

SPACE SYSTEMS SYMPOSIUM (D1)

Hosted Payloads - Concepts, Techniques and Challenges, Missions and Applications (7)

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KEYNOTE: LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO FOSTER THE USE OF HOSTED
PAYLOAD ON COMMERCIAL SATELLITES**Abstract**

Airbus Defence and Space (formerly Astrium) has hosted many secondary payloads on commercial satellites since the 1990s. Through these various major programmes, Airbus DS has acquired a wide experience on how to optimize the accommodation of RF and non RF hosted payloads on a satcom bus, and on how to design, build and launch a satellite to the satisfaction of all stakeholders : the satellite owner and the Agency or private entity in charge of the piggybacked payload. These lessons learned cover mainly 3 areas : technical interfaces, schedule management and contract vehicle. Hosted payloads share with nanosats and microsats some key features allowing to accelerate traditional innovation cycles, such as shorter time to orbit and opportunities for reduced CAPEX. Space agencies could push for a wider use of hosted payloads, for agency missions as for in-orbit demonstration and in-orbit validation of innovative technologies. Key efforts would consist in adapted contract vehicles, design rules and technical support by Agencies experts.