Wednesday 23 September*
10:45 - 11:15

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## A Dialogue on Space & Non-Space

**Organized by: AIAA - The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronauts**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

This session showcases the collaboration between the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and Convention Bureau Italia through its Italian Knowledge Leaders (IKL) project. The two organizations created an innovative event called: “IKL & AIAA: A Dialogue on Space and Non-Space”, a unique one-day workshop, bringing together representatives from Space sector and high-level Science expert to foster meaningful conversations, knowledge exchange, and new perspectives. The dialogue between AIAA and IKL will show the rationale behind the partnership and the key outcomes of an initiative designed promote innovation through cross-sector dialogue. Attendees will discover how connecting diverse communities can lead to valuable collaborations and lasting impact beyond traditional industry boundaries.

Maddalena Chiellini, CBI - Convention Bureau Italia
Martina Bruno, AIAA - American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

*Wednesday 23 September*
11:20 - 11:50

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## Space for Smart Cities: Earth Observation for better cities, territories and public decisions

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

How can cities use satellite intelligence to better understand what is happening on the ground? Explore how Earth Observation can support urban planning, territorial monitoring and smarter public services.
Event aimed at: Public Administrations, Municipalities, metropolitan cities, local authorities, technical departments and GIS professionals.

**Programme**

*Speaker*
Corrado Pisani, Planetek Italia

*Wednesday 23 September*
11:30 - 12:00

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Italy giving you Space: Investment Opportunities within the ESA Business Applications Programme

**Organized by: Fondazione E. Amaldi**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

**What if space could become a tangible asset to help your business grow?**

The ESA Business Applications programme supports Italian companies in developing new commercial products and services that leverage space technologies—including satellite telecommunications, satellite navigation and Earth observation—to address concrete market needs and opportunities.

This session will present the **zero-equity funding opportunities** offered by the programme to Italian companies, showing how to turn an innovative idea into a funded project, which types of initiatives can receive funding, and how to access the programme through the **E. Amaldi Foundation**.

From agriculture to mobility, from energy to finance, from security to sustainability, discover how space can enable innovation, providing a powerful lever for competitiveness, growth and access to new markets.

**You don’t need to be a space company. You need a good idea, a clear market need, and the ambition to aim a little higher.**

Eleonora Lombardi, ESA BASS Ambassador - Fondazione E. Amaldi
Valerio Roscani, ESA BASS Deputy Ambassador - Fondazione E. Amaldi

*Wednesday 23 September*
12:00 - 13:00

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Opening Event**
***Click here***

## Opening Ceremony

**Organized by: BEX - Beyond Exploration Expo**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

The Opening Ceremony will mark the official launch of**BEX - Beyond Exploration**, bringing together national and regional institutions to affirm the strategic role of Italy in the Space Economy.
The ribbon-cutting will open three days of dialogue between institutions, industry, research and innovation, setting the stage for a new platform where space becomes a driver of growth, competitiveness and cross-sector collaboration.

*Host and Moderator*
**Alessandra Astolfi**, Global Exhibitions Director, Green & Technology Division
Italian Exhibition Group S.p.A.

*Institutional Greetings*
**Maurizio Ermeti**, President, Italian Exhibition Group S.p.A.
**Juri Magrini**, Councillor for Economic Activities Municipality of Rimini
**Luca Vincenzo Maria Salamone**, Director General Italian Space Agency (ASI)
**Col. Walter Villadei**, Astronaut, BEX Ambassador
**Amm. Francesco Saladino**, On behalf of the Chief of Staff of the Italian Navy, Amm. Giuseppe Berutti Bergotto
**Gen. B. Luigi Riggio**, Head of the Support, Coordination and Secretariat Unit of the Interministerial Committee for Space and Aerospace Policies Presidency of the Council of Ministers, On behalf of the Military Advisor to the President of the Council of Ministers, Gen. Franco Federici
**Michele de Pascale**, President, Emilia-Romagna Region

PROGRAMMA IN ITALIANO

La Cerimonia di Apertura segnerà l'avvio ufficiale di**BEX – Beyond Exploration**, riunendo istituzioni nazionali e regionali per ribadire il ruolo strategico dell'Italia nella Space Economy.

Il taglio del nastro darà il via a tre giornate di confronto tra istituzioni, industria, ricerca e innovazione, inaugurando una nuova piattaforma in cui lo spazio diventa motore di crescita, competitività e collaborazione tra settori.

*Introduce e modera*
**Alessandra Astolfi**, Global Exhibitions Director, Green & Technology Division
Italian Exhibition Group S.p.A.

*Saluti istituzionali*
**Maurizio Ermeti**, Presidente, Italian Exhibition Group S.p.A.
**Juri Magrini**, Assessore Attività Economiche Comune di Rimini
**Luca Vincenzo Maria Salamone**, Direttore Generale Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI)
**Col. Walter Villadei**, Astronauta, BEX Ambassador
**Amm. Francesco Saladino**, su delega del Capo di Stato Maggiore Marina Militare, Amm. Berutti Bergotto
**Gen. B. Luigi Riggio**, Dirigente Unità di supporto, coordinamento e segreteria Comitato Interministeriale politiche relative allo spazio e all'aerospazio, su delega del Consigliere Militare del Presidente del Consiglio dei Ministri, Gen. Franco Federici
**Michele de Pascale**, Presidente, Regione Emilia-Romagna

*Wednesday 23 September*
13:00 - 13:45

Republic of San Marino Booth, Hall C1

**Beyond Tech Communication**
***Click here***

## FORBES Italia Video Interview/Podcast - The Positioning of the Republic of San Marino within the New Space Economy

**Organized by: Republic of San Marino**

Language: English

*Speakers*
Rossano Fabbri, State Secretary Secretariat of State for Industry and Technological Research
Nicolas Rossini, Head of Innovation San Marino Innovation
Denis Cecchetti, Director General Economic Development Agency – San Marino Chamber of Commerce
John Mazza, Sole Director San Marino Enterprise

*Wednesday 23 September*
13:00 - 14:00

Hall C3

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Unmanned System Demo Experience

**Organized by: Abzero**

Language: English

*See unmanned technologies in action, watch drones and unmanned systems in live testing sessions at **Hall C3** and explore their capabilities and applications up close.*

*Wednesday 23 September*
14:00 - 14:30

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Data is tomorrow's value

**Organized by: Argotec**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Unlocking it powers tailored services for a wide range of stakeholders and needs, like maritime, precision agriculture, territorial monitoring, insurance, finance and logistics.

*Speakers*
Gianluca Cerrone, Head of Sales and Business Development at Argotec
Marco Cerri, Sales & Business Development Manager at Argotec

*Wednesday 23 September*
14:00 - 14:30

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## From High-Performance Engineering to Space: Turning Capabilities into New Business

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

What do the technological challenges of space and high-performance engineering on Earth have in common? A conversation on how an innovation-driven mindset, transferable capabilities and advanced technologies can open new pathways for diversification into the aerospace sector.

*In conversation with:*

**Riccardo Delsante**, Sales Manager Dallara
**Michele Mattioli**, Partner EY

*Interviewer:* **Mariasole Maglione**, Astrospace

*Wednesday 23 September*
14:00 - 15:00

Hall C3

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Unmanned System Demo Experience

**Organized by: Protodynamics**

Language: English

*See unmanned technologies in action, watch drones and unmanned systems in live testing sessions at **Hall C3** and explore their capabilities and applications up close.*

*Wednesday 23 September*
14:30 - 16:00

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Opening Event**
***Click here***

## BEX Vision Summit. Where Space Meets Industry

**Organized by: BEX – Beyond Exploration Expo**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

BEX – Beyond Exploration Expo is the first exhibition and conference platform in Italy fully dedicated to the space economy, designed to connect the space industry with high-potential terrestrial sectors.
The opening session plays a key strategic role in defining a clear and distinctive positioning, placing the LEO economy at the center as the main competitive arena in the transition to the post-ISS era.
In this context, it is essential to adopt a realistic narrative: while the lunar challenge remains primarily geopolitical and long-term, concrete industrial opportunities are already developing in low Earth orbit.
LEO is where real business models are emerging, accessible not only to traditional space players but also to SMEs and non-space supply chains, strengthening Italy's role through existing industrial collaborations.
BEX aims to be a platform where strategic vision, regulatory frameworks, and industrial applications converge, fostering stronger integration between space and terrestrial industries and reinforcing Europe's position in the global space economy.

*Welcome remarks:* **Corrado Peraboni**, CEO Italian Exhibition Group S.p.A.

*Moderator:*
**Eric Jozsef**, Rome Correspondent, Libération

**Elena Donazzan**, Vice-Chair, Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE), European Parliament
**Giorgio Gori**, Vice-Chair, Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE), European Parliament
**Giancarlo Granero**, Head of Unit for Space Economy, Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space (DG DEFIS), European Commission
Colonel **Walter Villadei**, Professional Astronaut, Italian Air Force
**Massimo Claudio Comparini**, Space Alliance - Managing Director, Space Division, Leonardo - Chairman of the Thales Alenia Space Supervisory Board
**Jonathan W. Cirtain**, Chief Executive Officer & President, Axiom Space
**Vincenzo Giorgio**, Chief Executive Officer, ALTEC
**Nicola Corradi**, External Relations Manager Barilla Group

*Wednesday 23 September*
15:00 - 15:45

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## Find your Place in Space: Skills, jobs and opportunities in the EO & New Space sector

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

What does it mean to work in the Space sector today? Which skills and career paths are companies looking for?
Planetek Italia and D-Orbit open a conversation about the professions and skills that contribute across the Space value chain: from engineering, software, data and operations to project management, business, legal, and communication. Outcomes of the European SpaceSuite project will help participants understand where their own background, interests and capabilities could fit.
Event aimed at: students, graduates, young professionals and anyone considering a career in Space.

**Programme**

*Speakers*
Silvia Caserta, D-Orbit
Michela Sanfilippo, Planetek Italia
Francesca Albanese, Planetek Italia

*Wednesday 23 September*
15:00 - 16:00

Hall C3

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Unmanned System Demo Experience

**Organized by: Abzero**

Language: English

*See unmanned technologies in action, watch drones and unmanned systems in live testing sessions at **Hall C3** and explore their capabilities and applications up close.*

*Wednesday 23 September*
15:00 - 16:00

Emilia-Romagna Region Booth, Hall C1

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## When drones, satellites, sensors and artificial intelligence converge in a new experience of the territory

**Organized by: Emilia-Romagna Region**

Language: Italian

Effective territorial management increasingly depends on the ability to integrate data from a wide range of sources, including satellites, drones, and ground-based sensors, with existing geographic and territorial information systems. This challenge is compounded not only by the diversity of data sources, but also by the fragmentation of the organisations that own and manage these datasets, such as regional and local authorities, environmental agencies, river basin authorities, and other public bodies. The REG4AI project, which brings together several Italian regions, aims to address these challenges through an approach based on data interoperability, high-performance computing, and artificial intelligence. At its core, the project explores whether valuable knowledge and actionable insights can be generated from distributed datasets while allowing data to remain under the control of their original owners. By doing so, REG4AI seeks to overcome administrative and organisational boundaries, enabling integrated analysis and more effective decision-making while fully respecting the principles of digital sovereignty, data governance, and data ownership.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Elena Galli, AeroHub Project Coordinator, Clust-ER MECH

*Speakers*
Luca Catti, Head of Innovation and Digital Workplace Services, Emilia-Romagna Region
Luca Cipriani, IT project Officer, Toscana Region
Luca Bonuccelli, IT project Officer, Toscana Region
Nicola Nizzoli, President, ASSORPAS (Italian Association for Remotely Piloted Aircraft)
Daniele Borrelli, Program Manager, Civil Protection Agency of the Emilia-Romagna Region

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:00 - 17:30

Decortech Conference Arena, Hall B5-D5

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## Advanced ceramics: a materials platform for next generation aerospace and beyond

**Organized by: Institute of Science, Technology and Sustainability for the Development of Ceramic Materials (ISSMC) of the National Research Council (CNR), in collaboration with TECNA**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

To what extent might the advanced ceramics and their composite variants emerge as game-changing leaders in next-generation aerospace extreme-environment technologies and beyond? This contribution is meant to introduce a non-professional audience to some of the current frontier topics on advanced ceramics manufactured as bulk or composite, for aerospace and beyond. It is expected that the potential of advanced ceramics for extreme-environment technologies can be unlocked by leveraging their favorable property combination of exceptional thermophysical properties like high melting point, lightness and strong resistance to chemical degradation and oxidation under extreme conditions.
To refer to something that is widely talked about today, speed is the name of the game when it comes to modern aerospace priorities. Aerospace engineers have long sought materials able to thrive where airflow becomes plasma and oxidation accelerates beyond intuition. Governments around the world are investing “mountains of money” to develop components capable of enabling airborne vehicles to travel fast worldwide. While such ambition has been a nebulous dream for decades, recent advancements in ultra-high temperature ceramic matrix composites bring that dream closer to reality.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Ilaria Vesentini, Journalist ItalyPost

Frédéric Tullio Monteverde, Institute of Science, Technology and Sustainability for the Development of Ceramic Materials - CNR-ISSMC

Alessandro Airoldi, Politecnico di Milano

Mario De Stefano Fumo, CIRA - Italian Aerospace Research Center

Massimiliano Valle, Petroceramics

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:00 - 16:45

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## Beyond Launch: The Future of In-Orbit Servicing Extending, servicing and managing satellites throughout their lifecycle

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

Satellites no longer have to be considered disposable assets. In-orbit servicing is opening new possibilities for operating, maintaining and extending the capabilities of space assets. A look at the technologies, services and business opportunities emerging across the entire space value chain.

