

# WIRELESS ON SPACE LAUNCHER – ARIANE 5

## Astrium

### Space Transportation



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CANEUS / NASA « Fly-by-Wireless » workshop

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All the space you need



# Content

- EADS - Astrium Space Transportation
- Programme Characteristics
- Our Missions
- How do MNT may be an advantage?
- Wireless sensors for launchers
- Concluding remarks

# Astrium: a 100% subsidiary of EADS

**EADS**

**Airbus**



**Military Transport Aircraft**



**Eurocopter**



**Astrium**



**Defence & Security Systems**



# Astrium's activities are based in three key areas

## Astrium Space Transportation

The European prime contractor for civil and military space transportation and manned space activities



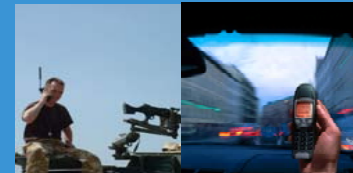
## Astrium Satellites

A world leader in the design and manufacture of satellite systems



## Astrium Services

At the forefront of satellite services in the secure communications and navigation fields



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# An impressive product and capability portfolio

- Launchers: Ariane, Soyuz, Rockot, Vega
- Ballistic missiles, missile defence
- Future launchers
- Orbital systems: Columbus, ATV, Operations, Atmospheric re-entry systems
- Propulsion & equipment
- System design, system integration & production



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# Access to space

- Europe's launcher family



**Ariane 5  
ESC-B**



**Ariane 5  
ESC-A**



**Ariane 5**



**Soyuz  
Starsem**



**Rockot**



**Vega**

**GTO capability (dual launch)**

12 t	10 t	6 t
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**LEO capability**

> 20 t	2.5 t / 5 t	1.1 t	1.5 t
300 km - 51°6	1,400 km	700 km	700 km

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# Access to space

- Single Prime Contractor for Ariane 5



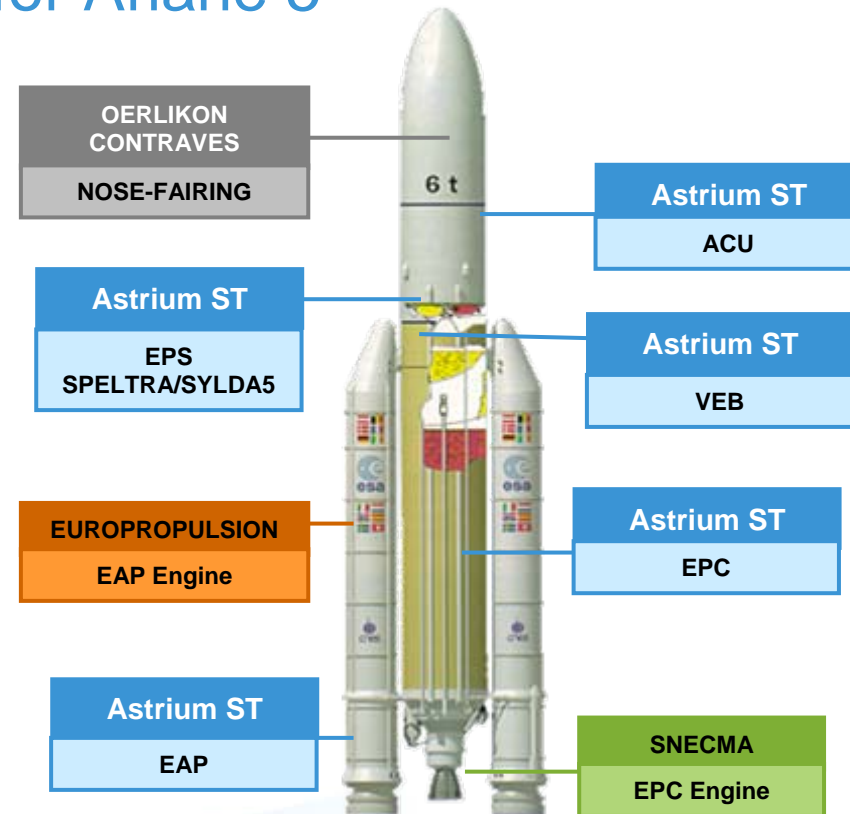
- Delivery of the fully integrated launch vehicle to Arianespace in Kourou
- Supplier of all major elements of Ariane 5 (stages, VEB, software, etc.)
- ESA's single point of contact for future developments

