

New Ground Station and X-band transmitter for Real Time Earth Observation by MS Camera and HD Video

T. Rodič, H. Fröhlich, L. Pavlovič, J. Hertig, P. Ward



**UL-NTF
coordinator**

Materials, structure, virtual models/

Research institutions:

UL-FMF

Astrophysics, meteorology

UL-FE

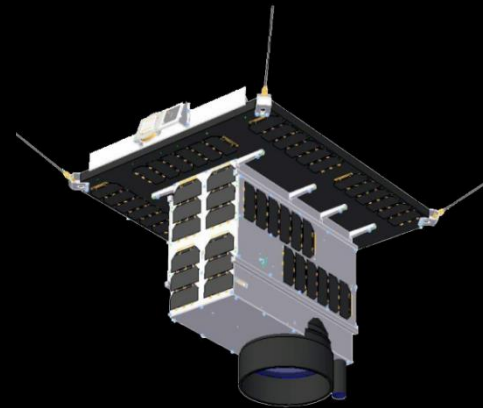
Communication, control, processing

IJS

Electronics ceramics

ZRC-SAZU

Remote sensing



Companies:

DEWESOFT

Telemetry, data acquisition

SINERGISE

GIS applications

TIC LENS

Laser technologists

IMPOL

Superplastic Al alloys

ISKRA TELA


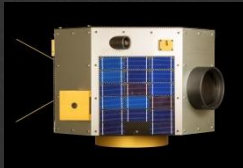

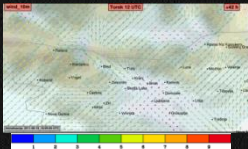





Antenna systems

ZAVAROVALNICA MARIBOR

End-user of space technologies





SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGIES	APPLICATIONS
<p>wp1: remote sensing</p> 	<p>wp4: satellite technology</p> 	<p>wp7: international missions</p> 
<p>wp2: meteorology</p> 	<p>wp5: communications</p> 	<p>wp8: terrestrial applications</p> 
<p>wp3: astrophysics</p> 	<p>wp6: multidisciplinary lab</p> 	<p>wp9: dissemination</p> 





three-axis stabilized bus

50 mbps x-band downlink

279.4 gb of on-board storage,

power system generating 55 w

300 wh li-ion battery.

70 kg > satellite for earth monitoring and observation.

2.8 m gsd from a reference altitude of 600 km

four spectral channels

(420–520 nm, 535–607 nm, 634–686 nm, and 750–960 nm).

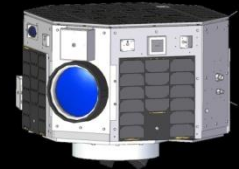
high-definition video at 1920 by 1080 pixels.