*Speakers:*
Celeste Borsello, D-Orbit
Cristoforo Abbattista, Planetek Italia

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:00 - 17:30

Exploration Arena, Hall C1

**Resources Exploitation and Sustainability**
***Click here***

## Large Constellations: New Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainability and Space Traffic Management

**Organized by: Politecnico di Milano - Department of Aerospace Science and Technology**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

Space assets provide services that deliver significant social and economic benefits to humankind while enabling the monitoring of our planet's condition. As our lives become increasingly interconnected through satellite-enabled services and access to space becomes easier, outer space can be regarded as an extension of Earth's biosphere. In this context, the long-term sustainability of space activities will only be achievable if spacefaring nations adopt a change in behavior and embrace responsible stewardship of the space environment.

Large satellite constellations are creating new opportunities and services, including global broadband internet access and seamless connectivity worldwide. At the same time, however, the number of objects orbiting Earth is growing exponentially, following a trend that resembles many of the environmental pressures observed in Earth's natural systems.

This rapid increase in orbital objects demands more rigorous approaches to Space Traffic Management and the establishment of stronger mitigation measures to reduce the risk of collisions and preserve the long-term usability of space as a global commons.

This panel will explore the opportunities and challenges for space sustainability and space traffic management arising from the deployment of large satellite constellations. Together with representatives of major satellite operators, we will discuss recent advances in operational practices for space traffic coordination, particularly for large constellations, as well as the new Space Traffic Management infrastructure supported by the Italian Space Agency and the technical mitigation requirements introduced through the Italian Space Law.

The discussion will also address emerging challenges in Space Situational Awareness and the broader governance frameworks needed to ensure the long-term sustainability of space activities.

**Programme**

*Moderator:*
Prof.ssa Camilla Colombo, Department of Aerospace Science and Technology, Politecnico di Milano

Ashutosh Pandey, VP Group Quality Eutelsat

Germano Bianchi, Telecommunication engineer INAF

Lieutenant Colonel Giuseppe Pariti, CSSA-COA (Space Situational Awareness Centre), Aerospace Operations Command, Poggio Renatico (Ferrara)

Antonio Sturiale, Director Domain Telecommunication, Thales Alenia Space

Luca Spazzacampagna, System Engineer Telespazio

ASI - Italian Space Agency *

** Speaker participation subject to confirmation*

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:00 - 16:30

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Exhibition Presentation: ExoHumanArt (EHA) - Designing the Human Experience in Space

**Organized by: ExoHumanArt**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

**ExoHumanArt** (EHA) is an experimental research project that brings art, science, and technology into dialogue through an interdisciplinary design approach.

Its starting point is a question: when human presence in space becomes prolonged and permanent, will it be enough to design habitats in which it is possible to survive?

EHA explores the transition from habitat as a technical system to habitat as a human space, asking what will be needed not only to continue living, but to truly inhabit environments far from Earth.

What do we risk losing of what makes us human when a habitat is designed solely in terms of efficiency and functionality?

The presentation will introduce ExoHumanArt as an exploration of a method for integrating art and the humanities into Space Economy innovation processes - not as decorative elements or additions made at a later stage, but as integral components of the design process from the very beginning.

Stefania Camilleri, Artist and researcher, creator of ExoHumanArt (EHA)

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:00 - 16:30

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## Living and Training in Microgravity: An Astronaut's Perspective

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

A first-hand account of daily life in orbit, exploring physical adaptation, exercise routines and the challenges of maintaining health and performance in microgravity.

*A first-hand perspective from:*
**Col. Walter Villadei**, Astronaut, Italian Air Force

*In conversation with:*
**Antonella Bellutti**, Olympic Champion, Journalist

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:00 - 16:45

Diotallevi 1 Room, South Hall

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## From Remote Piloting to Autonomous Operations: Regulation, Artificial Intelligence, and the Evolving Role of the Human

**Organized by: Drone and Advanced Air Mobility Observatory (Politecnico di Milano), ENAC - Italian Civil Aviation Authority**

Language: Italian

Discussion on regulatory frameworks and the distinctions between autonomous and automated systems, offering a strategic perspective on medium- and long-term developments and their implications, starting from the training of crews and personnel involved in mission management.

**Programme**

*Moderator:*
Nicola Nizzoli, President Italian Association for Light RPAS (ASSORPAS)

Col. Livio Generali, Flight Inspector, Innovative Mobility Directorate, ENAC
Prof. Marco Lovera, Drone and Advanced Air Mobility Observatory (Politecnico di Milano)

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:30 - 17:15

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## Non-Space Companies and the LEO Economy: Making Business with Microgravity

**Organized by: ESA BSGN Agrifood accelerator manager**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

This panel will explore how non-space companies can access and leverage microgravity environments to develop innovative products, processes and services. Representatives from ESA, ASI, industry and Commercial Service Providers will present concrete opportunities enabled by the programmes made available by the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency.
The discussion will highlight the main benefits of microgravity for research and commercial applications, including accelerated R&D cycles, novel material properties, and unique biological processes. Practical aspects such as access conditions and support mechanisms will be addressed, alongside real use cases and emerging business models. Particular attention will be given to high-potential sectors such as agrifood, advanced materials, and life sciences, showcasing how companies can translate microgravity-based experimentation into viable market opportunities on Earth and in orbit.

**Programme**

*Moderator*:
Stefano Carosio, STAM S.r.l., Business in Space Growth Network Agrifood Accelerator Manager

Francesco Liucci, European Space Agency - ESA

Micol Bellucci, Italian Space Agency - ASI

Laura Ferrero, Aerospace Logistics Technology Engineering Company - ALTEC Space

David Zolesi, Kayser Italia

Alessandro Pantano, Confagricoltura

Valeria Ferrando, Open Innovation Manager STAM S.r.l.

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:30 - 18:00

Republic of San Marino Booth, Hall C1

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## The Role of National Space Agencies and International Cooperation in the New Space Economy

**Organized by: Republic of San Marino**

Language: English

Within the context of the New Space Economy, the role of national space agencies has evolved significantly. Alongside the conception and management of space missions primarily focused on science and exploration, they have taken on the task of devising, managing, and coordinating missions aimed at technological and industrial development—often with economic and entrepreneurial dimensions—in collaboration with private investors and operators. Furthermore, international cooperation has intensified, driven not only by the need to optimize investments and achieve economies of scale but also by the necessity of sharing fundamental objectives and effectively coordinating activities.

**Programme**

*Speakers*
Rossano Fabbri, State Secretary, Secretariat of State for Industry and Technological Research
John Mazza, Sole Director, San Marino Enterprise
Alexander Soucek, International Relations Manager, European Space Agency
Amit Sachdeva, Technical Liason Officer / Counsellor Space ISRO, Embassy of India, Paris
Representative Europe, ASI – Agenzia Spaziale Italiana *
Gregory Mann, Europe Representative, NASA – National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Anna Masutti, Professor University of Bologna RPLT Legal

**Spekears subject to confirmation*

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:30 - 17:30

Emilia-Romagna Region Booth, Hall C1

**Industrial Diversification and Transition to the Space Sector**
***Click here***

## EN 9100: A Succesfull Takeoff. The Journey Towards Certification

**Organized by: Emilia-Romagna Region**

Language: Italian

EN 9100 certification is now a key requirement for aerospace supply chain companies seeking to compete in markets that demand the highest standards of quality, reliability, and process traceability. Hosted by ANSER, this session brings together certification bodies, quality management experts, and consultants who support companies on their certification journey, offering a comprehensive perspective on the path to certification. Participants will gain insights into the technical and organisational requirements of the process, the most common challenges companies face, and the financial incentives offered by the Emilia-Romagna Region to support this strategic investment. The event is designed to provide practical guidance and actionable tools for organisations that are already certified, those currently working towards certification, and those exploring the opportunities that certification can offer.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Andrea Ceci, General Secretary, ANSER

*Speakers*
Emma Dall'Orso, Sales Manager, ANSER
Luigi Grassia, Manager, Iltalian Institute of Welding
Michele Zanoni, Business Incentives and Social Innovation Department, Emilia-Romagna Region

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:45 - 17:15

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Breaking in Space: Skills and Network for Non-Space Professionals

**Organized by: Women in Aerospace Europe (WIA-Europe)**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

This session empowers students and young professionals with non space backgrounds to enter the space sector with confidence. Participants will learn how to identify and leverage transferable skills, understand the soft skill mindset needed in the industry and unlock cross sector opportunities. Networking is the key: how to introduce yourself effectively, connect with the right communities, create meaningful professional relationships, and turn your non space background into a strategic advantage.

Carolina Molteni, Women in Aerospace Europe
Serena Campioli, Women in Aerospace Europe
Tania Gres, Women in Aerospace Europe

*Wednesday 23 September*
16:45 - 17:15

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## The Journey of Food in Space: Packaging, Logistics and Food Management in Microgravity

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

A technical look at how food is selected, prepared, packaged, transported, stored and consumed in orbit, ensuring safety, nutrition and usability throughout a space mission.

*In conversation with:*

**Paolo Cergna**, Logistics Manager Altec S.p.A

*Interviewer:* **Mariasole Maglione**, Astrospace

*Wednesday 23 September*
17:30 - 18:00

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Lorenzo Cagnoni Beyond Innovation Award

**Organized by: BEX - Beyond Exploration Expo**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

To enhance the presence of start-ups and innovative SMEs in the Innovation District, IEG - in collaboration with its partners – will **award a special plaque to the most innovative and impactful projects** (one for each exhibition sector of BEX). The selection of the winners will be made by the Evaluation Committee of the initiative, and the prize will be presented during the event.

**Programme**

*Moderator:* **Marco Gisotti**, Journalist, Author and Science Communicator

*Keynote Speech*
**"La Fabbrica dei Futuri" - Franci Conforti**
Journalist, copywriter and Italian science fiction writer, winner of the Premio Odissea (2020) and Premio Urania (2021)

*Institutional Welcome*
**Maurizio Ermeti**, President Italian Exhibition Group S.p.A.

*Inspirational speech*
**Franci Conforti, Writer**, La Fabbrica dei Futuri

**Award Ceremony**

*Wednesday 23 September*
17:30 - 18:00

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Space Metal Waste Refining: Engineering the Circular Space Economy Through Advanced Resource Recovery Technologies

**Organized by: BTT Impianti**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

Space debris is increasingly becoming a valuable source of strategic materials for future orbital infrastructure. This presentation explores the emerging concept of **Space Metal Waste Refining**, combining autonomous debris capture, AI-assisted material identification, robotic dismantling, advanced separation and metallurgical refining technologies.

Particular focus will be placed on **hydrometallurgy, electrochemical refining, molten salt electrolysis, closed-loop recovery and in-orbit manufacturing**, highlighting their potential to transform end-of-life satellites into sources of high-value metallic feedstock.

The presentation will examine current initiatives and industrial developments in orbital recycling and propose the concept of an **Autonomous Orbital Metallurgical Refinery**: a robotic system capable of recovering, refining and reusing metals directly in space. This approach could reduce dependence on Earth-launched materials, lower launch mass and provide the technological foundations for a **circular economy beyond Earth**, supporting future activities in LEO, on the Moon and eventually in deep space.

*Speaker*
Hassan Teimourisafar, Process Engineer, Innovation, Research and Solution Unit at BTT Italia srl

*Thursday 24 September*
09:30 - 11:00

Republic of San Marino Booth, Hall C1

**Entrepreneurship, Economy & Finance**
***Click here***

## Innovation, Transition and Economic Development: The Innovation Ecosystem and Space Start-ups, Spin-offs and Business Diversification

**Organized by: Republic of San Marino**

Language: English

Never before has economic development been driven to such an extent by scientific research and technological innovation, bringing about rapid and disruptive changes as we transition from the current reality to the future. To keep pace with technological and economic-business evolution, nations and complex organizations must foster and manage processes of innovation and technology transfer. The transition from basic to applied research, technology transfer pathways, and the entrepreneurial maturation and development of new business ventures require support within an innovation ecosystem structured on a public-private cooperation model—capable of providing services such as selection and guidance, mentorship, management training, fundraising, and networking.

