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Sharing space achievements and heritage: space museums and societies (5)

Author: Mrs. Erika Velio
PIKALI, La Reunion

Dr. Guy Pignolet
Reunion Island Space Initiative (RISI), La Reunion
Mr. Olivier Boisard
Consulting engineer OB-Conseil, and professor at Ecole Centrale de Lille, France

REUNION SPACE ACADEMY, OPENING THE DOOR TO POSSIBILITIES

Abstract

In any system, there are elements that have more advantages than others. It is a question of relativity. The planet Earth is at the ideal distance from the Sun, which makes it possible to see life. Reunion Island is tiny on this planet but it has geographical, morphological, cultural and strategic advantages. A French, European and international land, Reunion is the new centre of planet Earth. It is the geostrategic platform for all the continents.

It is for these reasons that there is enthusiasm for developing space-related activities here. The desire to educate and train today's youth to exploit data from space has become essential.

There is a desire to set up a space cultural centre (Reunion Space Academy) here, in the middle of the Indian Ocean, to demonstrate a mature vision of the future of humanity. There is also an interest in refocusing in the face of all this technology and the speed at which things are changing.

We start with raising awareness of what surrounds us and how it works, and then with training the young (and not so young) in the challenges of space activities:

- Understanding satellite data
- Anticipating users' needs
- Interpreting these data to meet future needs

We have local skills and we can also allow other external skills to join us.

With an awareness and training approach, the objective is to create the jobs of tomorrow and that everyone can become a space entrepreneur with a terrestrial job. Don't forget that in order to install things in Space, we will always need jobs on Earth.

The cultural space centre on Reunion Island is intended to be a reproduction of the international space station on the site of the Omega antenna in St Paul. These two elements have similarities and are/will be strong symbols. This space cultural centre (Reunion Space Academy) will have 16 rooms, the aim of which is to bring together all the players required for these activities. Simple and entertaining activities will attract the population and visitors to the site.

We need international support to equip our rooms and human resources to set up adequate training courses such as a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace locally. This will also address the issue of migration.