real-time imaging and video streaming over slovenia





SPACE·SI

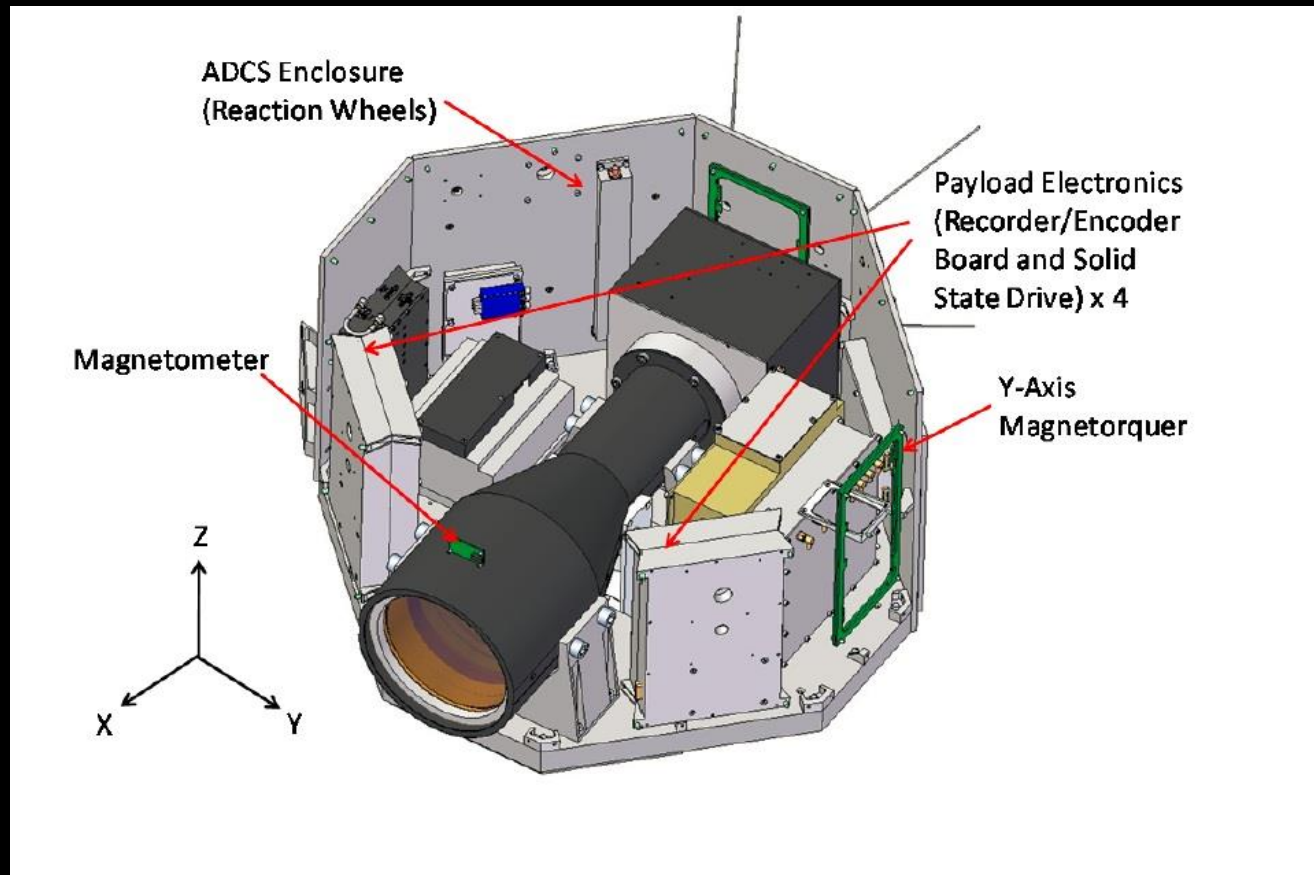


remote sensing micro satellite





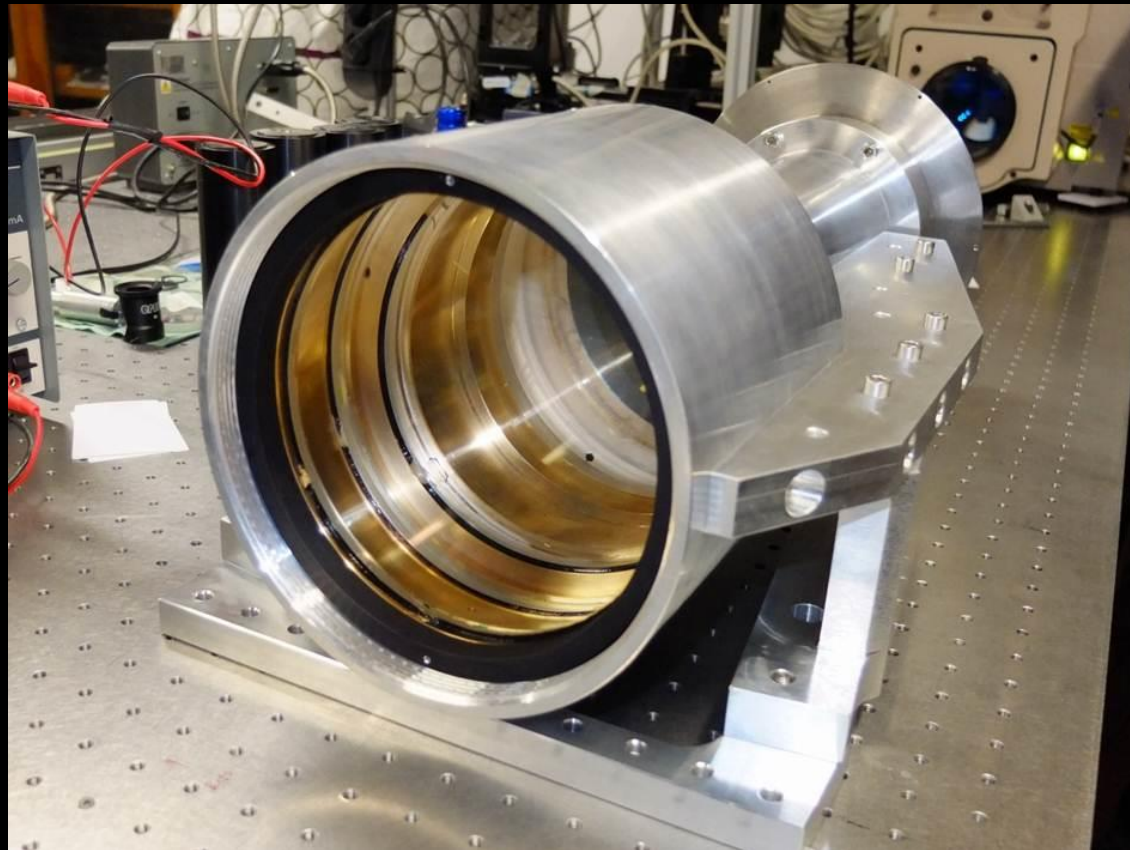
SPACE SI





SPACE SI

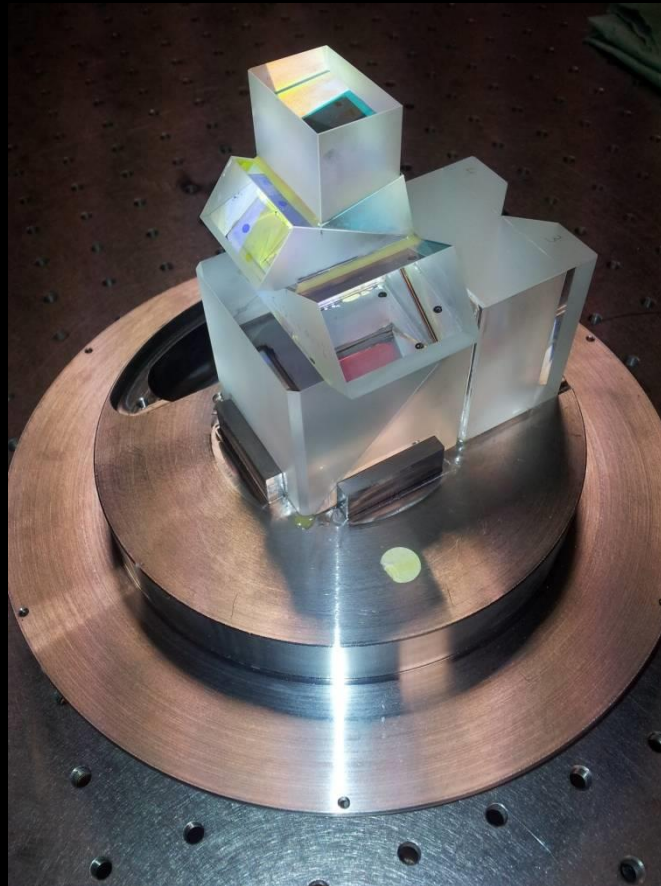
telescope of the slovenian micro satellite