**Programme**

*Speakers*
Alessandro Bevitori State Segretariat, Secretariat of State for Labour and Technological Innovation
John Mazza, Sole Director, San Marino Enterprise
Wil Benton, Founder & Director, METTA PARTNERS (UK)
Amit Sachdeva, Technical Liason Officer / Counsellor Space ISRO, Embassy of India, Paris
Nicolas Rossini, Head of Innovation, San Marino Innovation
Denis Cecchetti, Director General Economic Development Agency – San Marino Chamber of Commerce
Karen Venturini; Professor of Innovation Management, University of San Marino
Boris Caharija Pizzolitto, CEO, BCP CONSULTING
Pierpaolo Fabbri, CEO,  NT CAPITAL SG
Filippo Borsani, President and CEO PROMOPHARMA
Neni Rossini, SIT*
Start-ups, spin-offs, and business conversions

*Speaker subject to confirmation

*Thursday 24 September*
09:45 - 10:45

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Technology Transfer between Space and Deep-Sea Ecosystems: Analogies and Differences in Space and Underwater Innovation

**Organized by: BEX – Beyond Exploration Expo, in collaboration with ASI – Italian Space Agency**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: Italian

Space and underwater environments share many technological and operational challenges including extreme conditions, remote operations, autonomy, safety, communications, life-support systems, robotics, monitoring systems and mission planning. Despite their different physical and regulatory contexts, both domains increasingly rely on advanced infrastructures, resilient systems and data-driven operational capabilities.
This session will explore the growing technological convergence between space and maritime domains, with a particular focus on deep-sea ecosystems, highlighting how methodologies, technologies and know-how can be exchanged, adapted and integrated across domains. The discussion will also address emerging opportunities for industrial collaboration, cross-domain innovation and dual-use applications.

**Programme**

*Moderator:*
Maria Libera Battagliere, Italian Space Agency - ASI

*Speakers:*
***Opening keynote***
*Operational needs and emerging challenges driving the convergence between the Space and Maritime domains*
Francesco Barone, Lieutenant Commander Marina Militare

***Opening Address***
*Strategic Outlook: Geopolitics, Blue Economy and Emerging Maritime Trends*
Gabriele Costantini, Journalist at Il Secolo XIX, adriatic.eu and blueeconomy.eu

*Space-Based Capabilities for the Blue Domain*
Francesca Pieralice, Italian Space Agency - ASI

*Technologies and materials for extreme environments: transferring aerospace engineering methodologies to underwater systems*
Antonio Concilio, Italian Aerospace Research Centre - CIRA

** Speaker participation subject to confirmation*

*Thursday 24 September*
10:00 - 11:15

Exploration Arena, Hall C1

**Agriculture & Food**
***Click here***

## Space and Urban Farming: Growing Life Beyond Earth, Innovating for Our Planet

**Organized by: ENEA - National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Significant know-how has already been developed by academia and industry in the field of controlled environment agriculture, soilless cultivation systems, and space farming technologies. The round table aims to highlight the current state of the art in research and technological development for food production in extreme, isolated, and resource-constrained environments, together with the related innovation and investment opportunities for terrestrial applications both in space and on Earth.
The round table will focus on the prospects and challenges of advanced cultivation systems designed to ensure food autonomy, resource efficiency, and psycho-physical well-being in remote and confined environments, The event will include a focus on the experiences developed at Concordia Station in Antarctica, recognised by ESA as one of the closest terrestrial analogues to long-duration human missions in isolated environments.
Technologies such as hydroponics, aeroponics, vertical farming, and fully controlled environment agriculture are increasingly demonstrating their strategic value for producing fresh food while minimising water, nutrient, energy, and land consumption. These systems have important applications for climate-resilient agriculture, urban and peri-urban farming, remote infrastructures, and future exploration scenarios.
Despite major advances in research and industrial development, transforming these technologies into autonomous, scalable, and highly reliable systems for long-duration operations in isolated environments remains a significant challenge. In this context, Concordia Station represents a unique international testbed for validating closed-loop cultivation systems, resource recovery strategies, crew well-being approaches, and sustainable food production technologies under extreme environmental conditions.
The round table will explore how soilless cultivation, biofortified crops, circular resource-management technologies, and controlled environment agriculture can contribute both to supporting human life in space habitats and isolated environment and to generating valuable innovations for sustainable agriculture on Earth.
The session will feature a live connection with Concordia Station in Antarctica, offering a real-time perspective from one of the world's most extreme and isolated research environments.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Dr Lorenzo Pinna, Journalist, Writer and Science Communicator, longtime RAI Writer for*Quark* and *Superquark*

Dr Claudia Brunori
Director, Department for Sustainability, Circularity and Climate Change Adaptation of Production and Territorial Systems (SSPT), ENEA

Col. Walter Villadei
Colonel, Italian Air Force, Professional Astronaut and Space Engineer

Dr Michele Balsamo
Head of Research and Development, Kayser Italia

Dr Gabriele Carugati
Glaciologist and Atmospheric Chemist, University of Insubria, Station Leader, Concordia Station, PNRA

Dr Erika Rea
Astrophysicist, CNR, Winterover, Concordia Station, PNRA

Dr Sarah Gaier
ESA Biomedical Research M.D., Winterover, Concordia Station, IPEV-PNRA

Dr Luca Nardi
Researcher, ENEA; 4.0 Agriculture Laboratory, Sustainable Agri-Food Systems Division (SSPT-AGROS-AGRI4.0)

Dr Silvia Massa
Senior Researcher, ENEA, Head of the 4.0 Agriculture Laboratory, Sustainable Agri-Food Systems Division (SSPT-AGROS-AGRI4.0)

Dr Luigi Galimberti
Executive President of the Italian Institute of Research & Development

Dr Marco Antonio Chamon
President, Brazilian Space Agency (AEB)

KAYSER SPACE

*Thursday 24 September*
10:00 - 10:45

Diotallevi 1 Room, South Hall

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## From Space to Earth and Back: Business Opportunities and ESA Funding Instruments

**Organized by: ESA Technology Broker**

Language: English

During the panel, space and non-space companies will present their technology transfer projects, highlighting the de-risking instruments made available by European Space Agency through the Spark Funding Open Calls, in collaboration with the Italian Space Agency.
Lessons learned at both programme and project level will be shared alongside concrete success stories, spanning applications in sport and well-being, agrifood and smart cooking, transportation, and technical textiles.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Anilkumar Dave

Stefano Carosio, European Space Agency - ESA Technology Transfer Broker, STAM S.r.l.

Michele Iapaolo, European Space Agency - ESA

Marco Pizzarelli, Italian Space Agency

Mauro Sampellegrini, Director of Research, Innovation and Sustainability, Confindustria Moda

Marco Scatto, Relicta S.r.l.

Michele Andolfo, Artigo S.p.A., Mondo Group

*Thursday 24 September*
10:00 - 10:30

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## How to See the Earth from Space: A beginner's guide to satellite imagery and Earth Observation

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

What can satellites actually see? How is satellite imagery produced and how can it become useful information? A practical introduction to Earth Observation, designed for anyone approaching EO for the first time.

*Speaker:*
Daniela Valentino, Planetek Italia

*Thursday 24 September*
10:00 - 11:00

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Start-up Pitch Session

**Organized by: BEX - Beyond Exploration Expo - Open Innovation District**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

As part of the **BEX Open Innovation District**, selected start-ups will take the stage to present their technologies, products and business ideas in a series of short and focused pitch sessions.

The sessions will be **presented by ESA BIC Turin**, the incubation programme supporting innovative start-ups developing technology-based projects for upstream or downstream applications. The program, run by the Innovative Companies Incubator of Politecnico di Torino (I3P) with the scientific and technological support of Politecnico di Torino and LINKS Foundation, offers financial incentives, strategic business consulting, scientific and technological support for the development of products and services, and direct access to a wide network of highly qualified industrial, financial, and scientific partners.
For more information: www.esabic-turin.it

**Meet the start-ups, discover their technologies and explore the ideas that could shape the next generation of the Space Economy.**

*Moderator*
Leo Italiano, Program Manager I3P, Innovative Enterprise Incubator at Politecnico di Torino

*Participants:*

Benedetta Ferrari, PhD, Co-founder and Chief Operating Officer **4OPT S.r.l.**

Stefano Lattanzi, CEO BRUNO **CELL**

Thomas Pusztai, Co-founder and CEO **LeoTrek AI GmbH**

Michele Lombardi, Co-founder e CTO **Micro-Y**

Ilario Lagravinese, CEO **REA Space**

Alberto Topan, CEO **SPROWER SRL SB**

Alberto Rovera, **Theia Sense SRL**

*Thursday 24 September*
10:00 - 11:30

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## Food as Stardust

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

A popular-science presentation of research into the history of food in Space, starting from the primordial laws that guided the transformation of matter in the Universe's great "forge", through to the latest advances in the study of taste perception and the preparation of food packs for astronauts. From this exploration - rich in anecdotes and information likely to intrigue a broad and varied audience - follows a more technical deep dive and an analysis of the opportunities for real-economy applications in the food-processing industry, in order to answer a simple question: what will the kitchen of the future look like?

*Introduction*
**Giacomo Bassmaji**, Designer and Cultural Manager

*In conversation with:*
**Francesco Bombardi**, Designer and Lecturer at the Politecnico di Milano, Co-Director of the Master's in Design for Food
**Claudio Melioli**, Astrophysicist and Lecturer in Physics and Photovoltaic Technologies at DISMI, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia

*Presentation by IIS Lazzaro Spallanzani of the "Space L(a)unch" project, selected for Expo 2025 Osaka*
**Fabrizio Sola**, Teacher and Food & Wine Coordinator at IIS Lazzaro Spallanzani (Castelfranco Emilia)
**Prof Gabriele Vadruccio**, Teacher at IIS Lazzaro Spallanzani
**Beatrice Del Prete**, Student at IIS Lazzaro Spallanzani
**Cesare Pedroni**, Student at IIS Lazzaro Spallanzani

*Thursday 24 September*
10:00 - 11:00

Hall C3

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Unmanned System Demo Experience

**Organized by: Dronezone**

Language: English

*See unmanned technologies in action, watch drones and unmanned systems in live testing sessions at **Hall C3** and explore their capabilities and applications up close.*

DRONEZONE

*Thursday 24 September*
10:40 - 11:10

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## Space for Smart Cities: Earth Observation for better cities, territories and public decisions

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

How can cities use satellite intelligence to better understand what is happening on the ground? Explore how Earth Observation can support urban planning, territorial monitoring and smarter public services.
Event aimed at: Public Administration, Municipalities, metropolitan cities, local authorities, technical departments and GIS professionals.

**Programme**

*Speaker*
Corrado Pisani, Planetek Italia

*Thursday 24 September*
11:00 - 12:00

Hall C3

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Unmanned System Demo Experience

**Organized by: Protodynamics**

Language: English

*See unmanned technologies in action, watch drones and unmanned systems in live testing sessions at **Hall C3** and explore their capabilities and applications up close.*

*Thursday 24 September*
11:15 - 13:00

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Entrepreneurship, Economy & Finance**
***Click here***

## Space Finance Arena - Where Capital Meets Space Innovation

**Organized by: BEX – Beyond Exploration Expo, in collaboration with Plug and Play**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

As the Space Economy enters a new phase of growth, access to capital has become a key driver of innovation and competitiveness. Space Finance Arena brings together entrepreneurs, investors, banks and public financial institutions to explore how venture capital, banking and public funding can accelerate the growth of startups and SMEs. More than a traditional conference, it is a business-oriented platform designed to foster investment, strategic partnerships and new opportunities across the European Space Economy. The objective is to connect companies, investors and financial institutions, accelerating innovation and sustainable growth.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Isabella Bufacchi, Journalist Il Sole24Ore

***Roundtable: market landscape & capital mapping***

*Overview of investment dynamics, capital stack and key trends*

Giuseppe Lorizzo, Partner EY

Augusto Cramarossa, Head of Strategic Coordination Office - ASI

Sascha Deutsch, Commercialisation Gateway Business Analyst European Space Agency - ESA

Lorenzo Scatena, General Secretary Fondazione E. Amaldi

Simonetta Di Pippo, Space Economy Evolution Lab SDA Bocconi

***Roundtable: how space startups really get funded***

*Discussion on investment criteria, timelines and funding strategies*

Luca Passariello, Business Development lead Servizi Assicurativi del Commercio Estero - SACE

Paolo Giovanni Panzarini, Innovation Finance Manager Intesa San Paolo

Francesco Brescia, Senior Ventures Associate Aerospace Plug and Play

Simone Lavizzari, Principal Join Capital

***Founder case***

*One or two real-life examples of start-ups and scale-ups among those present, who will share their journey of growth and fundraising, including the challenges, mistakes and lessons learnt*

Dario Loffredo, CFO Argotec Group

Matteo Andreas Lorenzoni, Orbital Access Business Unit Director D-Orbit

***Investor reverse pitch***

*Investors present ticket size, sectors and access to deal flow*

Ilaria Cavalleri, Investment Principal Primo Space

Roberto Grosso, Partner TLI Space

Alexandre Bonnet, Investment Manager, SpaceFounders

***ESA INCUBED current and upcoming funding opportunities***

*Eligibility criteria, co-funding mechanisms and real case examples from the InCubed programme for startups, SMEs and non-space companies. At the end of the session, participants will have the opportunity to request a direct meeting with ESA within the Innovation District*

Piera Di Vito, European Space Agency - ESA Phi Lab

***Q&A***

*Thursday 24 September*
11:15 - 11:45

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Engineering the Future Beyond Boundaries: From Connectivity to Operational Value

**Organized by: Storm Reply & Nova Reply**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

This session explores how connectivity, cloud, AI, IoT, and robotics can be integrated into a unified operational ecosystem that transforms distributed data into scalable services.

