

IAF HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT SYMPOSIUM (B3)
Utilization & Exploitation of Human Spaceflight Systems (3)

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AN INSIGHT INTO ESA PROCESSES FOR ISS RESEARCH PAYLOADS

Abstract

By international agreement, international agencies plan, prioritize, harmonize, execute, and account for their research, technology, and education activities on board the International Space Station. This complex dance requires a high level of inter-agency, intra-agency and private partners coordination– and every experiment is selected, developed, and certified months or years before the targeted increment. This paper aims to shed some light on this process, giving insight into how the European Space Agency manages and accounts for its utilization resources. This explication of processes and roles is expected to facilitate future coordination between ESA and its partners in national agencies, industry, and universities – and aid in the developments planned for the future of the human spaceflight sector.