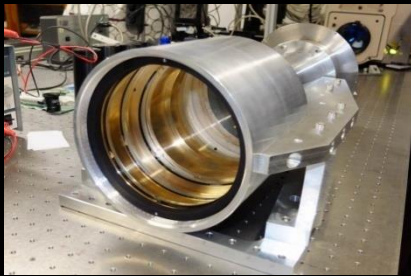


SPACE ▶ SI

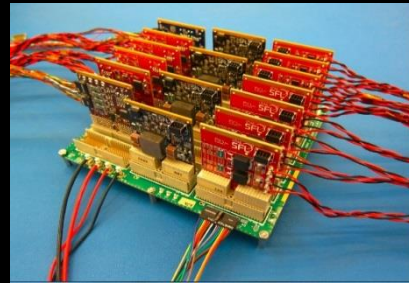
prism for multispectral images



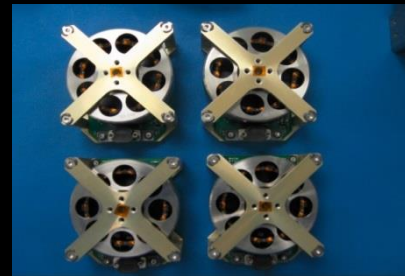




primary payload



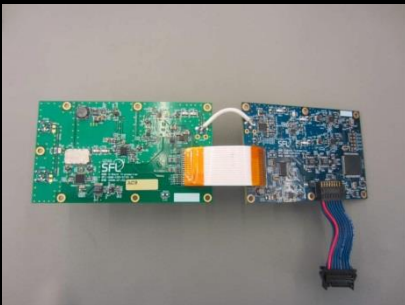
power system



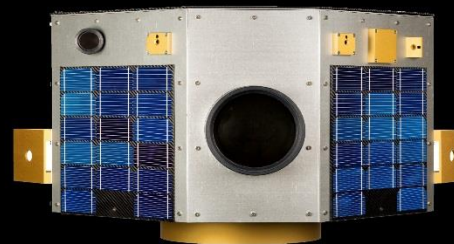
reaction wheels



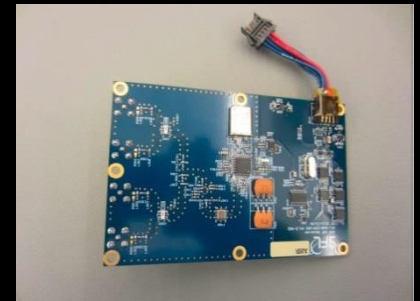
X-band



S-band



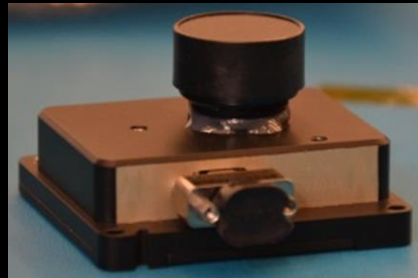
star tracker



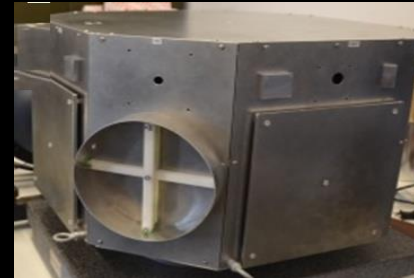
UHF



secondary payload



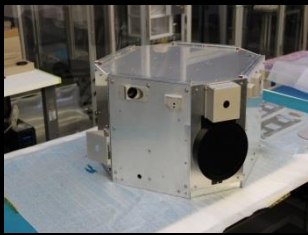
star tracker



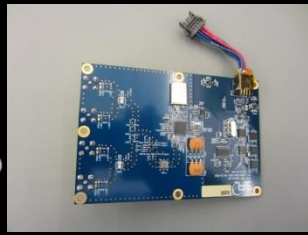
structure



sun sensors



Structure



UHF Receiver



S-band Transmitter

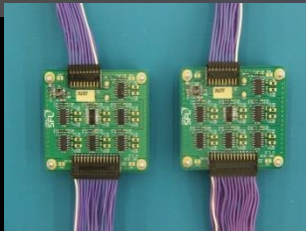


X-band Transmitter

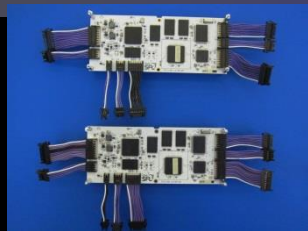


X-band Interface Board

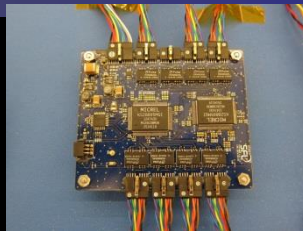
E



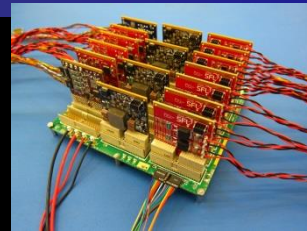
Serial Interface Boards



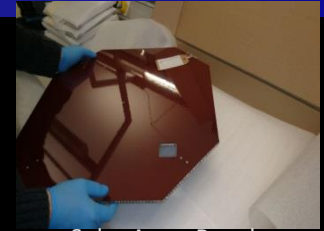
