ESA’s Boost! Programme

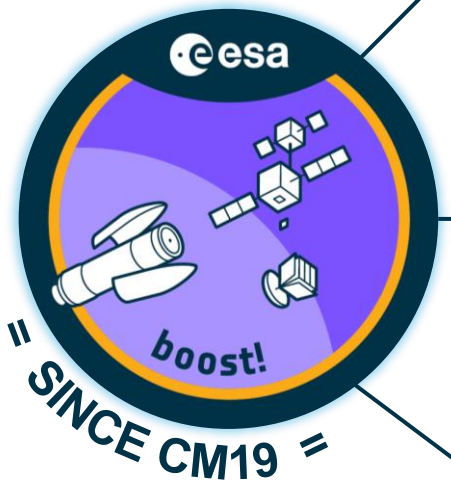
Commercial Space Transportation Services

16/09/2026

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

The Boost! Context

The Boost! Programme – Status & available budgets



Boost! 1 – Commercial Space Transportation Services

ESA support to privately-led commercial space transportation service developments; ca. **180 M€** committed in 2020-2025

86 M€
co-funding
to be allocated
2026 - 2028

Boost! 2 – Support to Member States national objectives

ESA assistance in implementing national space transportation objectives and capabilities – **no industrial contracts are placed**

3 M€
available for
ESA
assistance
2026 - 2028

Boost! 3 – Space Transportation Services Procurement

Implementing European Flight Ticket Initiative with the European Commission, co-funding launch services for IOD/IOV satellites

34 M€
available for
launch service
co-funding
2026 – 2027f

Boost! 1 – Service-level approach

Boost! supports delivery of space transportation services under private industry lead

Mature ‘for-profit’ prime companies, potentially involving consortium partners, developing or operating services to be sold to end customers

What is the service-level approach?

Services shall be understood as covering all aspects needed for offering them to end customers and without requiring the customers to procure any additional essential service elements.

Characteristics of eligible services

- Privately-proposed and privately-led service developments and operations
- Services to-space, in-space, from-space & self-standing support services
- Not driven by institutional needs, no guaranteed institutional market

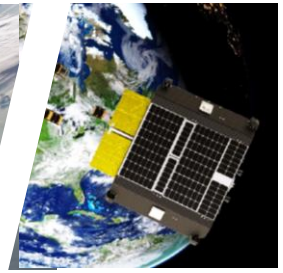
Note: Boost! is **NOT an R&D programme** for developing concepts, technologies, products or sub-systems

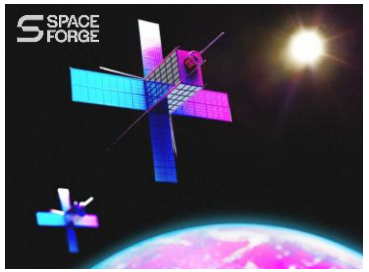
Boost! 1 – Services we support – more to come!

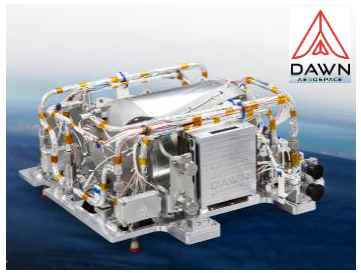
Launch Services

Boost! supports European launch service prime companies and their consortia to deploy new European launch services for light satellites

In-Orbit & Return Transport Services







Boost! supports European prime companies and their consortia to offer new last-mile orbital deployment services, new orbital transfer vehicle-based services, and orbital return service capabilities

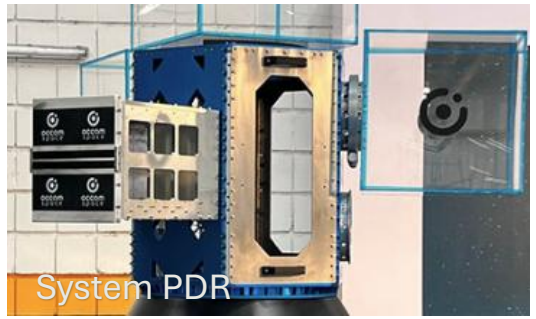
Ground-based Services

Boost! supports ground-based service providers supporting European space transportation services