# Access to space

## ■ Provider of all major elements for Ariane 5

- EPC, EAP, EPS stages
- Vehicle Equipment Bay
- Flight software
- Mission analysis
- Sub-assemblies

- Performance in GTO: 5.9 to 10 t
- Mass at lift off: 710 t
- Thrust at lift off: 10,600 kN
- Total height: from 45 to 55.9 m
- Maximum diameter: 12.2 m





# Access to space

- Preparing for the new generation of launch vehicles and reducing launch costs

- System studies and stage architecture
- Research, technology, development:
  - Study of reusable, semi-reusable and expendable launch vehicle concepts
  - Company and State funding
- FLPP programme



- **Technology Demonstrators**
  - Pre-X, Ares, Astra
  - Phoenix: test flight campaign in 2004

# Man in space

- European contribution to the ISS: hardware elements
  - Industrial prime contractor for the core European ISS Elements:
    - Columbus research laboratory
    - Automated Transfer Vehicle (ATV)
  - Data management systems for the space station (DMS)
  - Robotic systems (ERA)
  - Experimental facilities for scientific use
  - Astronaut training and simulators for Columbus, ATV and experimental facilities



# Man in space

## ■ European contribution to the ISS: Columbus

- ESA prime contractor for the Columbus laboratory, the European space research facility

- Pressurised laboratory

- Designed for microgravity research

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Medicine
- Human physiology
- Space and Geosciences



Length:	8 m
Diameter:	4.5 m
Payload:	10 active payload racks
Launch mass:	12.770 tonnes
Crew:	designed for 3 crew members

# Man in space

- European contribution to the ISS: ATV
- ESA prime contractor for the Automated Transfer Vehicle for logistic resupply of the International Space Station, launched on board an Ariane 5 (July-October 2007)

- Cargo
- Propellants
- ISS-reboost
- Waste removal

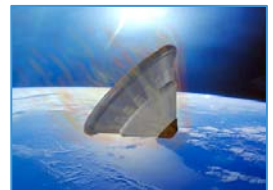
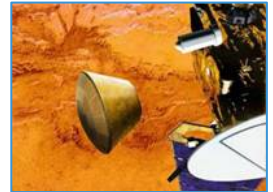
Length: 10.05 m  
Diameter: 4.57 m  
Payload mass: 7 tonnes net  
Launch mass: 20 tonnes  
Navigation: autonomous, based on GPS data



# Exploring the Universe

## ■ Atmospheric re-entry systems

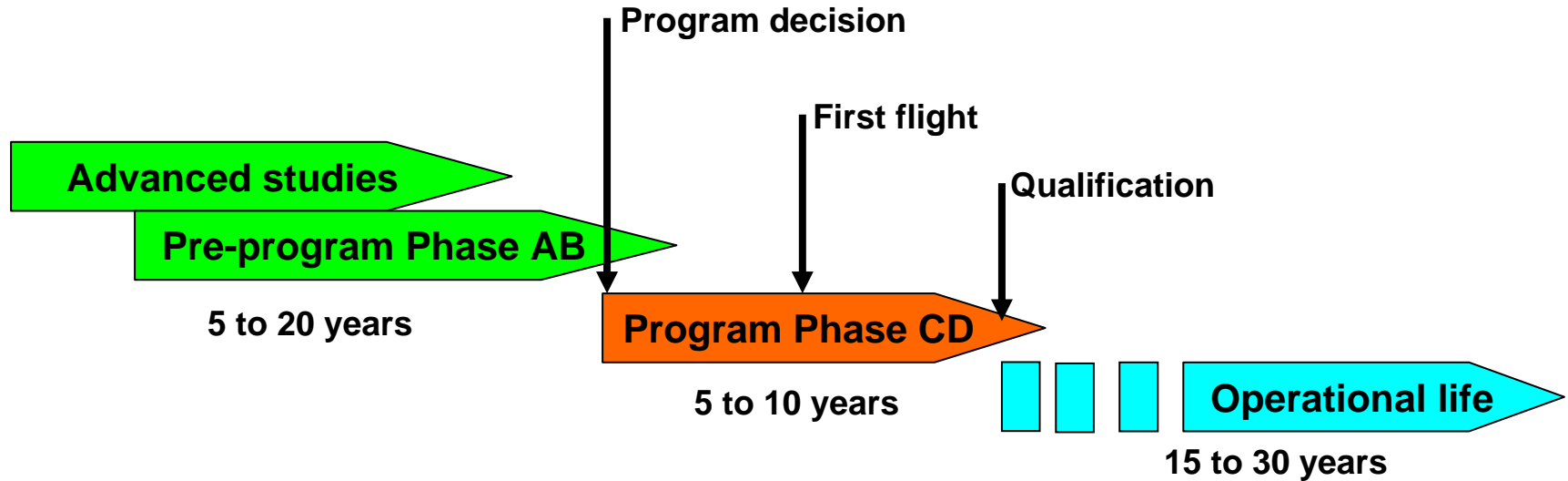
- Thermal protection systems for interplanetary probes
  - ARD: developement, integration and tests. Successful mission in October 1998
  - Beagle 2: Mars Express lander. Thermal protection system (2003)
  - Huygens: Titan exploration. Thermal protection system (2005)
- ISS Servicing: CARV, PARES
- Interplanetary exploration: Mars EDLS, EVD
- Expert: re-entry testbed
- NASA X-38: essential hardware and software
- IRDT: inflatable re-entry technology system