OBC



Ethernet Switch



Power System



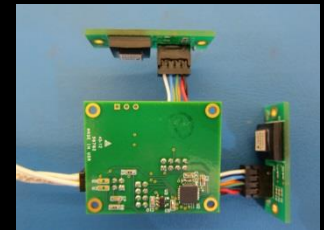
Solar Array Panels



Magnetometer



SPACE SI



Rate Sensors



Reaction Wheels



Magnetorquers



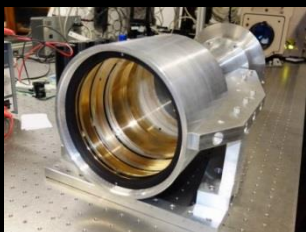
Star Tracker



Sun Sensors



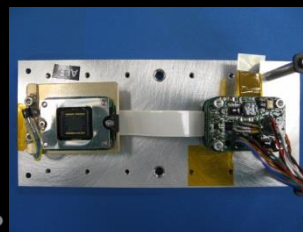
GPS



Telescope



HRS-PAN Camera



HRS-MS Camera



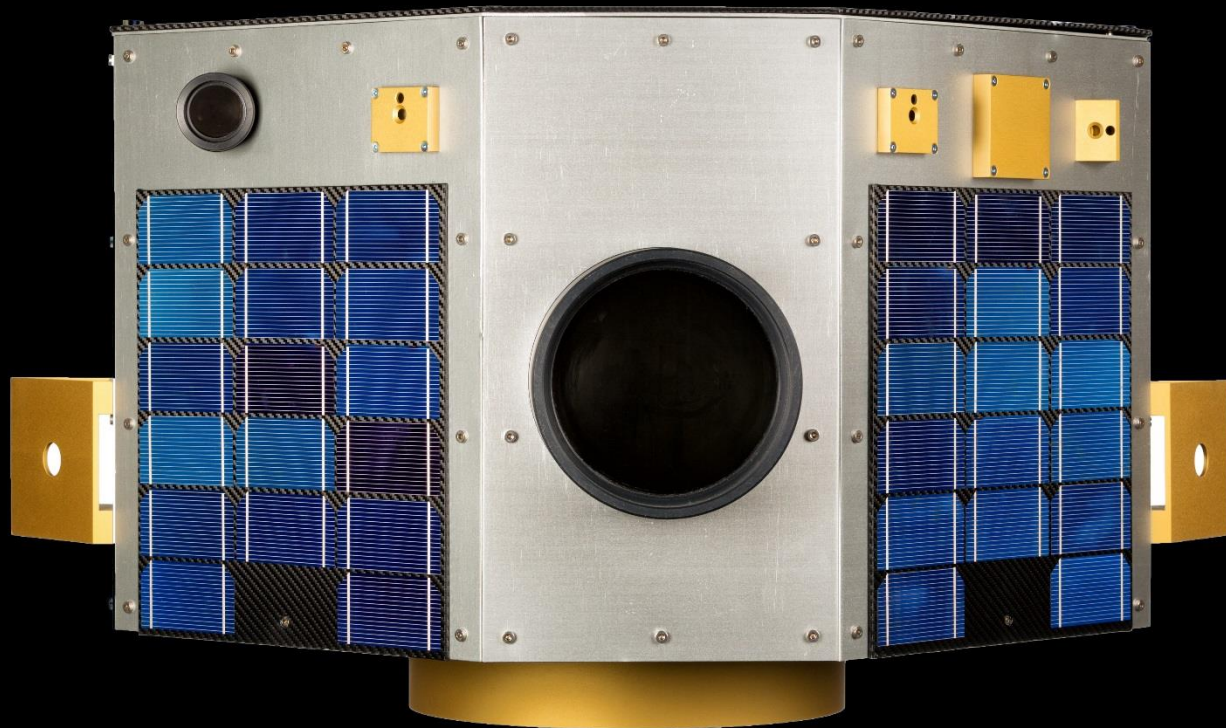
HR-HD Camera



LR-HD Camera

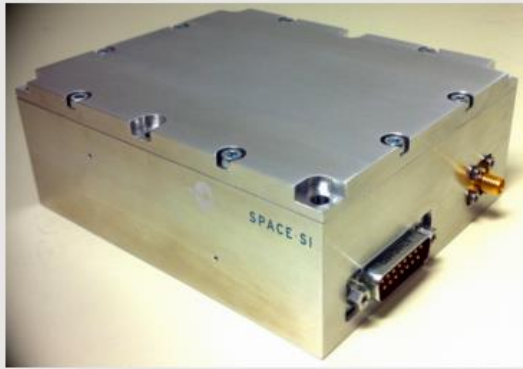


SPACE SI

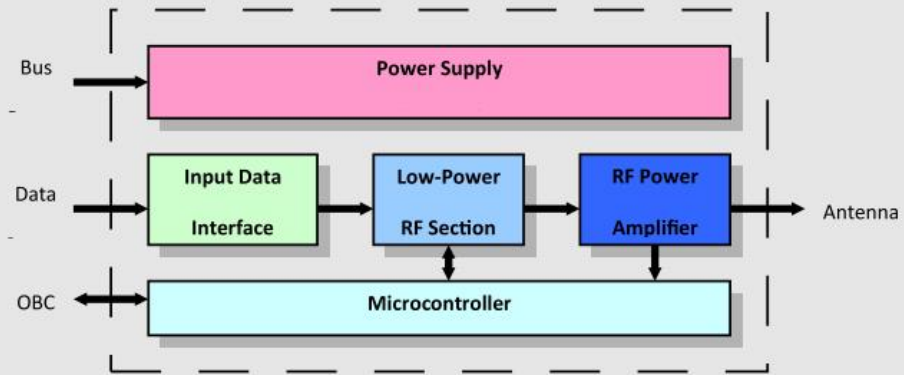
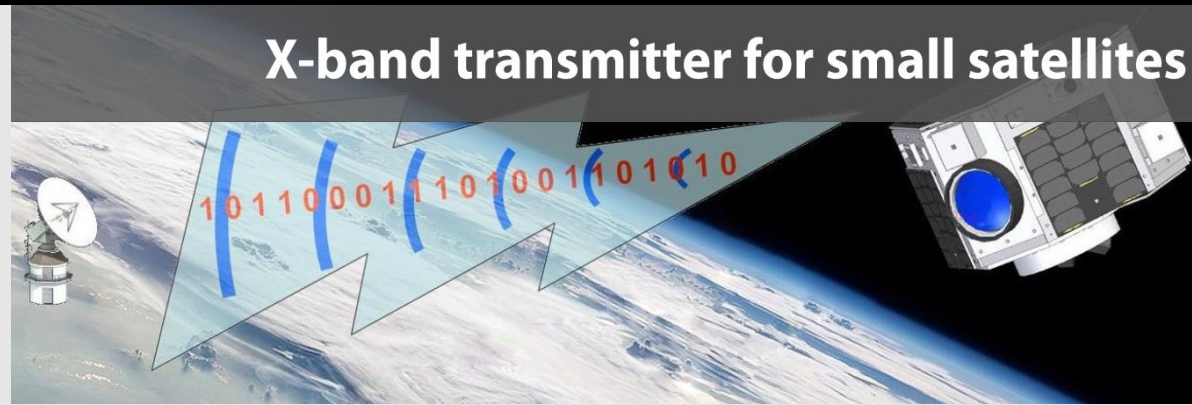


Features

- RF output power: min 1 W (typically 2 W)
- O-QPSK modulation
- frequency range X: 8.025 GHz - 8.400 GHz (programmable)
- data transfer rate: up to 50 Mbit/s
- dimensions: 100 x 120 x 45 mm (in development is also a CubeSat version: 95 x 95 x 50 mm)
- low power consumption: up to 15 W (for CubeSats up to 10 W)
- supply voltage: +18 V to +36 V

