

66th International Astronautical Congress 2015

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)  
Calling Planet Earth - Space Outreach to the General Public (6)

Author: Dr. Thomas Uhlig  
Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR), Germany, thomas.uhlig@dlr.de

Mrs. Petra Kuss  
Germany, petra.kuss@dlr.de

PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES OF AN ISS MISSION CONTROL CENTER DURING AN  
ASTRONAUT MISSION OF NATIONAL INTEREST

**Abstract**

The half-year mission of Alexander Gerst to the International Space Station stipulated a lot of public interest in human Spaceflight in Germany. The Columbus Control Center (Col-CC) operated by DLR used its expertise and its close connection to real-time ISS operations to complement and enrich the official public outreach of DLR with own elements and contributions. Goal was to provide first-hand info from a control center perspective as well as to increase the awareness of the public for the ISS control center in Germany. All efforts were done without major specific funding and by Spaceflight professionals beside their operational support of the mission. This paper presents the public outreach contributions of the Flight Control Team, their interfaces with the department for public outreach of DLR and the successful implementation of an outreach concept driven by the experts themselves.