Through examples from industrial, infrastructure, and aerospace environments - including automated inspection, intelligent asset monitoring, autonomous robotics, and predictive digital twins - the presentation shows how organizations can overcome fragmented IT/OT systems and enable more efficient, resilient, and scalable operations.

Attendees will gain a practical perspective on how AI-driven ecosystems can accelerate the deployment of mission-critical services and generate measurable operational value in complex and distributed environments.

*Speakers*
Fabrizio Dolce, Nova Reply
Donato Nicoletti, Storm Reply

*Thursday 24 September*
11:15 - 13:00

Diotallevi 1 Room, South Hall

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Empowering Public Security and Emergency Management trough Satellite data and Unmanned Systems

**Organized by: BEX Scientific Technical Committee**

Language: Italian

Risk prevention and decision support in complex scenarios - including natural emergencies, public safety and investigative activities - have greatly benefited from the intelligent use of satellite data, integrated with aerial, ground, surface and underwater drone systems.

The event will serve as a platform for dialogue among institutions, operators and stakeholders, with the aim of enhancing synergies between space, autonomous technologies and public security, strengthening the effectiveness of national prevention, response and resilience capabilities.

**Programme**

*Moderator:*
Daniele Mocio, Italian Air Force

Marco Santeramo, Italian Air Force, 66th Wing of Frosinone

Daniele Biron, Italian Air Force, General Office for Military Aviation and Meteorology

Gianluca Cerrone, Head of Sales business Development Argotec

Mentore Giorgetti, Managing Director Spaceflux

Onofrio Lorusso, Italian National Rescue and Fire Service - Aerial Rescue Office

Carmine Andrea Pizzirusso, Italian Financial Police - Remote Piloting Training Section

Giulio Fancello, Head of the Central Functional Centre Service, Presidency of the Council of Ministers Department of Civil Protection

Giovanni Sylos Labini, CEO Planetek

** Speaker participation subject to confirmation*

*Thursday 24 September*
11:20 - 11:50

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## Space for Utilities: Satellite intelligence for smarter, safer and more resilient networks

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

From water to energy networks, Earth Observation provides a new layer of information for understanding infrastructure, identifying critical areas, and supporting smarter network management.

**Programme**

*Speaker*
Adriano Vulpio, Planetek Italia

*Thursday 24 September*
11:30 - 13:00

Republic of San Marino Booth, Hall C1

**Space Laws**
***Click here***

## Space law: what actions for a viable scenario?

**Organized by: CIRA - Italian Aerospace Research Center**

Language: Italian

Recently, space has been seeing a significant expansion of human activities. Over the past five years, business volume has increased by an average of around 9% annually, outpacing global GDP growth and reaching a market value of over USD 600 billion in 2025 (source: *Space Industry Statistics & Facts 2026 | SpaceNexus*). At the same time, the number of objects launched into space has increased by a factor of ten over the last decade (source: *The Growth of the Space Economy*).

This growth is expected to continue in the coming years, as this new domain promises substantial economic returns through the provision of services increasingly in demand by the general public, as well as through new potential prospects that are beginning to emerge, such as the colonisation of the Moon.

As the economy expands, so do the actions and interactions between individuals, companies and states - and, with them, the possibility of disputes. Moreover, unrestricted business activity in the space sector, if not properly regulated, could generate risks for society as a whole, as well as dangers for individuals or even for multiple sovereign states.

At the same time, regulation in this field cannot be purely restrictive. Beyond the economic prosperity that the Space Economy promises to generate - which naturally leads legislators to view it favourably - there is a strong likelihood that overly burdensome regulation will lead to a shift in investment towards more accessible jurisdictions.

These brief considerations offer a first sense of the complexity of a new universe that must be managed and that, by its very nature, can only be shared among different state systems. Ultimately, the uniqueness of space activities means that the only segment that can truly be governed is the terrestrial one. Once objects are inside orbits or beyond, in the so-called deep space, they tend to escape any single jurisdiction, unless that jurisdiction is collective.
These are the themes that the speaker and panellists will explore, covering legal, legislative, industrial and defence-related perspectives, with the aim of helping to clarify certain aspects of a complex process that is still far from being fully resolved.

**Programme**

*Introduction:*
Eng. Antonio Concilio, Italian Aerospace Research Center - CIRA

*Moderator:*
Dr. Andrea Colucci, Promotion Research Consultancy - PRC

*Lecturer:*
Prof. Tommaso Edoardo Frosini, Italian Aerospace Research Center - CIRA

*Round Table:*

Eng. Stefano Beco, AIAD - Italian Industries Federation for Aerospace, Defence and Security
Prof. Fabrizio Cassella, University of Turin
Prof. Valeria Falce, UNIER - European University of Rome
Dr. Stefano Gualandris Advisor for the Aerospace and Defense Sector, MEF

*Conclusions:*
Gen. Luigi Riggio, Presidency of the Council of Ministers

*Thursday 24 September*
11:45 - 13:00

Exploration Arena, Hall C1

**Tech Fashion & Textile**
***Click here***

## Technical Textiles for Space: innovation, advanced materials, and new opportunities for the Italian supply chain

**Organized by: Confindustria Moda**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Presentation of the Technical Textiles for Space White Paper, promoted by Confindustria Moda within the framework of the Italian Aerospace Technology Cluster (CTNA). The White Paper highlights the strategic role of technical textiles in space applications, outlines the key technological trends shaping the sector, and explores opportunities for collaboration among industry, research organizations, and public institutions.

The session will also feature presentations from Italian companies showcasing real-world innovation case studies and advanced solutions developed for the space sector.

**Programme**

*Introduction*
Mauro Sampellegrini, Director of Research, Innovation and Sustainability - Confindustria Moda
*White Paper Technical Textiles for Space*

Flavio Fusco, Leonardo, National Aerospace Technology Cluster - CTNA
*Activities and Priorities of the National Aerospace Technology Cluster*

Stefano Carosio, Executive Director - STAM S.r.l.
*Support from the Italian ESA broker for projects with the European Space Agency*

*Round table*
Lucia Grizzaffi, Thales Alenia Space
Fabrizio Picariello, Tex Tech
Marcello Azzoni, Spaceware
Omar Maschi, Centrocot
Massimiliano Marsiaj, Sabelt
Giuseppe Ballesio, Ballesio

*Thursday 24 September*
11:45 - 12:30

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## Two Industrials Cultures, One New Frontier

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Italy's automotive excellence has grown through two distinct industrial cultures.

On one side, the **Automotive Heartland of Piedmont**, shaped by a long tradition of large-scale manufacturing, engineering, system integration and an extensive industrial supply chain. On the other, the **Motor Valley**, where high performance, racing, luxury and highly specialized engineering have fostered a culture built around speed, experimentation and continuous technological improvement.

Different histories, different industrial mindsets, yet an increasingly shared destination: **space**.

This conversation explores how the skills, technologies and methods developed within these two automotive ecosystems are finding new applications in the space economy. From advanced materials, precision manufacturing and electronics to simulation, data, reliability and high-performance engineering, automotive know-how is creating new opportunities for cross-sector technology transfer.

A dialogue on how two different approaches to innovation can generate new collaborations, technologies and business opportunities, demonstrating that there is more than one road from automotive excellence to orbit.

*In conversation with:*

**Andrea Albani**, Vice President Motor Valley
**Maurizio De Mitri**, Piedmont Aerospace District - DAP

*Interviewed by:*
**Hady Milani**, Director of the Space Entrepreneurship program, EIIS

*Thursday 24 September*
12:00 - 13:00

Emilia-Romagna Region Booth, Hall C1

**Industrial Diversification and Transition to the Space Sector**
***Click here***

## From Ax-3 to Ax-5: a further step toward the post ISS

**Organized by: Emilia-Romagna Region**

Language: English

As the first all-European commercial astronaut mission to the International Space Station, Axiom Mission 3 (Ax-3) redefined the pathway to low-Earth orbit (LEO) for nations around the globe in early 2024. It marked a new era of opportunity to access LEO, advancing exploration and research in microgravity. The scientific experiments and demonstrations conducted during the 18-day mission (spanning 346 orbits) had an impact in understanding human physiology, progressing scientific knowledge, harnessing opportunities for industrial advancements, and developing new technologies. Commercial, policy and academic partnerships were at the core of that mission. The Emilia Romagna Region has been part of that journey from the very beginning, serving as the first regional administration to support and co-fund micro gravity experiments conducted by local entities. After the introduction from Axiom representative and the hands-on experience from Italian AX-3 crew member Colonel Walter Villadei, beneficiaries of the regional program will present their projects and key outcomes. The journey, however, has just begun. With the Ax-5 mission planned for the second half of 2027, we look forward to even stronger collaboration with the Italian ecosystem and the Italian Space Agency. The post-ISS (International Space Station) era is on the rise, microgravity has never been more accessible thanks to private operators and new incumbents, with Axiom at the forefront of such upcoming next revolution.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Anilkumar Dave, Aerospace Senior Advisor at ART-ER (Innovation Agency of the Emilia-Romagna Region)

*Speakers*
Vincenzo Colla, Vice-President, Emilia-Romagna Region
Jonathan Cirtain, CEO Axiom Space
Col. Walter Villadei, Astronaut, Italian Air Force
Alessio Grasso, Aerospace & Defense Business Unit, Dallara Automobiles
Danilo Petroni, Head, Group Grants Office, GVM Care & Research
Valentina Benfenati, Director of Research, CNR-ISOF

*Thursday 24 September*
12:00 - 12:30

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Light-Activated Materials for Cleaner, Safer Environments - from Earth to Space

**Organized by: EcoAida**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

For thousands of years, keeping our shared spaces clean has relied on the same act - wiping and washing by hand with natural or chemical agents that demand effort, wear off quickly and, more recently, leave a polluting footprint. EcoAida, a Sardinian deep-tech startup born from academic research at the Porto Conte Ricerche science park in Alghero, takes a different route. Its carbon dots (C-dots) are carbon-based, metal-free nanoparticles, compliant with the EU law governing the use of chemical substances, that under ordinary visible light produce reactive oxygen species - mainly singlet oxygen - and, as shown in laboratory testing, lower the microbial and viral burden on the surfaces functionalized with C-dots.

Embedded a single time into ordinary materials - coatings, rigid surfaces and technical fabrics - they provide a long-lasting, light-driven protective action that releases no chemicals, with applications across facility management, healthcare, transport, food and marine settings. Validated in the laboratory - including high-biocontainment testing - and backed by international publications and patents, EcoAida is now approaching industrial partners to move it toward real-world adoption. In closed and orbital habitats, where water and supplies are limited, this opens the way to lasting, environmentally friendly surface cleanliness. It marks a change of paradigm: as we set our sights on space, we leave the old ways behind and look ahead, building hygiene into the materials themselves.

*Speakers*
Giancarlo Buccarella, Lawyer
Davide De Forni, Chief Scientific Officer at ViroStatics SRL

*Thursday 24 September*
12:00 - 13:00

Hall C3

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Unmanned System Demo Experience

**Organized by: Protodynamics**

Language: English

*See unmanned technologies in action, watch drones and unmanned systems in live testing sessions at **Hall C3** and explore their capabilities and applications up close.*

*Thursday 24 September*
14:00 - 15:30

Diotallevi 1 Room, South Hall

**Space Physiology, Healthcare, Wellness, Pharmacy**
***Click here***

## Biospace economy. New opportunities for Physiology, Healthcare, Wellness, Pharmacy - Session I

**Organized by: CNR ISOF - Institute for Organic Synthesis and Photoreactivity of the National Research Council**

Language: English

After decades of human activity largely confined to low Earth orbit, space exploration is once again moving toward deep space. With the successful completion of the Artemis II mission and the planning of future missions to Mars, human presence beyond Earth orbit is becoming a concrete objective. Achieving this ambition requires addressing **unprecedented challenges that extend well beyond engineering and propulsion, placing biomedical and physiological questions at the center** of space exploration strategies.

Prolonged exposure to cosmic radiation, combined with the effects of microgravity, has profound impacts on multiple organs and physiological systems. Sustained living and working in space therefore demand a new level of understanding, monitoring, and control of the biological processes that govern human health under **extreme and potentially lethal conditions**. These challenges are redefining priorities for space missions and, at the same time, opening new markets and innovation pathways on Earth.

As a result, space-related technologies are rapidly expanding in scope and impact, creating strong momentum across materials science, advanced manufacturing, and enabling technologies aimed at preserving, monitoring, and enhancing human health and wellbeing. **Innovations originally driven by space life sciences are now converging with biotechnology, medicine, and pharmaceutical research**, generating transformative opportunities for both in-orbit applications and terrestrial healthcare systems.

The event aims to foster a high-level dialogue among academia, SMEs, and major industry players on how the integration of materials science, advanced manufacturing, physiology, bioengineering, and technologies can:
1) ensure astronaut safety and wellbeing during long-duration microgravity and deep-space missions;
2) offer new opportunities in this emerging BioSpace economy for companies already proficient in the Healthcare, Wellness, Pharmacy business.
Beyond showcasing selected success stories, the session will highlight how existing industrial capabilities and research approaches can be translated into new applications enabled by microgravity and space conditions. The discussion will connect **spaceflight and infrastructure providers with biomedical, pharmaceutical, and biotechnology stakeholders**, while also addressing the downstream benefits for healthcare on Earth with a focus on radiation-shielding materials, health-monitoring sensors and telemedicine systems, AI-driven data analysis, bioelectronics, in-space biomanufacturing, and cell-based assays.