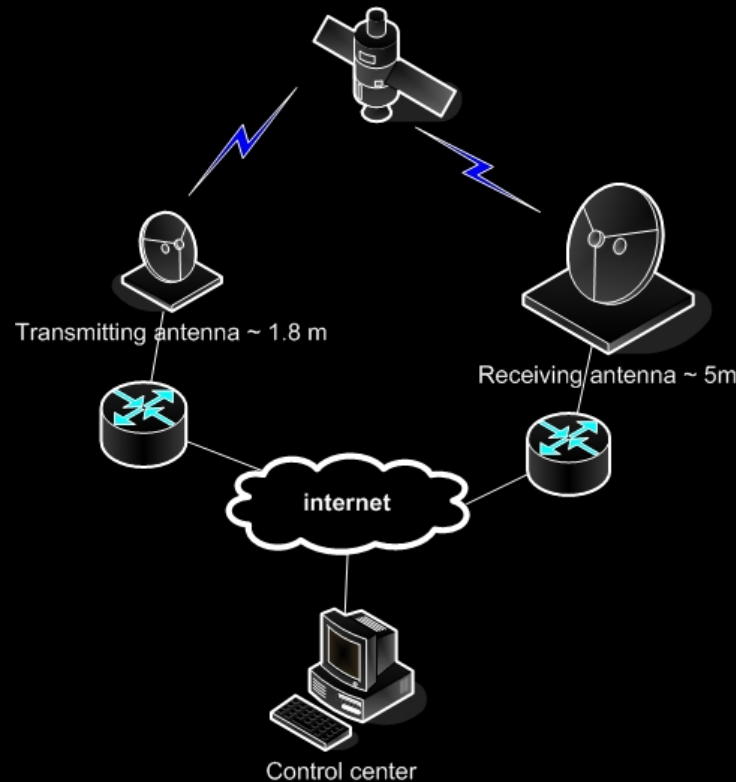


Housing (left) and block diagram (right) of the X-band transmitter.





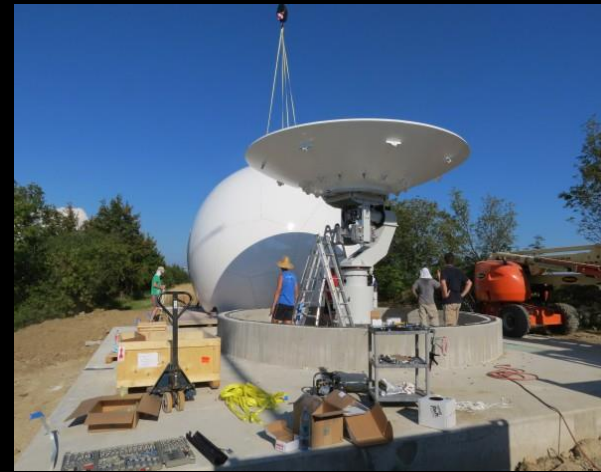
Transmitting antenna
 reflector 1,8 m, 40dB gain,
 X-Y positioning, frequency bands
 VHF/UHF/S
 (Operational since 2011)



Receiving antenna

reflector 5m, 40-50 dB gain, X-Y positioning, monopulse tracking system, horn antennas for primary feed: left-circular and right circular polarisation, frequency bands L/S/C/X/Ku/Ka, G/T 20 dB/K (installed in 2012)