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# Programs characteristics (1/2)

- Our development programs are very long



- Use of up to date technologies (at program decision time)
- Very long lifetime (treatment of obsolescence issues)
- Complex systems with high reliability & safety needs
- Functions in very harsh environments

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## Programs characteristics (2/2)

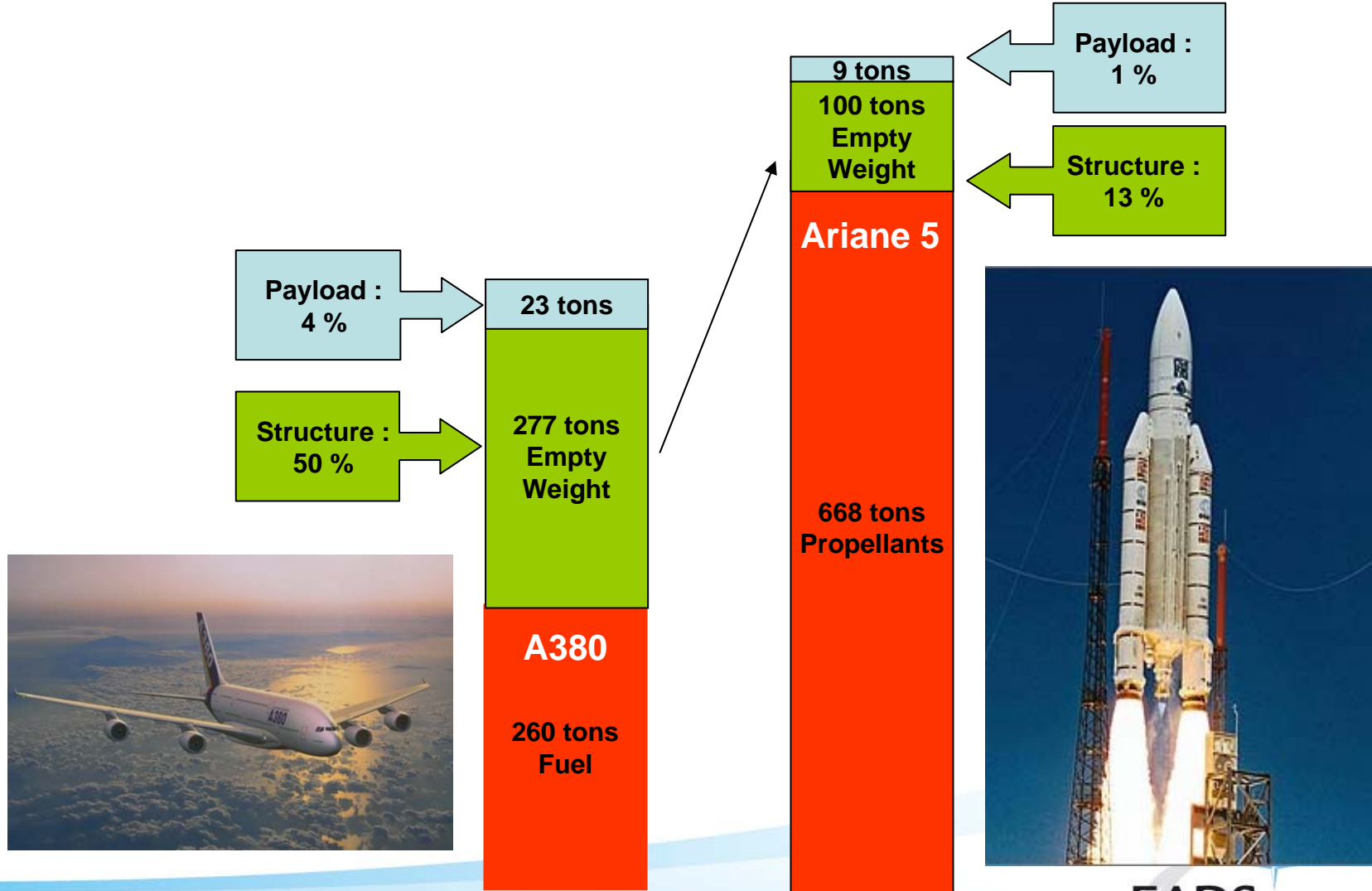
- **Once qualified, the configuration is difficult to modify**
  - **To preserve reliability**
  - **To optimize production flow**
  - **To avoid re-qualification costs**
- **Technology is chosen very early in the development cycle, the reasons for changing a component are generally only :**
  - **To solve a problem**
  - **To overcome obsolescence**
  - **To generate very significant savings**