Boost! 1 – How we support Economic Operators

Service–level approach, with ESA

- Acting as partner, not as customer
- Leaving full project authority and full responsibility to service providers
- Providing know-how and expertise and enabling access to test facilities
- Co-funding, facilitating private funding streams, networking, and more



Credit: Skyrora

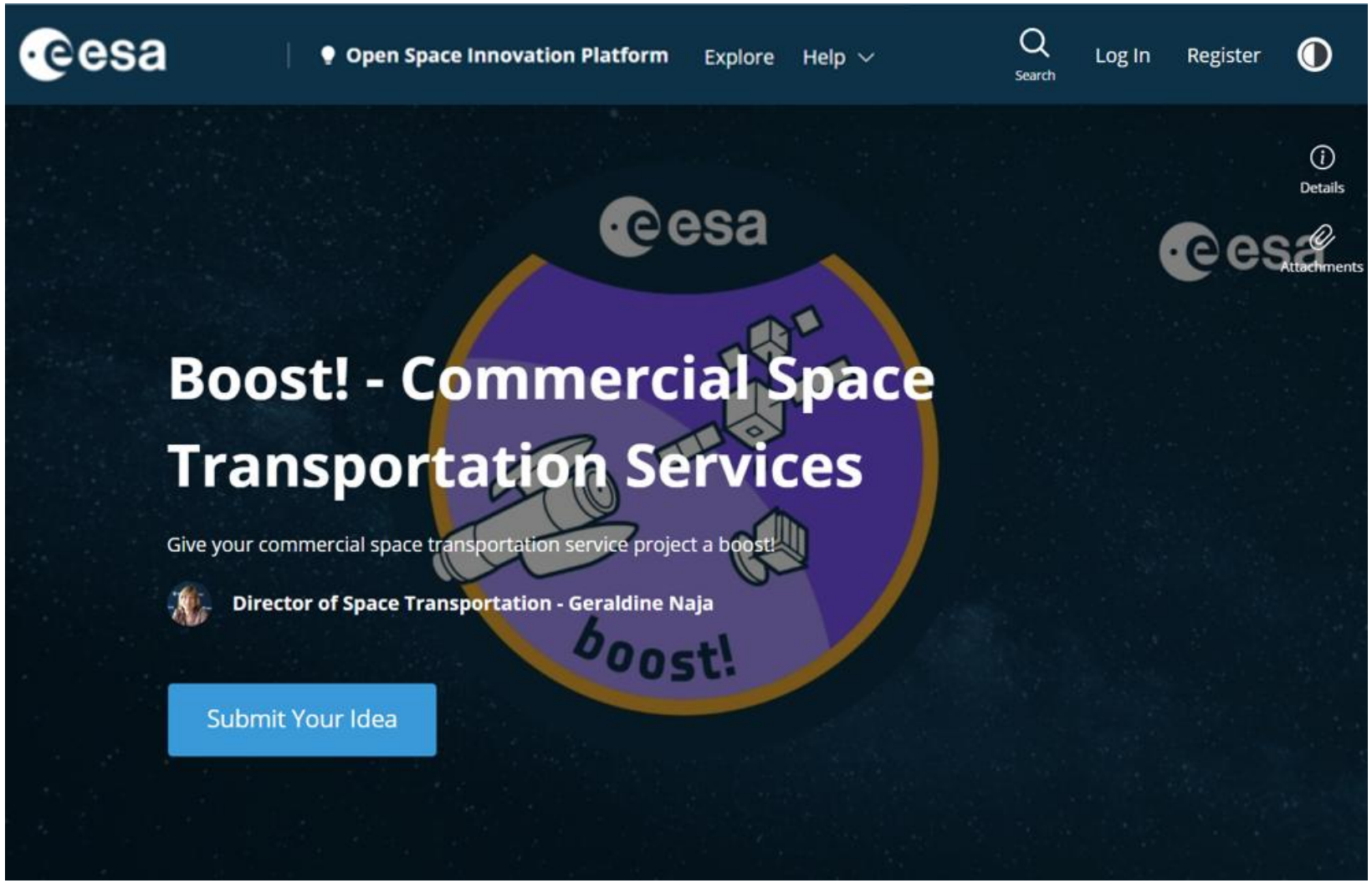
Credit: RFA

Credit: ISAR

Typical Boost! support

- Pre-commercial service design, technology maturation, development of technical systems
- Test facility development & testing
- Development of lean factory concepts and integrated software tools
- Service demonstration

Boost! 1 Channel on OSIP



Submit your idea at one of the next key submission dates:

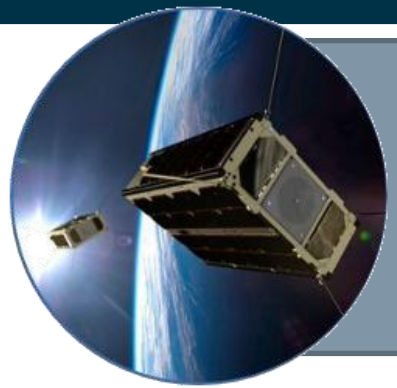
7 October 2026

18 November 2026

6 January 2027

The Boost! – Commercial Space Transportation Services OSIP Channel: [Boost! OSIP Channel]

Boost! 3 – European Flight Ticket Initiative



Providing recurrent & affordable European launch services for ready-to-fly IOD/IOV satellites

Supporting the early commercialisation of new European launch vehicles

For IOD/IOV satellite operators

Call for expression of interest open

Submit your ready-to-fly IOD/IOV satellite and participate in the European Flight Ticket Initiative!

For Launch Service Providers

Invitation to Tender opens regularly

Submit your offer to launch a ready-to-fly IOD/IOV satellite and participate in the European Flight Ticket Initiative!

esa-star Publication

European flight ticket initiative is a cooperation between ESA and the European Union