*The event will be structured into two interactive sessions. Each session will open with short, inspirational talks designed to set the scene and stimulate discussion, followed by a moderated panel and open Q&A aimed at encouraging exchange, cross-sector collaboration, and concrete industrial perspectives.*

**Programme**

*Introduction: scope of the meeting and presentation of the speakers*
Vincenzo Palermo, Research Director, Institute for Organic Synthesis and Photoreactivity (ISOF), National Research Council of Italy (CNR)

*In-orbit validation of soft radiation shielding during AXIOM-3 crewed mission: problems solved and lessons learnt*
Alessio Grasso, Aerospace & Defense Business Unit Manager, Dallara

**Q&A panel**
*Moderator:*
Vincenzo Palermo, Research Director, Institute for Organic Synthesis and Photoreactivity, National Research Council of Italy - CNR-ISOF

Andrea Liscio, Senior Researcher, Institute for Microelectronics and Microsystems (IMM), National Research Council of Italy - CNR
Davide Santachiara, CEO and e Project Manager DTM Technologies
Nicolò Benini, Business Development Manager Marketing NPC spacemind
Franco Lori, EcoAida srl
Davide De Pietri Tonelli, Italian Institute of Technology (IIT)

*Thursday 24 September*
14:00 - 15:00

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Start-up Pitch Session

**Organized by: BEX - Beyond Exploration Expo - Open Innovation District**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

As part of the **BEX Open Innovation District**, selected start-ups will take the stage to present their technologies, products and business ideas in a series of short and focused pitch sessions.

The sessions will be **presented by ESA BIC Turin**, the incubation programme supporting innovative start-ups developing technology-based projects for upstream or downstream applications. The program, run by the Innovative Companies Incubator of Politecnico di Torino (I3P) with the scientific and technological support of Politecnico di Torino and LINKS Foundation, offers financial incentives, strategic business consulting, scientific and technological support for the development of products and services, and direct access to a wide network of highly qualified industrial, financial, and scientific partners.
For more information: www.esabic-turin.it

**Meet the start-ups, discover their technologies and explore the ideas that could shape the next generation of the Space Economy.**

*Moderator*
Leo Italiano, Program Manager I3P, Innovative Enterprise Incubator at Politecnico di Torino

*Participants:*

Tobia Zampieri, CEO **Atlas Carbon**

Pasquale Castellano, CEO and Funder **DYMENSION SYSTEMS SRL**

Florian Sallaba, CEO **Green Urbansights AB**

Federico Romei, Founder and CEO **OhmSpace**

Giorgio Montanari, CEO **K3RX**

Carolina Gianardi, Co-founder and CEO **Intuos**

Giacomo Ziffer, CEO **Motus ml**

Duarte Azinheira, Co-founder and CEO **Soundsat**

*Thursday 24 September*
14:00 - 14:30

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## The Orbital Kitchen

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Designing the kitchen for life beyond Earth.

*In conversation with:*

**Andrea Grandi**, Country Category Manager Cook & Chill, Electrolux Professional
**Davide Benvenuti**, Product Owner Innovation, Electrolux Professional

*Interviewer:* **Hady Milani,** Director of the Space Entrepreneurship program, EIIS

*Thursday 24 September*
14:00 - 15:30

Exploration Arena, Hall C1

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

# From Space to Field: remote sensing data for innovative, sustainable and competitive agriculture

**Organized by: Confagricoltura**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Agriculture is undergoing a technological revolution, where data represents the new means of production for a proactive, sustainable and competitive farming sector. According to the latest studies, the Italian Agriculture 4.0 market is growing again after the decline of 2024, reaching 2.5 billion euros (+9%), driven by software solutions such as FMIS and DSS and by investments in connected machinery. Despite this, the level of digital maturity remains uneven: only 9% of companies are digitally mature, while 58% are still lagging behind, also due to dependence on public incentives (only 21% would invest without subsidies).

In this context, remote sensing is confirmed as a key enabler of the digital, ecological and energy transition envisaged by Europe. Through prescription maps, vegetation indices and multispectral analyses, remotely sensed data allow companies to move from reactive practices to personalised strategies, preventing critical issues and improving productivity and quality.

The conference aims to explore how these technologies can overcome the barriers to adoption (costs, skills, resistance) and maximise return on investment. Following two introductory presentations and the testimony of a pioneering agricultural company, the round table will provide a space for discussion on how to translate data into concrete actions, from acquisition to field application.

**Programme**

*Moderator:* Ivano Valmori

Keynote speech
***Remote Sensing to Support Smart Agricultural Operations Management***
Daniele Sarri, Università di Firenze

Keynote speech
***Remote Sensing Data for Monitoring and Traceability of Cultivated Areas***
Luigi Pantuosco, Head of Agriculture Business Area,Leonardo S.p.A.
Lorenzo Nicoletti, Head of AI Solutions,Agriculture & Land Monitoring, Leonardo S.p.A.

Case study
Massimo Salvagnin, Azienda Agricola Porto Felloni

Round table
Nicola Gherardi, Member of the Executive Board of Confagricoltura
Rita Rinaldo, Head of Applications Projects & Studies Division in European Space Agency - ESA
Francesco Sofia, Director of Information Systems Management, Development and Security Agenzia per le Erogazioni in Agricoltura - AGEA
Mario Salipante, Innovative Mobility Directorate National Civil Aviation Authority - ENAC

*Thursday 24 September*
14:00 - 15:00

Hall C3

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Unmanned System Demo Experience

**Organized by: Dronezone**

Language: English

*See unmanned technologies in action, watch drones and unmanned systems in live testing sessions at **Hall C3** and explore their capabilities and applications up close.*

*Thursday 24 September*
14:30 - 15:30

Emilia-Romagna Region Booth, Hall C1

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## From Low Altitude to Orbit: CIRI Aerospace for a Space Economy that Benefits Local Communities

**Organized by: Emilia-Romagna Region**

Language: Italian

Based at the Forlì-Cesena Technopole, CIRI Aerospace, the University of Bologna's Interdepartmental Research Centre, is a key driver of applied research and technology transfer for Emilia-Romagna's aerospace economy. As part of a Technopole that acts as a regional hub within the Emilia-Romagna High Technology Network, CIRI Aerospace connects research excellence with industrial innovation. The session will take participants on a journey from low altitude to orbit, showcasing some of the Centre's leading areas of expertise: guidance and navigation systems for atmospheric and space applications, the sustainability of space operations, and innovative space propulsion technologies. Through examples of research activities, infrastructures and collaborative projects, participants will discover how these technologies can generate new opportunities for the aerospace sector while also enabling knowledge transfer and innovation across non-space industries.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Fabrizio Giulietti, CIRI Aerospace Director, University of Bologna

*Speakers*
Diego Donnini, PhD Student CIRI Aerospace, University of Bologna
Dario Modenini, Department of Industrial Engineering, University of Bologna
Fabrizio Ponti, Department of Industrial Engineering, University of Bologna

*Thursday 24 September*
14:30 - 17:30

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Industrial Diversification and Transition to the Space Sector**
***Click here***

## Advanced Manufacturing for Space: From Earth Qualification to In-Orbit Production

**Organized by: BEX Scientific Technical Committee**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

**14:30 - 15:00**

***Keynote speech***

***From Factories to Orbit: Advanced Manufacturing for a Resilient Space Ecosystem***

Space is entering a new industrial era, driven by geopolitics, strategic autonomy and the need to move from bespoke systems to scalable production. Advanced manufacturing, AI, digital twins and automation are transforming how we design, qualify and produce space systems on Earth. Europe has a unique opportunity to combine its manufacturing excellence with a new generation of sovereign, resilient and competitive space technologies. But the next revolution goes beyond terrestrial factories: manufacturing, assembly, repair and recycling will progressively move into orbit and onto planetary surfaces. The future of space will not only be launched from Earth, it will increasingly be manufactured in space.

Tommaso Ghidini, Head of the Mechanical Department
European Space Agency - ESA

**15.00 - 16.30**

***Lombardia Aerospace Cluster and the interlinked supply chains***

*Organized by Lombardia Aerospace Cluster*

For many industrial companies, business diversification strategies represent a key lever for sustaining competitiveness in environments characterized by rapid evolution, technological transformation, and pressure on traditional markets. In this context, the space sector is gradually emerging as a potential area of expansion for non-space companies, thanks to the growing diffusion of space-enabled applications and the opportunity to leverage established skills, products, and processes in new market contexts. The potentially targeted sectors are automotive, health and textiles, as they have been identified as among the most promising for potential convergence trajectories with the space economy. These sectors feature high manufacturing expertise and strong technological innovation dynamics that can generate tangible value in the medium term.

*Introduction*
Massimo Maronati, Grammelot

*Moderator*
Davide Cionfrini, Confindustria Varese

*Technical Textiles*
Marco Colombo, Gavazzi Tessuti Tecnici

*Automotive*
Alessio Grasso, Dallara
Massimiliano Marsiaj, Sabelt

*Medical Technologies*
Livia Visai, Università di Pavia
Valentino Matteotti, Cavok

*Defence: Integrating Cross-Sector Supply Chains*
Giuseppe Castellini, Ita Defence

**16.30 - 17.30**

***From Market to Space: Essential Accreditation Elements***

*Organized by BEX Scientific Technical Committee*

Analysis of the key requirements for accessing the space sector, including certification processes, insurance frameworks, and risk management for companies operating in the Space Economy.

*Moderator*
Marco Gisotti, Journalist, writer and science communicator

*Round table*
Maurizio De Mitri, President Piedmont Aerospace District (DAP)
Paolo Caglio, Country Manager Italia, Local Stream Manager Industrial Services TUV Rheinland
Alexander Felderer, Senior Consultant EY, Business Innovation & Transformation
Stefano Gualandris, Counsellor for the Aerospace and Defence Sector Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) and Managing Director Technosprings

*Mapping Italy's Aerospace Innovation through European Patents*
Dedicated presentation of the Unioncamere-Dintec-BEX report analyzing Italy's European patent portfolio in the aerospace sector. The study offers a data-driven overview of the country's technological positioning, mapping patent trends and key innovation clusters. The report is designed to support policymakers, industry stakeholders, and the Chamber of Commerce system in identifying growth opportunities and reinforcing Italy's competitiveness in one of the most dynamic frontiers of global innovation.

Presented by: Giovanni Manigrasso, Dintec-Unioncamere

*Thursday 24 September*
14:30 - 15:15

Diotallevi 2 Room, South Hall

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Book Presentation: "Volare Alto: Senza Capitale non c'è Orbita"

**Organized by: Alessandro Sannini & Leonella Gori**

Language: Italian

Italy's space industry presents an industrial paradox: world-class expertise, advanced industrial clusters and highly specialised SMEs coexist with fragmentation, reliance on major contracts, limited access to capital and a scale that is often insufficient to compete in global markets.

Building on *Aim High: Supporting the Growth of Italy's Aerospace Industry*, Leonella Gori and Alessandro Sannini take the discussion beyond the book to address a crucial question: who really finances a space SME when years of R&D, qualification, facilities, working capital and internationalisation are required?

Where does public support end, and where should bank lending, private debt, venture capital, growth capital and private equity come into play? And how can we build a supply chain in which SMEs can become industrial partners rather than remaining mere subcontractors?

With Walter Cugno, Maurizio De Mitri and Marino Moro, the panel brings together perspectives from major industry, industrial clusters, investors, academia and the hands-on experience of a specialised SME CEO.

A panel about capital, but above all about Italy's ability to turn technology and know-how into stronger, more international and scalable companies.

*Moderator*
Chiara Rossi, Start Magazine

Alessandro Sannini, Private Equity Investor, Member of Federmanager's Space Economy Committee
Walter Cugno, Former Thales Alenia Space, Coordinator of Federmanager's Space Economy Committee
Maurizio De Mitri, Aerospace Districit of Piemonte
Marino Moro, Novaeka
Leonella Gori, SDA Bocconi

***Download the flyer***

*Thursday 24 September*
15:00 - 15:45

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## AI-eXpress Intelligence at the Space Edge. Bringing AI closer to Earth Observation data

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

What if satellite data could be processed where it is generated? Discover AI-eXpress and the Space Edge paradigm: bringing computing and artificial intelligence closer to spaceborne data to enable faster, smarter and increasingly autonomous Earth Observation applications.

**Programme**

*Speakers:*
Celeste Borsello, D-Orbit
Cristoforo Abbattista, Planetek Italia
Steven Cartwright - UK Space Agency

*Thursday 24 September*
15:00 - 16:00

Hall C3

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Unmanned System Demo Experience

**Organized by: Abzero**

Language: English

*See unmanned technologies in action, watch drones and unmanned systems in live testing sessions at **Hall C3** and explore their capabilities and applications up close.*

*Thursday 24 September*
15:15 - 15:45

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Satellite Technology Supporting the Resilience of Infrastructure and Territories

**Organized by: Gruppo HERA**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Hera Group is currently developing innovative applications to test the use of satellite technology in support of risk management and to enhance the resilience of infrastructure across the territories it serves.