## Our mission (1/3)

- **To give a heavy object (up to several tons) a very high speed (up to  $10^4$  m/s) in a short time we need :**
  - **A« big » propulsion (enough thrust and energy to counter gravity and deliver a few g's acceleration)**
  - **Tanks to contain the propellants with enough reactive mass and engines to eject it at highest possible speed**
  - **GNC (Guidance Navigation & Control) to deliver the payload on the required orbit/trajectory**
  - **Systems to monitor the vehicle health and ensure safety**



# Our mission (2/3)



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## Our mission (3/3)

- **To do it repeatedly with high level of reliability we need :**
  - **An in depth understanding of the physical phenomena's**
  - **A correlation between the models used in the design phase and the encountered and/or induced environment**

# How do MNT may be an advantage (1/4)

- **Functional GNC equipment & harness**

- **Miniaturization of technologies (cf Moore's law in electronics) and introduction of highly integrated electronic packaging**
- **More and more unstable and flexible vehicle control (to reduce the structures mass) require more and more electronics and sensors and could be realized with MEMS**
- **Use of MEMS (if space qualified) as soon as their performances are equal with bigger equipment for future developments**

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## How do MNT may be an advantage (2/4)

- **A better knowledge of actual performance may help reduce exaggerated design margins**

- **Add new sensors, to map phenomena throughout the vehicle (to identify a deformation pattern or a flexible mode characteristics, to describe dynamic behavior..)**
- **Introduce new wireless autonomous sensors in remote areas of the vehicle**

## How do MNT may be an advantage (3/4)

### ■ Telemetry and safety equipment & harness

- **More than 600 different measures for any commercial Ariane flight (and much more for a qualification flight)**
- **New technologies (MEMS) allows « smart sensors » to reduce side equipment**
- **Wireless data transfer and autonomous power supply could drastically reduce the harness requirements**
- **RF MEMS will significantly improve the performance of the telemetry chains**

## How do MNT may be an advantage (4/4)

- **Combine multiple functions into structural material**

- **Surface treatment**
- **Surface electrical resistance**
- **Surface thermal properties**

- **Increase the confidence before launch**

**HUMS (Health and Usage Monitoring System)**

# Wireless communications on launchers (1/5):

## ■ Wireless : what for ?

Our envisioned applications are :

- **Low rate sensor communications for versatile sensor networking**
  
- **Medium rate interstage data transmission**
  - communications after stage separation
  - mechanical and electrical Interface simplification
  
- **High rate communication on launch pad towards ground facilities : simplification on jettisonable connectors.**

# Wireless communications on launchers (2/5):

- First : think « Industrial process » :
  - Insensitivity to dispersion shall be proven
  - Growth potential shall be fully anticipated
  - Battery replacement shall be avoided (low consumption, low discharge rate, long stockage duration...).
  
- No data shall be lost, in particular last moments before critical phases
  - Strong requirements on datation : impact on the clock architecture
  - Strong requirements on data ageing : impact on the protocol
  - Real time data transmission to ground (great difference with the Shuttle Invocon application case)
  
- The internal RF network propagates within a Al-based alloy (or C-C composite) closed volume with low RF power dissipation.