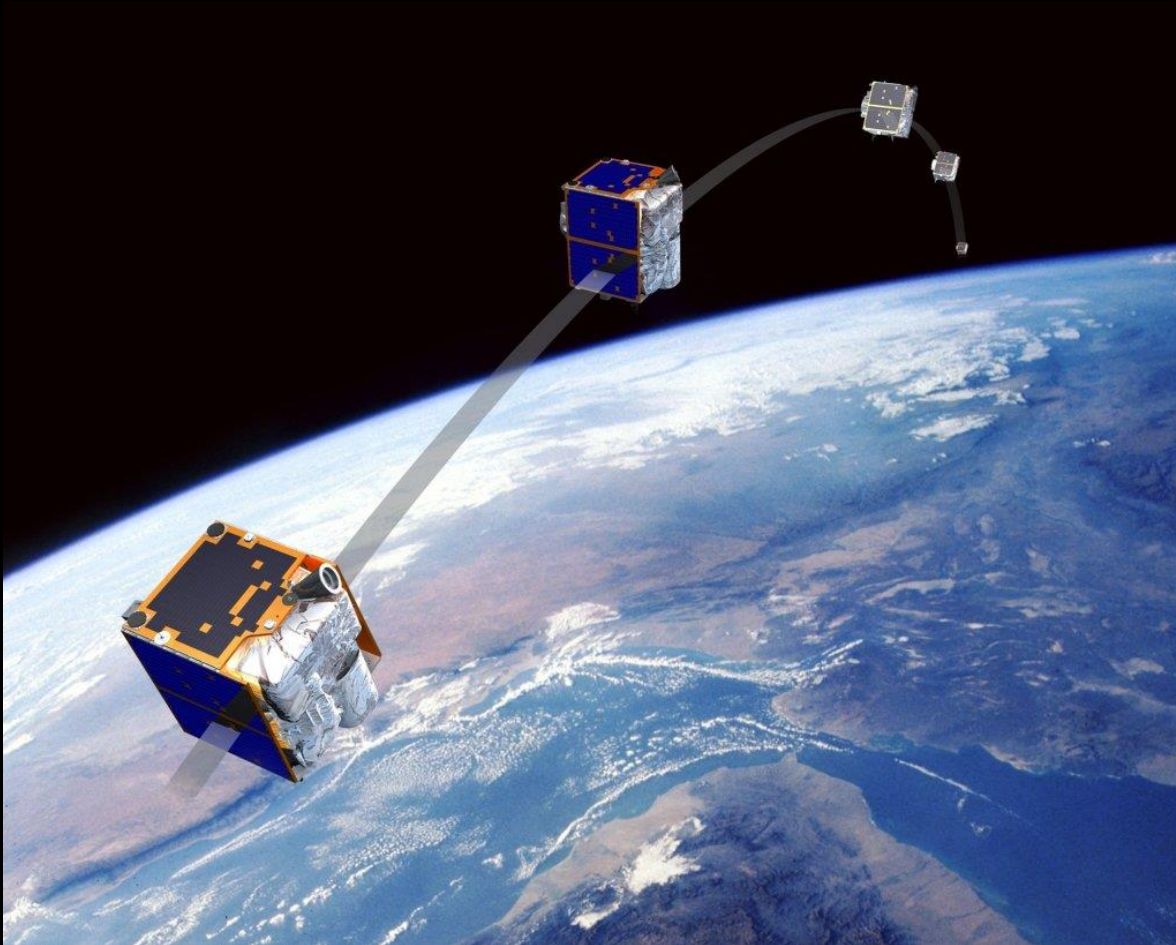




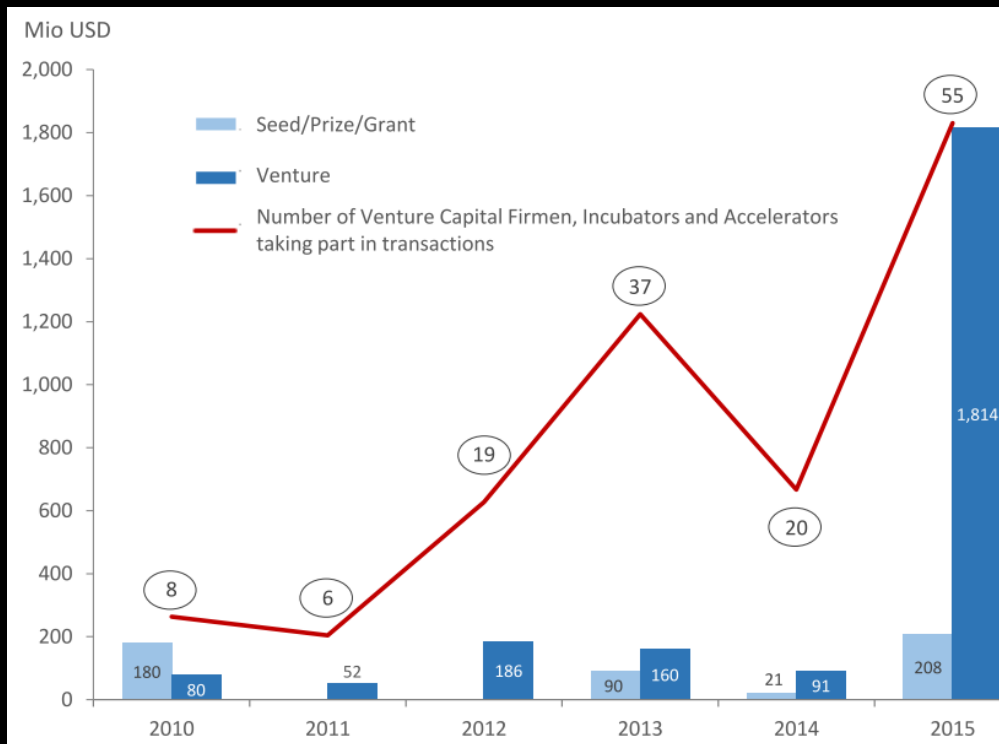


- 2013/2014 Contract to support Planet Labs constellation
- 2014/2015 Design of a new Ground Station optimised for NewSpace (mega constellations, new countries)





NewSpace Missions



NewSpace Missions

- Remote Sensing
 - Optical (19)
 - SAR (7)
- Communication/
Data Relay Satellites (11)
- Atmosphere/Weather (4)
- Internet of Things (13)
- AIS (6)
- NewSat Launchers (14)

48 Constellations are planned by 2018

3290 satellites require 768 antennas if they need one pass per orbit

- 1.4 Million passes per month
- 60 daily passes per antenna

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. of Satellites	131	427	1221	3290

$3290 \text{ satellites} \times 14 \text{ passes/day} / 60 \text{ daily passes per antenna}$
 $\approx 768 \text{ antennas}$



Design goals I.

- **Feed/auto track selection.**
- **Decrease positioner cost and increase performance and reliability.**
 - **Commercial Off the Shelf parts (COTS).**
 - **Eliminate complex servo systems.**
 - **Eliminate bias-drive systems.**
 - **Use high gear reduction systems to increase precision.**
 - **Two axis vs three axis system.**
 - **High integration and reducing parts count.**
 - **COTS ACU.**
 - **SDR.**

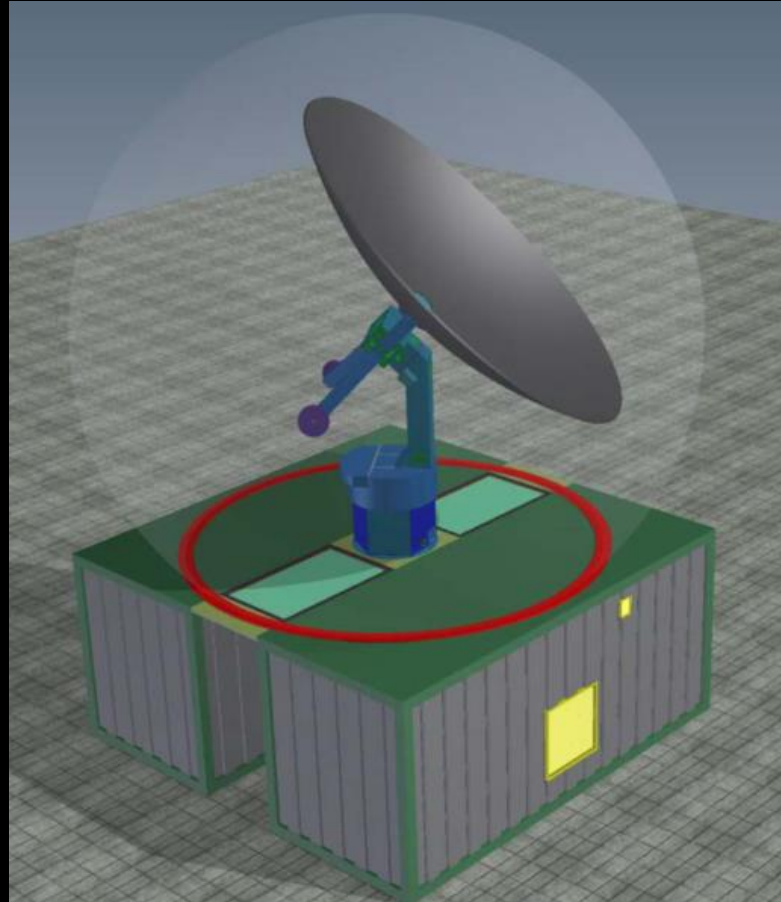


Design goals II.