Through its collaboration with Saferplaces, a Rimini-based start-up specialising in the simulation of extreme-event impact scenarios, particularly floods, Hera can assess asset exposure, estimate potential impacts on the territory, and support strategic planning and design.

Through the platform developed by Australian scale-up Neara, Hera can create engineering-grade digital models of electricity networks, supporting a structured and proactive approach to vegetation interference management and weather resilience planning for its overhead network.

*Open innovation levers enabling the resilience of network assets*
Maurizia Brunetti, Gruppo HERA

*Flood risk analysis developed with Saferplaces and Htech: the case of Comune di Ravenna*
Stefano Bagli, Gecosistema srl
Luca Bonfiglioli, Gruppo HERA

*Electricity network resilience scenarios: the pilot project developed with Neara and Inrete*
Valentina Loisi, Neara
Fabrizio Rossi, InRete Distribuzione

*Thursday 24 September*
15:30 - 16:00

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## Mission-Ready Humans: Mental Performance and Resilience in Space

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

How mental preparation, stress management, AI-ready infrastructure and data-driven technologies can strengthen cognitive performance and resilience before, during and after space missions.

*In conversation with:*

**Col. Walter Villadei**, Astronaut, Italian Air Force
**Marco Provolo**, NTT Data
**Riccardo Ceccarelli**, Formula Medicine

*Interviewer:* **Antonella Bellutti**, Olympic Champion, Journalist

*Thursday 24 September*
16:00 - 17:00

Exploration Arena, Hall C1

**Beyond Tech Communication**
***Click here***

## Innovation Communication Lab – From Technology to Market

**Organized by: Confindustria - Technical Group for Internationalization**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

**Communicating, storytelling, presenting and selling innovation.**
Innovation Communication Lab is a strategic, business-oriented and hands-on experience, not just theoretical.
Its goal is to support companies, startups and research centers in transforming complex technologies into clear, valuable and market-ready propositions – facilitating partnerships, investments and market growth.

The 1-hour session will be structured into four focused micro-tutorials:

**Communicating Complex Technologies: turning complexity into value**
*Giovanni Caprara, Scientific Editor, Corriere della Sera*

How can highly complex technologies be communicated without oversimplifying them? Drawing on decades of experience covering science, space and technological innovation, Giovanni Caprara will discuss how effective communication can make innovation understandable, credible and relevant for diverse audiences.

**Storytelling Innovation: crafting compelling innovation narratives**
*Andrea Barchiesi, Founder & CEO, Reputation Manager*

Innovation is not only about technology - it is also about trust. This speech will explore how strategic communication, corporate identity and reputation contribute to the successful positioning of innovative organisations, helping transform technological excellence into lasting competitive advantage.

**Presenting Innovation: delivering effective pitches**
*Gaspare Civiero, Founder & CEO, Delivera – Founder, Sales Excellence Academy*

Bringing innovation to market requires more than technical expertise. This presentation will focus on how companies can effectively present complex technologies to customers, investors and international partners, bridging the gap between technical innovation and commercial success.

**Selling Innovation: from lab to market**
A concluding discussion bringing together all speakers to reflect on how communication, storytelling, reputation and commercial strategy can accelerate the journey from research and innovation to market adoption.

*Introduced and moderated by*
Omar Antonio Cescut, Confindustria – Technical Group for Internationalisation

*Thursday 24 September*
16:00 - 17:00

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## Earth Observation for Natural Catastrophe Risk: from Data to Decisions

**Organized by: IEG - Italian Exhibition Group, with content support from ClimateCharted**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Italy is entering a new phase in the management of natural catastrophe risk, with a growing focus on resilience, prevention and risk transfer. In a country where more than 90% of municipalities are exposed to floods, landslides or other natural hazards, and where annual losses exceed €7 billion, effective risk assessment, insurability and prevention all depend on one essential ingredient: better spatial data.

This panel explores the role of Earth Observation as the data layer underpinning the entire catastrophe-risk lifecycle. Satellite data support the development of hazard maps, improve the understanding of exposure by identifying where assets are located and how vulnerable they are, and increasingly inform pricing, underwriting and risk financing decisions. They also play a critical role after disasters, enabling near-real-time monitoring for emergency response and providing objective evidence that accelerates damage assessment and claims settlement. Connecting these data to decisions - across both the public and private sectors - is what turns observation into action.

The session brings together the perspectives that shape the catastrophe-risk value chain, all anchored in Earth Observation data: how public authorities use it to guide territorial planning and climate adaptation; how research transforms it into models and scientific knowledge; how the insurance and financial sectors rely on it to assess, price and transfer risk; and how the Earth Observation ecosystem - agencies, data providers and innovative companies - translates satellite data into operational services. The discussion will offer a high-level institutional perspective on how these actors can work together within an integrated catastrophe-risk ecosystem, starting from a shared foundation of Earth Observation data.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Giovanni Campana

*Speakers*
Ludovico Giorgio Aldo Biagi, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Politecnico di Milano
Lorenzo Carlassara, Climate Intelligence Specialist, ClimateCharted
Gaetano Volpe, CEO Latitudo 40

*Thursday 24 September*
16:00 - 17:00

Red Room, South Hall

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## From thermal spas to space: synergies between microgravity and high-salinity environments for preparation and rehabilitation protocols

**Organized by: Emilia-Romagna Region**

Language: Italian

This presentation explores potential synergies between the “SpaceLand” program and the use of highsalinity aquatic environments, such as those offered by the Cervia Thermal Baths, for the preparation of participants for SpaceLand aerospace tourism flights. These flights also provide opportunities for research and development activities in microgravity, lunar gravity, and Martian gravity across STEM disciplines. They form part of the SpaceLand Space Hub currently being developed in collaboration with the Republic of San Marino. The program also includes post-mission rehabilitation activities. The presentation examines how activities conducted in high-density saline waters may support psychomotor adaptation as well as musculoskeletal and neurovestibular rehabilitation.These benefits are relevant for participants in tropospheric, suborbital, and orbital missions, including professional and private astronauts. Particular attention is given to the challenges associated with long-duration spaceflight and future human presence beyond Earth.

*Moderator*
Stefano Iseppi, President Cervia Thermal Baths

*Speakers*
Antonio Frizziero, Managing Director Department of Rehabilitation, ASST Gaetano Pini
Carlo Viberti, President SpaceLand 0-G

*Thursday 24 September*
16:00 - 17:30

Emilia-Romagna Region Booth, Hall C1

***Click here***

## The Era of Big Remote Sensing Data: HPC and Big Data as the New Engines for Earth Observation

**Organized by: Emilia-Romagna Region**

Language: Italian

Every day a large number of Earth Observation (EO) data is collected and used for diverse and interdisciplinary applications, such as natural hazard monitoring, global climate change, urban planning, infrastructure sensing, etc. This data has evolved into a key economic asset and a new important resource in many applications. Today, the field is rapidly shifting toward a Big Data approach, where integration of spaceborne, airborne and terrestrial sensors is providing incredible added value. The new frontier lies in managing, processing, and efficiently exploiting such new datasets as well as matching the content-based information retrieval using high-performance computing (HPC) to extract valuable information and generate new services. A new generation of companies and startups is bringing EO data closer to end users, effectively democratizing downstream applications and unlocking new commercial opportunities. We can truly state we are now living in the age of big remote sensing data. The panel will present case studies and best practices from Big Data and EO stakeholders, demonstrating how data has become a commodity, information is the "new oil," and HPC and Big Data analytics are driving this revolution.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Anilkumar Dave, Aerospace Senior Advisor at ART-ER (Innovation Agency of the Emilia-Romagna Region)

*Speakers*
Piera di Vito, Φ-lab Invest Office, ESA-ESRIN
Matteo Angelinelli, HPC Data Engineer, CINECA
Davoud Omarzadeh, Project/Research Manager in Earth Observation, Institute of Space Studies of Catalonia (IEEC);
Calogero Dettori, Program Manager Serco
Marco Folegani, Co-founder, MEEO

*Thursday 24 September*
16:00 - 17:00

Diotallevi 1 Room, South Hall

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Integrated Solutions for Advanced and Smart Mobility

**Organized by: Politecnico di Milano - Drone and Advanced Air Mobility Observatory**

Language: English

The round table will explore the role of integrated solutions in enabling advanced and smart mobility, with particular attention to the interaction between aircraft, ground infrastructure, digital platforms, energy systems, and airspace management. The discussion will also highlight the growing contribution of space-based services - including satellite navigation, communications, connectivity, and Earth observation - as key enablers of safe, resilient, and scalable operations. Bringing together institutions, industry, operators, and research, the panel will address relevant use cases, enabling technologies, and the regulatory conditions required to move from experimentation to operational services, while combining innovation with safety, sustainability, and social acceptance.

**Programme**

*Moderator:*
Prof. Marco Lovera, Department of Aerospace Science and Technology and Drone and Advanced Air Mobility Observatory, Politecnico di Milano

*Presentation on the Digital Twin for Innovative Air Service project*

Marco Catalano, Innovative Mobility Directorate, ENAC
Christian Crescenzi, IT Officer, ENAC
Antonio Marchionne, IT Officer, ENAC

*Presentation on the use of integrated data for the development of civil aviation*

Luca Valerio Falessi, Airspace Directorate, ENAC
Fausto Starita, Head of Sales, Italy Market - LoB Satellite Communications, Telespazio
Federico Bus, Head of Operations FlyingBasket

*Thursday 24 September*
16:00 - 17:00

Hall C3

**Unmanned Operations – Human and Autonomous Exploration**
***Click here***

## Unmanned System Demo Experience

**Organized by: Dronezone**

Language: English

*See unmanned technologies in action, watch drones and unmanned systems in live testing sessions at **Hall C3** and explore their capabilities and applications up close.*

*Thursday 24 September*
16:15 - 16:45

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## The Role of Exercise: Lessons Learned from The Microgravity

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

How physical conditioning, recovery strategies and adaptive training technologies prepare the human body for microgravity and other extreme environments.

*In conversation with:*

**Col. Walter Villadei**, Astronaut, Italian Air Force
**Silvano Zanuso**, Scientific Research & CommunicationTechnogym

*Interviewer:* **Antonella Bellutti**, Olympic Champion, Journalist

*Thursday 24 September*
17:00 - 17:45

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## IRIDE: Space Services for Public Administration. Discover the new IRIDE Earth Observation services available to Italian Public Administrations

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

Italy's IRIDE Earth Observation programme is entering its operational phase. What does this mean for Public Administrations?
IRIDE, the new Italian Earth observation program is now operational. In this session we'll discover the new monitoring services available to public users. What data and services are available, how to access them through the IRIDE Marketplace, and how they can be integrated into existing Public Administration systems and workflows?

**Programme**

*Speakers:*

Matteo Picchiani, Italian Space Agency
Edouard Royer, Planetek Italia

*Thursday 24 September*
17:00 - 17:30

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## Food as Micro-Architecture - 3D Printing, Design and New Rituals of Consumption

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Within BEX, visitors will also have the opportunity to taste the innovative Artisia 3D pasta shapes through an original experience where technology, design and flavour come together.

*In conversation with:*

**Antonio Gagliardi**, Design & Technology Lead at Artisia

*Interviewer:* **Antonio Iannone**, The Food Cons

*Thursday 24 September*
17:30 - 19:00

Exploration Arena, Hall C1

**Networking Events**
***Click here***

## Space cocktail

**Organized by: Artisia by Barilla**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

The Space Cocktail turns one of the most familiar parts of everyday life into an opportunity to explore how food could evolve beyond Earth.
At the centre of the experience is the chance to taste**the 3D Spaghetto developed by Barilla and Artisia**: an award-winning project that explores food as a form of micro-architecture, using design and technology to rethink something as familiar as pasta. The tasting becomes part of a wider moment of conversation and exchange, bringing together companies, researchers, professionals and the BEX community around the future of food and human life in space.

*Friday 25 September*
09:30 - 10:00

Republic of San Marino Booth, Hall C1

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## NASA "Artemis Accords" Signing Ceremony

**Organized by: Republic of San Marino**

Language: English

Signing Ceremony of the Artemis Accords with the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) by the Republic of San Marino, as the 74th participating State.

Rossano Fabbri, Secretary of State for Industry and Technological Research of the Republic of San Marino
Gregory Mann, NASA Europe Lead
Joe Tordella, U.S. Consul General, Consulate General in Florence

*Friday 25 September*
09:45 - 11:00

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## Start-up Pitch Session

**Organized by: BEX - Beyond Exploration Expo - Open Innovation District**

Language: English
Instant translations:: Italian

As part of the **BEX Open Innovation District**, selected start-ups will take the stage to present their technologies, products and business ideas in a series of short and focused pitch sessions.