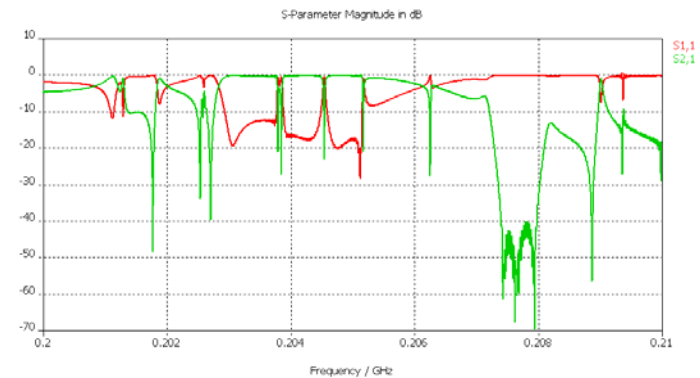
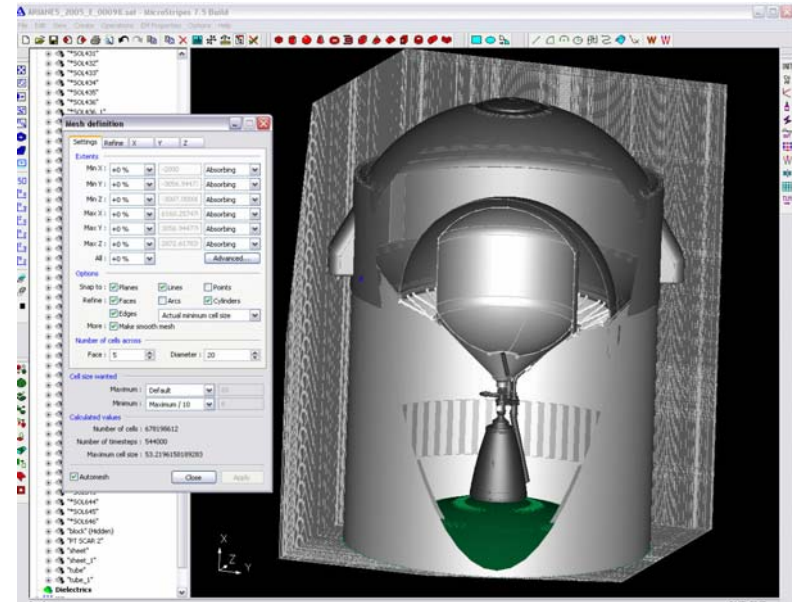


## Wireless communications on launchers (3/5):

- **This leads to the following quantified requirements :**
  - Propagation simulation shall demonstrate an affordable BER :  $10E^{-6}$
  - Dispersion includes :
    - geometry of the propagation volume (wire routing, equipment shapes, dilatation : shall be under  $\lambda/10 =$  a few mm),
    - doppler effects on reflected beams while the volume vibrates during the flight
  - Ariane5's internal diameter is over 5 m; this volume is not symmetrical, and internal details lead to a geometrical description containing trillions of meshes for RF simulation

# Wireless communications on launchers (4/5):

- RF simulators could possibly be used, but require very powerful machines, and despite the great quality of these tools, results remain uncertain for dispersion reasons
- Standing wave propagation regimes lead to very harsh fadings, located everywhere close to optimal reception areas, in terms of geometry as well as in term of carrier frequency : danger of link loss versus dispersion.
- Who will trust the results of the simulation outputs?



# Wireless communications on launchers (5/5):

## Well, what shall we do, now?

- A test campaign is planned to demonstrate the Bluetooth or Zigbee robustness to mechanical dispersion on the volume, in order to kill the « simulation-proven » paradigm.
- RF alternative for internal data transmission may be the infra Red beam mixing TDMA and Carrier Wavelength Multiplexing
- Wireless transmission is more likely to be used for free space RF propagation : EAP-EPC or Launch Pad communications.

# Concluding Remarks :

## « Fly-by-Wireless » could be :

- For Telemetry systems on Ariane and FLPP (Future Launchers Preparatory Programs) European launchers:
  - Add new sensors, to map phenomena throughout the vehicle (to identify a deformation pattern or a flexible mode characteristics, to describe dynamic behavior..)
  - Introduce new wireless autonomous sensors in remote areas of the vehicle
- Combine multiple functions in structural materials to Increase the confidence before launch by using “**HUMS (Health and Usage Monitoring System)**”
- Looking for International collaborations
  - To demonstrate wireless functions
  - To do flight demonstrations

**THANK YOU  
MERCI !**



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