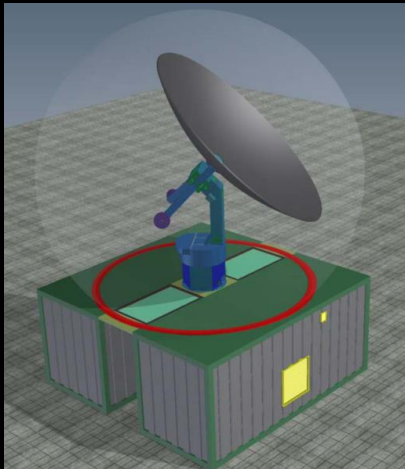
- High mechanical accuracy.
- Support for LEO and decaying orbits.
- Web based.
- Interoperability.
- Minimum setup time.
- Weight.
- Power consumption.
- Radomes.
- Reflector.
- Portable/Rapid installation.
- Mobile.
- Producible.



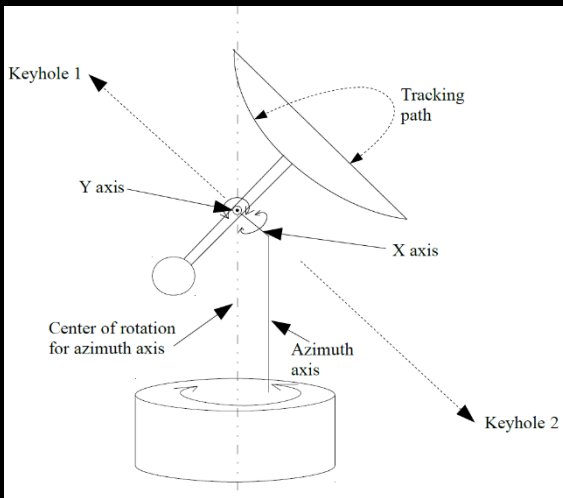
Concept



Low loss radome
No frequency tuning
X to Ku/Ka bands



Highly accurate positioner
Full hemispherical coverage
No keyholes



Single motor per axis
Zero backlash gear drives
High gear reduction
Highly integrated COTS



STREAM innovations

- **New thin wall membrane Radome**
- **New prime focus Monopulse feed**
- **New never before used Geometry**
- **New cascaded axis gear reduction system**
- **Very highly integrated design using COTS components**
- **New high frequency signal acquisition methodology**
- **New Carbon fiber reflector**
- **Optimized CNC Precision Production techniques**
- **New Antenna Control Unit (ACU)**

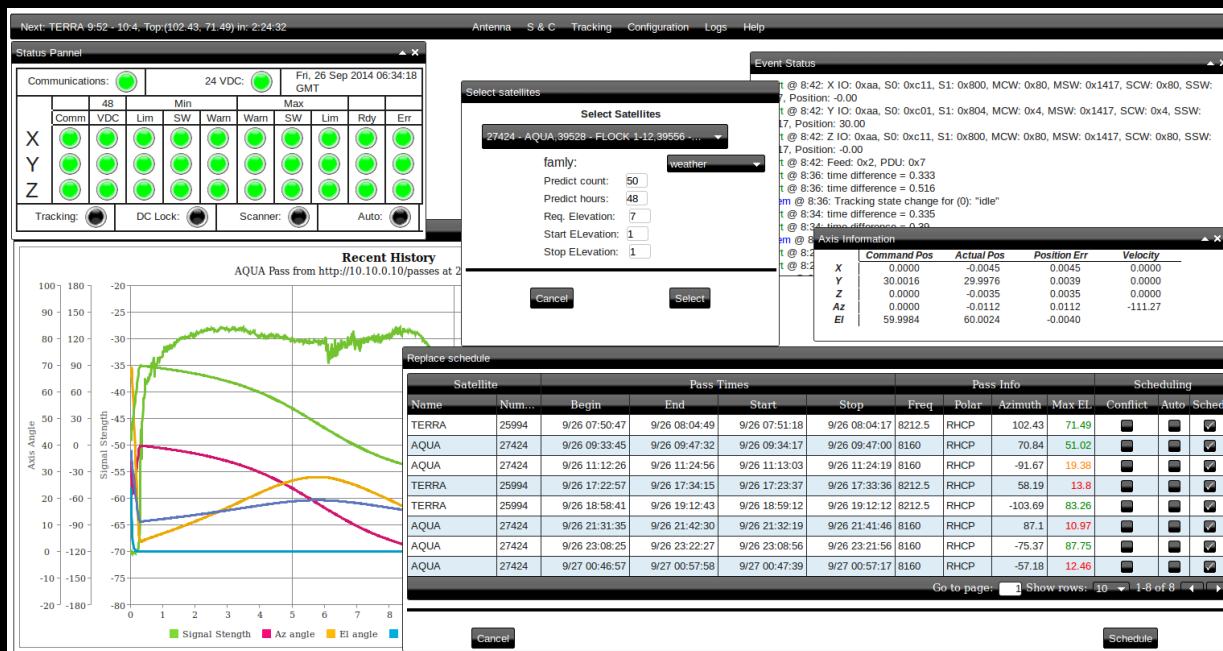


Dish diameter:	3.7 – 9 m
Radome loss:	< 0.2 dB (up to 40 GHz)
Pointing accuracy:	< 0.01 degree
Max. wind:	250 km/h (operational)
Power (antenna):	< 1kW
Max. axial tr. speed:	3.6 deg/s
Max axial acc.:	3 deg/s²



Easy to integrate into GS networks

Published API to support third party software



The screenshot displays the SPACE SI software interface with several key components:

- Status Panel:** Shows system health indicators for Communications, 48 VDC, and 24 VDC. It includes a grid of status lights for X, Y, and Z axes across various parameters like Lim, SW, Warn, and Rdy.
- Select Satellites:** A dialog box for selecting satellites, currently showing '27424 - AQUA, 39528 - FLOCK-1-12, 39556 - ...' with options for family, predict count, and elevation.
- Event Status:** A log of system events, including satellite position updates and tracking state changes.
- Recent History:** A graph titled 'AQUA Pass from http://10.10.0.10/passes at 2' showing Signal Strength, Az angle, and El angle over time.
- Replace schedule:** A table for managing satellite passes.