The sessions will be **presented by ESA BIC Turin**, the incubation programme supporting innovative start-ups developing technology-based projects for upstream or downstream applications. The program, run by the Innovative Companies Incubator of Politecnico di Torino (I3P) with the scientific and technological support of Politecnico di Torino and LINKS Foundation, offers financial incentives, strategic business consulting, scientific and technological support for the development of products and services, and direct access to a wide network of highly qualified industrial, financial, and scientific partners.
For more information: www.esabic-turin.it

**Meet the start-ups, discover their technologies and explore the ideas that could shape the next generation of the Space Economy.**

*Moderator*
Leo Italiano, Program Manager I3P, Innovative Enterprise Incubator at Politecnico di Torino

*Participants:*

Giulio Traversa, Space Systems Engineer **2NDSpace Srl**

Anna Lisa Buscemi, Project & Communication Manager **ABzero**

Tommaso Sironi, R&D Manager **Astradyne**

Filippo Vurro, CEO **PlantBit**

Raffaello Cesoni, Founder and CEO **Rafla Tech**

Leonardo Reyneri, CEO **SpaceMotionery**

Andrea Massetti, CTO **Stratobotic**

Angelo Lerro, CEO and Co-founder **SUPAIR SRL**

*Friday 25 September*
10:00 - 11:30

Diotallevi 1 Room, South Hall

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## The Future of Satellite Market

**Organized by: Emilia-Romagna Region**

Language: Italian

The satellite industry is undergoing an unprecedented transformation, moving from an era of static, government-owned infrastructure to a dynamic ecosystem dominated by private players and massive constellations. The satellite market is moving towards data-driven and service-based models, thus reshaping how value is created and captured across the value chain. In this evolving context, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are moving beyond traditional subcontracting roles and emerging as key actors capable of innovation and value creation. This workshop focuses on how SMEs position themselves along the vertical integration–outsourcing spectrum. Rather than replicating fully integrated models, they are increasingly internalizing high-value activities—such as software, payloads, edge computing, and data analytics—while relying on external partners for standardized components. This raises the question of whether such approaches can enable SMEs to act both as niche innovators and as flexible integrators within complex systems such as satellite constellations. More broadly, it also focuses on how SMEs may operate within value chains traditionally dominated by vertically integrated firms, exploring their potential role as both contributors to large-scale industrial systems and autonomous actors in increasingly scalable and innovation-driven satellite markets. The panelists will be engaged on the above question, helping to understand whether this market is sustainable for an SME and where it could concretely land, in terms of technological and managerial evolution.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Anilkumar Dave, Aerospace Senior Advisor at ART-ER (Innovation Agency of the Emilia-Romagna Region)

*First round table*
Alessandra Di Cecco, EUSPA
Marco Di Clemente, Head of Technology Developments and Space Design Office, Italian Space Agency (ASI)
Davoud Omarzadeh, Project/Research Manager Earth Observation, Institute of Space Studies of Catalonia (IEEC);

*Second round table*
Marco Molina, Chief Strategy Officer, SITAEL
Nicolò Benini, Business Development Manager, NPC SPACEMIND
Remo Ricci, Co-founder and CEO, Celeste Technologies
Franco Boldrini, Chief Sales & BD Officer, OHB Italia
Niccolò Bellini, Founder & CCO, 2NDSpace

*Friday 25 September*
10:00 - 10:30

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## How to See the Earth from Space A beginner's guide to satellite imagery and Earth Observation

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

What can satellites actually see? How is satellite imagery produced and how can it become useful information? A practical introduction to Earth Observation, designed for anyone approaching EO for the first time.
Event aimed at: Students, professionals and anyone curious about Earth Observation.

**Programme**

*Speaker*
Corrado Pisani, Planetek Italia

*Friday 25 September*
10:00 - 11:30

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Emerging Professions**
***Click here***

## Italy Aerospace Competences: Soft Skills and Complexity Management

**Organized by: Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna and Tecnopolo Forlì-Cesena**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Aerospace is not just a high-tech sector: it is a production infrastructure of complexity. In this context, skills can no longer be understood as a simple sum of technical knowledge, but rather as a systemic capability to integrate knowledge, manage uncertainty, and coordinate complex production networks.

The future of aerospace skills in Italy increasingly lies at the intersection of hard and soft skills: engineers able to engage in dialogue, designers capable of orchestrating complex processes, and professionals who combine technical depth with relational intelligence. This roundtable aims to open a discussion on this transformation, exploring how to rethink education, organizations, and skills development models from an evolutionary perspective.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Lorenzo Ciapetti, Forlì-Cesena Technopole

*Speakers*
Franco Bernelli Zazzera, Full Professor of Aerospace Engineering at the Politecnico di Milano, Former Chairman of Pegasus
Domenico Accardo, Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II
Pasquale D'Amico, Head of the Studies Department, Italian Air Force Academy
Giovanna Labartino, Centro Studi Confindustria
Hady Milani, European Institute of Innovation for Sustainability - EIIS, Director of the Space Entrepreneurship Program at the European Institute of Innovation for Sustainability
Anna Pia Spada, HR Director, SITAEL

*Friday 25 September*
10:00 - 11:00

Exploration Arena, Hall C1

**Resources Exploitation and Sustainability**
***Click here***

# Space for Energy or Energy for Space?

**Organized by: ENEA - National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Advanced energy systems are a strategic enabler for space and defence missions, where lightweight design, reliability, long operational life, and performance under extreme or hazardous conditions are essential. This session brings together Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), research and development organisations, regulatory and policy driven bodies, and large industrial players to address the full innovation and deployment chain of next generation energy solutions. The discussion will focus on advanced and nuclear based energy systems for space, including radioisotope power systems and compact nuclear reactors for long duration and deep space missions, alongside advanced batteries, advanced PV, hybrid architectures, and high efficiency power electronics. Particular attention will be given to the potential benefits and challenges of integration and distribution, in the perspective of a multi-source energy system with manyfold energy uses.

Research and development bodies will address technology maturation, testing, and validation, while regulatory and policy actors will contribute with perspectives on safety frameworks, certification, strategic autonomy, and alignment with European and defence policies. Large enterprises and system integrators will highlight industrial scalability, supply chain resilience, and system level integration into complex platforms. The session aims to foster cross actor collaboration in order to accelerate innovation, de-risk deployment, and strengthen European competitiveness in critical space and defence energy technologies.

Complementing this hardware-focused framing, long-duration and deep-space missions require energy systems to operate with limited or no ground intervention. This positions the digital, AI-driven layer as a necessary part of the discussion. From the opposite direction, Earth Observation products and the computer-vision and machine-learning pipelines that exploit them will be discussed as critical input for forecasting and diagnostics of terrestrial renewable plants.

## Programme

*Moderator*
Giuseppe Sala, Politecnico di Milano

***Lunar Energy System by Nuclear Energy***
Francesco Lodi, Project Manager of SELENE, National Research Agency - ENEA

***Battery for Space***
Luca Bono, Be2Hub s.r.l

***The Intelligent Layer of Space Energy Systems***
Gabriele Piantadosi, Energy Technologies and Renewable Sources Department, National Research Agency - ENEA

***Radioisotope power systems***
Jakub Sevecek, Stellar Nuclear CEO

***Nuclear for Innovation: Advanced Materials Supporting Space Applications***
Davide Loiacono, Head of Unit Materials NEWCLEO

*Friday 25 September*
10:00 - 10:30

Think Lounge, Hall C1

**The Astronaut's Home - Immersive Talks**
***Click here***

## Suit Up Like an Astronaut

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

A first-hand look at the procedures involved in wearing and removing a flight suit, together with insights into comfort, mobility and the physical sensations experienced during its use.

*In conversation with:*

**Col. Walter Villadei**, Astronaut, Italian Air Force
**Marcello Azzoni**, Spacewaer

*Interviewer:* **Chiara Rossi**, Startmag

*Friday 25 September*
11:00 - 15:00

Ravezzi Room, South Hall

**General Assembly of the Space Economy**
***Click here***

## Third Edition of the General Assembly of the Space Economy - Start-ups, Microenterprises and Incubators Session

**Organized by: Inter-Parliamentary Group for the Space Economy (IPSE)**

Language: Italian

This session will explore the challenges and opportunities facing Italian start-ups, highlighting their role in leveraging the creativity and innovative capacity of Italy's industrial and technological ecosystem.

Innovative start-ups and microenterprises are playing an increasingly important role in the Space Economy, thanks to their ability to develop agile technological solutions and flexible business models. The discussion will focus on the crucial contribution of these emerging companies to the development of satellite applications, value-added services, and new value chains connected to the space sector.

In an ecosystem characterised by rapid technological evolution and growing international competition, strengthening both public and private support for emerging companies is a strategic priority. The session will examine the importance of targeted financial instruments, access to infrastructure, and collaborative pathways involving universities, research centres, and leading industrial players to foster innovation and accelerate growth.

*Friday 25 September*
11:30 - 13:00

Exploration Arena, Hall C1

**Beyond Tech Communication**
***Click here***

## Space Voices: Where Creators, Community and Industry Meet

**Organized by: BEX – Beyond Exploration Expo**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

At BEX, creators and science communicators don't just tell stories– they build bridges between industry and people, between space and everyday life.
This non-conventional session brings together the voices that shaped BEX's pre-event narrative, alongside exhibiting companies and the communities they engage and inspire.
More than storytelling, the conversation explores the evolving role of space communicators as enablers of real opportunities - connecting people with careers, business pathways and scientific innovation.
Together, creators and companies will define a new kind of influence: one that goes beyond visibility to activate engagement, unlock potential and turn curiosity into concrete action.
Because the future of space will not be shaped by technology alone, but by those who can make it visible, understandable - and truly accessible to all.

***Participants:***

Vittorio Baraldi, Aerospace Engineer & Science Communicator
@astroviktor

Chiara Brunetti, Aerospace Engineer & Content Creator Generazione STEM
@generazioneSTEM

Gian Luca Comandini, Italian Entrepreneur & Technology Communicator
@giallucoma

Antonio Iannone, AgriFoodTech Professional & Content Creator
@thefoodcons

Luca Perri, Astrophysicist & Science Communicator
@astrowikiperri

*Friday 25 September*
11:30 - 12:00

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## From Milling to Large-Format 3D Printing: CMS Solutions for Aerospace Composite Processing

**Organized by: CMS S.p.A**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

For more than twenty years, CMS S.p.A. has been a technology partner to leading global players in the aerospace industry. The company presents its range of solutions for the machining of composite materials, aluminium and lightweight alloys, including high-speed 5-axis CNC machining centres, large-format additive manufacturing technologies, and waterjet cutting systems.

The presentation will highlight the key features of these solutions and the results they can achieve in terms of precision, speed and process reliability, with a focus on the digital monitoring solutions employed for quality control and production optimisation.

*Speakers*
Paola Carrara, Sales Area Manager CMS S.p.A.
Manuel Mologni, Sales Area Manager CMS S.p.A.

*Friday 25 September*
12:00 - 13:00

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## AI and resilience at the frontier of space operations

**Organized by: CINECA, Bruno Kessler Foundation**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

The space economy is generating data on an unprecedented scale, and artificial intelligence is emerging as a key technology for transforming this information into operational and scientific value. The central question is therefore how AI is supporting space mission design, autonomous operations and downstream applications, opening up new opportunities for cross-sector innovation. In this context, ensuring the integrity and resilience of AI-driven systems is emerging as an increasingly central strategic and industrial challenge.

The session brings together scientific, industrial and institutional perspectives to understand where Europe stands, which application domains hold the greatest promise, and how synergies between actors from sectors not traditionally associated with space can contribute to building an intelligent and sovereign infrastructure.

**Programme**

*Moderator:*
Andrea Possenti, National Institute for Astrophysics - INAF

*Speakers:*
Marco Folegani, Owner and Co-founder, MEEO Srl
Francesca Bovolo, Remote Sensing for Digital Earth Unit Head at Fondazione Bruno Kessler
Gen. Roberto Del Vecchio, Head of Space Division, Defence General Staff
Davide Silvestri, Computer Vision Solutions Architect SIDEIUS Srl
Luca Marzegalli, EY Partner

*Friday 25 September*
12:00 - 12:45

Emilia-Romagna Region Booth, Hall C1

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

## Advanced Aerospace Technologies: Bridging Research and Industry in Emilia Romagna

**Organized by: Emilia-Romagna Region**

Language: Italian

The aerospace sector is currently one of the most demanding testing grounds for technological innovation, highlighting the crucial role of research in developing increasingly advanced solutions in materials, manufacturing processes, and validation technologies. This event brings together three strategic industrial research projects, HEATBETA, LA2COM, and SpaceLAB, all united by the goal of delivering new solutions to some of the sector's most critical challenges. HEATBETA (Design and Fabrication of a Turbine Blade for Elevated Temperature Applications Made by a Laser Engineered Net Shaping Technique Manufactured High Entropy Alloy) explores the potential of high-entropy alloys, a new frontier in metallurgy, for the production of turbine blades using Direct Energy Deposition (DED) additive manufacturing technologies. The project opens new pathways towards lighter components capable of withstanding extreme operating temperatures. LA2COM (LAboratory of Lightweight Aircrafts COndition Monitoring: Integration of Multimodal Experimental Data Fusion and Digital Twin Simulations) is developing an integrated structural health monitoring ecosystem for lightweight aircraft. By combining heterogeneous sensor data fusion, Digital Twin simulations, and advanced classification algorithms, the project aims to enable the early detection and diagnosis of structural failures. SpaceLAB (Design, Implementation, and Validation of Test Systems for Strategic and Advanced Environmental Testing in the Aerospace Sector) focuses on enhancing environmental testing systems for the qualification of satellite components. The project involves the development and validation of dedicated test benches for Pyroshock and Outgassing testing, supporting the reliability and performance of space systems. Together, these projects outline a coherent pathway from research to technology transfer, bringing together universities, competence centres, and companies across Emilia-Romagna. Their shared ambition is to strengthen the competitiveness of the region's industrial ecosystem and enhance its position within both European and global aerospace markets.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Francesco Blumetti, Democenter Foundation

*Speakers*
Davide Santachiara, CEO, DTM Technologies
Ramona Fagiani, Founder, Vibmec
Mattia Battarra, Researcher IN4, University of Ferrara
Massimiliano De Agostinis, Director, CIRI MAM, University of Bologna
Riccardo Corsini, Chief Technical Officer, Highftech Engineering

*Friday 25 September*
12:00 - 12:30

Future EO Arena, Planetek Italia & D-Orbit, Hall C1

***Click here***

## Space for Smart Cities: Earth Observation for better cities, territories and public decisions

**Organized by: Planetek Italia & D-Orbit**

Language: English

How can cities use satellite intelligence to better understand what is happening on the ground? Explore how Earth Observation can support urban planning, territorial monitoring and smarter public services.

