

IAF SPACE SYSTEMS SYMPOSIUM (D1)

Lessons Learned in Space Systems: Achievements, Challenges, Best Practices, Standards. (5)

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LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE FIRST COPERNICUS MASTERS SENTINEL SMALL SAT
CHALLENGE

Abstract

On 1 April 2017, the first Copernicus Masters Sentinel Small Sat Challenge was announced by the European Space Agency Earth Observation Directorate. The Challenge invited proposals for innovative satellite design, testing and manufacturing solutions leading to small missions complementary, or providing added value, to current Copernicus Sentinel family missions. The challenge winner was awarded 1MEur, a free launch on Vega SSMS POC flight, and given 12 months to design, develop, test and deliver for launch. Numerous lessons were learned related to the challenge process, the response from the space community and the project implementation per se. This article offers a first collection of such lessons.