Satellite		Pass Times				Pass Info				Scheduling		
Name	Num...	Begin	End	Start	Stop	Freq	Polar	Azimuth	Max EL	Conflict	Auto	Sched
TERRA	25994	9/26 07:50:47	9/26 08:04:49	9/26 07:51:18	9/26 08:04:17	8212.5	RHCP	102.43	71.49	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AQUA	27424	9/26 09:33:45	9/26 09:47:32	9/26 09:34:17	9/26 09:47:00	8160	RHCP	70.84	51.02	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AQUA	27424	9/26 11:12:26	9/26 11:24:56	9/26 11:13:03	9/26 11:24:19	8160	RHCP	-91.67	19.38	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TERRA	25994	9/26 17:22:57	9/26 17:34:15	9/26 17:23:37	9/26 17:33:36	8212.5	RHCP	58.19	13.8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TERRA	25994	9/26 18:58:41	9/26 19:12:43	9/26 18:59:12	9/26 19:12:12	8212.5	RHCP	-103.69	83.26	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AQUA	27424	9/26 21:31:35	9/26 21:42:30	9/26 21:32:19	9/26 21:41:46	8160	RHCP	87.1	10.97	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AQUA	27424	9/26 23:08:25	9/26 23:22:27	9/26 23:08:56	9/26 23:21:56	8160	RHCP	-75.37	87.75	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AQUA	27424	9/27 00:46:57	9/27 00:57:58	9/27 00:47:39	9/27 00:57:17	8160	RHCP	-57.18	12.46	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

H2020 Space Info Day, Ljubljana, april 2016

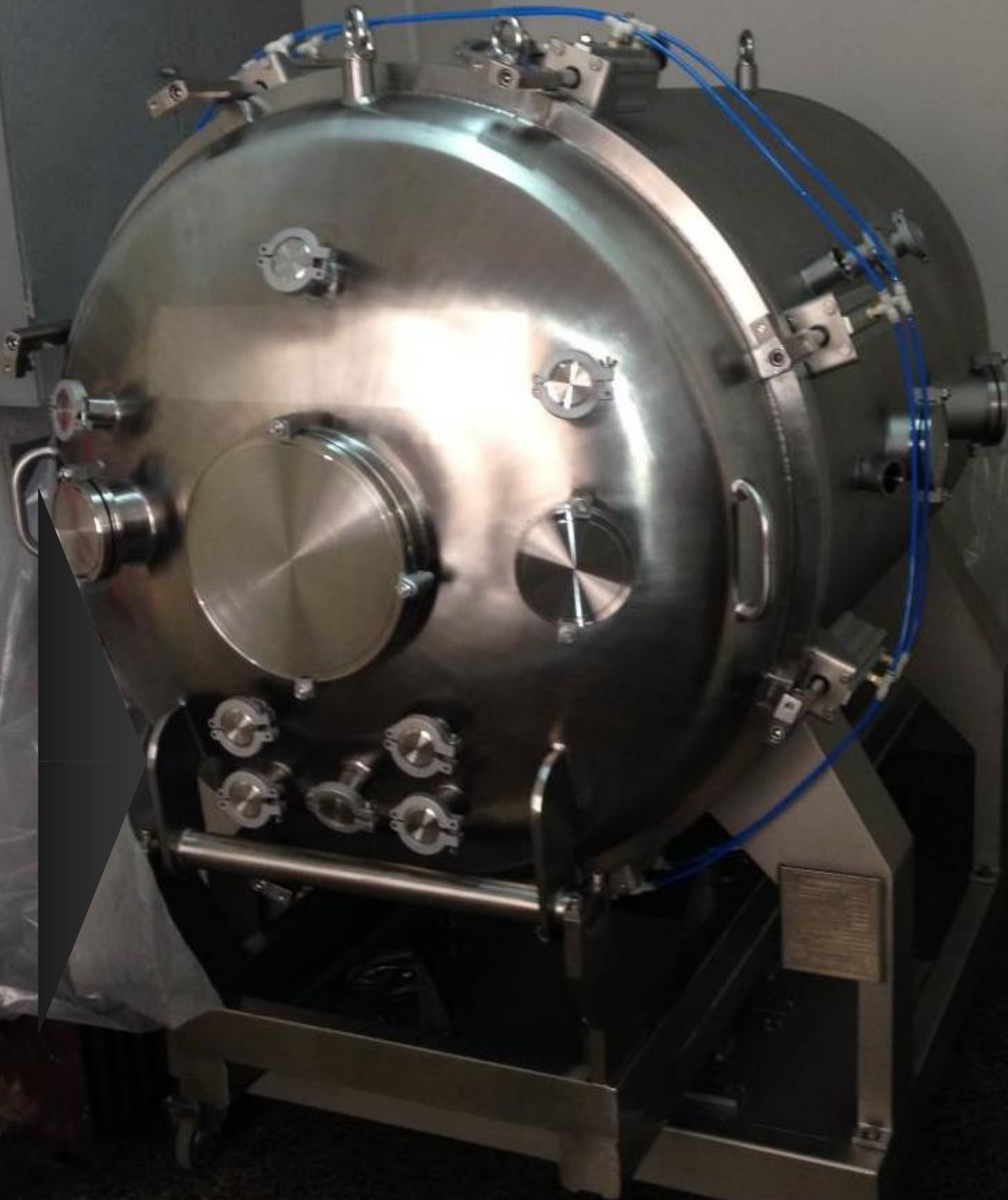




Sodelovanje s slovensko industrijo



Thermal Vacuum Chamber





Conclusion

Extremely low-loss radome

Full hemispherical coverage Fully automated

High precision LEO tracking

Easy installation Ultra wide-band radome

Ka/Ku-band ready No keyholes

Easy to integrate in the network

Carbon fibre dish Published API