**Programme**

*Speaker:*

Corrado Pisani, Planetek Italia

*Friday 25 September*
12:00 - 13:15

Diotallevi 1 Room, South Hall

**Space Physiology, Healthcare, Wellness, Pharmacy**
***Click here***

# Biospace economy. New opportunities for Physiology, Healthcare, Wellness, Pharmacy - Session II

**Organized by: CNR ISOF - Institute for Organic Synthesis and Photoreactivity of the National Research Council**

Language: English

After decades of human activity largely confined to low Earth orbit, space exploration is once again moving toward deep space. With the successful completion of the Artemis II mission and the planning of future missions to Mars, human presence beyond Earth orbit is becoming a concrete objective. Achieving this ambition requires addressing **unprecedented challenges that extend well beyond engineering and propulsion, placing biomedical and physiological questions at the center** of space exploration strategies.

Prolonged exposure to cosmic radiation, combined with the effects of microgravity, has profound impacts on multiple organs and physiological systems. Sustained living and working in space therefore demand a new level of understanding, monitoring, and control of the biological processes that govern human health under **extreme and potentially lethal conditions**. These challenges are redefining priorities for space missions and, at the same time, opening new markets and innovation pathways on Earth.

As a result, space-related technologies are rapidly expanding in scope and impact, creating strong momentum across materials science, advanced manufacturing, and enabling technologies aimed at preserving, monitoring, and enhancing human health and wellbeing. **Innovations originally driven by space life sciences are now converging with biotechnology, medicine, and pharmaceutical research**, generating transformative opportunities for both in-orbit applications and terrestrial healthcare systems.

The event aims to foster a high-level dialogue among academia, SMEs, and major industry players on how the integration of materials science, advanced manufacturing, physiology, bioengineering, and technologies can:

1) ensure astronaut safety and wellbeing during long-duration microgravity and deep-space missions;

2) offer new opportunities in this emerging BioSpace economy for companies already proficient in the Healthcare, Wellness, Pharmacy business.

Beyond showcasing selected success stories, the session will highlight how existing industrial capabilities and research approaches can be translated into new applications enabled by microgravity and space conditions. The discussion will connect **spaceflight and infrastructure providers** with **biomedical, pharmaceutical, and biotechnology stakeholders**, while also addressing the downstream benefits for healthcare on Earth with a focus on radiation-shielding materials, health-monitoring sensors and telemedicine systems, AI-driven data analysis, bioelectronics, in-space biomanufacturing, and cell-based assays.

*The event will be structured into two interactive sessions. Each session will open with short, inspirational talks designed to set the scene and stimulate discussion, followed by a moderated panel and open Q&A aimed at encouraging exchange, cross-sector collaboration, and concrete industrial perspectives.*

**Programme**

*The Aphrodite Project: lab-on-chip-based assays to protect human health in space*
Mara Mirasoli, University of Bologna - Tecnopolo di Rimini
Serena Pezzilli, ASI - Italian Space Agency

*Impact of microgravity on the cardiovascular system*
Krizia Incarnato, Research Engineer - GVM Assistance

**Q&A panel**
*Moderator:*
Elena Galli, Aerohub Project Coordinator, Cluster MECH, Emilia-Romagna Region

Francesco Maffessanti, Head of Cardiovascular Research Imaging at Maria Cecilia Hospital - GVM Assistance
Laura Spinelli, Senior Product Manager - Telemedicine and Telemonitoring, CGM
Angelo Taibi, University of Ferrara
Mara Mirasoli, University of Bologna - Tecnopolo di Rimini
Serena Pezzilli, ASI - Italian Space Agency
Valentina Benfenati, Clust-ER Health, CNR
Paola Burioli, Policlinico Sant'Orsola

*Friday 25 September*
13:00 - 14:00

Emilia-Romagna Region Booth, Hall C1

**Industrial Diversification and Transition to the Space Sector**
***Click here***

## Transition to the space sector: Challenges, Skills and New Routes to Space

**Organized by: Aerohub**

Language: Italian

The space sector has long outgrown its traditional boundaries, moving closer to industries historically distant from space: aviation, metalworking, automotive, motorsport. The challenge today is no longer technological capability — where Italy boasts a solid industrial base, but rather turning that capability into a market. A question becomes crucial: how do you consolidate an ecosystem based on service and manufacturing demand? In this transition, "non-space" companies play a decisive role. For many, space is an opportunity for diversification; for others, a source of technological solutions to innovate their own products and services. It is a two-way transition: established competences in precision manufacturing, advanced materials, mechatronics and electronics find in space a premium end-market, while space gives back methods, design standards and qualification disciplines that raise the level of the entire terrestrial supply chain. This panel brings together companies already walking this path — from high-performance components to onboard systems, from diagnostic services to downstream platforms — to focus on enabling conditions, recurring obstacles and emerging business models (asset servitization, cross-sector integration) of the transition toward the space economy. The goal: to identify what is needed, industrially and institutionally, for diversification into space to become a sustainable market rather than an isolated episode.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Lorenzo Ciapetti, Territorial Development Expert, AeroHub-Clust-ER Mech

*Speakers*
Francesca Paoli, President and CEO, Dino Paoli srl
Vincenzo Patti, Certification and Quality Management Expert, Sideius
Mariacristina Gherpelli, Site Manager, JSP Corporation
Guido Munari, Scientific Coordinator, T3Lab
Andrea Zaccherini, Managing Director, Business Unit Advanced Technologies - SACMI

*Friday 25 September*
14:00 - 15:00

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Emerging Professions**
***Click here***

## ASI Space Hackathon Award Ceremony

**Organized by: ASI - Italian Space Agency**

Language: English

The ASI Space Hackathon Award Ceremony will mark the conclusion of three days of challenge, mentoring and collaborative work involving university students from different disciplines. During the ceremony, the best projects developed by the participating teams will be presented and the winning team will be awarded.
For the winning team, ALTEC will offer a one-day professional shadowing experience at its premises.

*Friday 25 September*
14:00 - 14:30

Pitch Arena, Hall C1

**Emerging Professions**
***Click here***

## Space Economy and Employment Opportunities: The Role of Talent in the Convergence of Aerospace and Industry

**Organized by: Emanuele Ferretti, Aeronautical and aerospace reporter and science communicator**

Language: Italian
Instant translations:: English

Space Economy growth is transforming the aerospace sector into an increasingly expansive ecosystem, capable of generating new industrial and employment opportunities and drawing on expertise from diverse fields.

This session will examine the evolving demand for professional skills within the sector, focusing on the technical and specialized profiles currently in highest demand: ranging from aerospace and satellite engineering to digital systems, data analysis and artificial intelligence to cybersecurity, as well as expertise in automation and advanced materials.

Despite significant market growth, a mismatch persists between the skills required by companies and those available, making education and career guidance pivotal. Schools, universities, ITS Academies, businesses, and institutions are called upon to build an ecosystem that connects young people with new Space Economy professions and supports regional competitiveness.

The session will examine Space Economy's capacity to translate technological innovation into new professional and employment opportunities for young generations.

Emanuele Ferretti, Reporter & Event Manager

*Friday 25 September*
14:15 - 15:15

Emilia-Romagna Region Booth, Hall C1

**Emerging Professions**
***Click here***

## Skills Ready for Takeoff: Lifelong Learning in the Aerospace & Defense Supply Chain

**Organized by: Cluster Innovate & Cluster Mech**

Language: Italian

At the heart of Beyond Exploration, this panel workshop explores how the Emilia-Romagna Region is strengthening the aerospace and defense ecosystem through its ESF+ 2021-2027 programmes for continuing and lifelong learning. Designed to support strategic industrial value chains, these initiatives help equip both individuals and organisations with the skills needed to navigate some of the sector's most pressing challenges, from digital transformation and critical technologies to sustainability and international expansion. The discussion brings together three leading regional training providers with a corporate testimonial: Centoform, ENAIP Reggio Emilia, Fondazione Aldini Valeriani, and Geo4. This marks the transition from a logic of separate initiatives to a true lifelong learning infrastructure across the supply chain, in line with the "network academies" model and the Clust-ER Mech and Clust-ER Innovate projects promoted by regional calls for proposals. Panelists from Centoform, ENAIP, FAV and Geo4 will present the results achieved so far, the lessons learned, and their vision for this next phase of collaboration. They will be joined by learners and professionals who took part in previous training programmes and who will share first-hand insights into how these experiences have supported their career development, strengthened their skills, and generated value within their organisations. The workshop will be a moment of open discussion to transform lifelong learning into the driving force that unites people, businesses, and the local community throughout the aerospace supply chain.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Luca Arcangeli, Manager, Clust-ER Innovate
Sara Olivieri, Manager, Clust-ER Mech

*Speakers*
Chiara Pancaldi, Managing Director, Centoform Alessandro Sacchi, Managing Director, Enaip Foundation
Emanuela Pezzi, Managing Director, Aldini Valeriani Foundation
Andrea Lombardelli, CEO, Geo4

*Friday 25 September*
15:00 - 16:00

Main Stage, Hall C1

**Start-up & Exhibitors Pitch**
***Click here***

## From Skills to Careers: Meet the Space Industry

**Organized by: BEX – Beyond Exploration Expo in collaboration with ASI Space Hackathon**

Language: English

A dedicated Q&A session connecting students with leading companies from the BEX ecosystem. An opportunity to discover the skills, professional profiles and career paths that are shaping the space economy, while engaging directly with industry representatives and asking questions about entering and building a career in the sector.

**Q&A with BEX Companies - Career Orientation & Professional Development**
Alberto Corbelli, Head of Thermo-Mechanical Engineering Department, SITAEL
Giulia Pompeo, Proposal Manager, OHB
Laura Ferrero, Head of Business Development and Sales, Chief Contract Officer, Altec SPA, PhD
Marcello Azzoni, Chief Designer Spacewear

*Friday 25 September*
15:30 - 16:30

Emilia-Romagna Region Booth, Hall C1

**Cross-Cutting Events**
***Click here***

# Microgravity: a new demand for advanced in-orbit R&D

**Organized by: Emilia-Romagna Region**

Language: Italian

Microgravity — the condition in which gravity is present, but its ordinary mechanical effects (sedimentation, convection, fluid stratification) are almost entirely cancelled out — is not a frontier reserved for exploration: it is an industrial laboratory. In low Earth orbit, metal solidification occurs without convective motion, composites cure without matrix sedimentation, cells self-assemble into 3D structures that replicate human tissue with a fidelity impossible on the ground, and biosensors and bioelectronic devices are tested under extreme conditions. These are phenomena inaccessible in terrestrial laboratories, with direct impact on advanced manufacturing, biohealth and agri-industry. The panel's thesis is that a concrete industrial demand for in-orbit R&D experimentation may emerge around microgravity: mechanical SMEs seeking microstructures unattainable on the ground, composite manufacturers wanting perfectly oriented fibres, biotech and pharmaceutical firms needing more faithful tissue models to shorten the preclinical phase, agri-food players looking for new certification standards. No longer just technological supply, but demand expressed by the end users of industrial value chains. With the imminent decommissioning of the ISS and the arrival of commercial orbital habitats, a window opens to build — in Emilia-Romagna too — a structured experimental capability that connects consolidated scientific competences, already identifiable application cases and early industrial partners. The panel brings research and industry face to face to outline the priority lines and enabling conditions of this new space bioeconomy and manufacturing.

**Programme**

*Moderator*
Elena Galli, AeroHub Project Coordinator, Clust-ER MECH

*Speakers*
Lucio Madella Amadei, CEO, Egicon Srl Enrico Troiani, Department of Industrial Engineering, University of Bologna
Valentina Benfenati, Research Director, CNR-ISOF
Stefano Carosio, Executive Director, STAM