Flight Ticket Initiative – Selected IOD/IOV Missions

18 Ready-to-fly IOD/IOV satellites identified so far and selected for Flight Ticket Initiative

7 7 contracted for launch

6 6 in launch contract negotiations

5 5 under launch service request

Apply for your flight ticket by **1 October 2026**
or 15 March 2027

GRASP
Universität Stuttgart
deimos
SPACEMANIC
SpaceLocker Welcome to Orbit
DLR
INFINITE ORBITS
ENDUROSAT
ALI
PERSEI Space
AVS added value solutions
ISISPACE 20 YEARS IN SPACE
KU LEUVEN
nano avionics A KONGSBERG COMPANY
TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DARMSTADT
Université Paris Cité
ATMOS

Flight Ticket Initiative – Eligible Launch Services

Five European Launch Service Providers were selected in a competitive tendering process in early 2024

The selected Launch Service Providers have signed **Flight Ticket Frame Contracts** with ESA

Re-opening of application to enter pool of eligible Launch Service Provider in **2026**

European IOD/IOV Launch Services

ORBEX

PLDSPACE

RFA Rocket Factory

isar aerospace

AVIO

The Boost! Programme at your Fingertips

- The Boost! Programme featured on ESA's web portal: www.esa.int/boost
- The Boost! – Commercial Space Transportation Services OSIP Channel: Boost! OSIP Channel
- Flight Ticket Call for IOD/IOV missions: (link)
- Your contact to the Boost! team: boost@esa.int

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ENABLING & SUPPORT

First contracts signed in ESA-EU Flight Ticket Initiative

22/05/2024 1075 VIEWS 6 LIKES

ESA / Enabling & Support / Space Transportation / Boost!

The first five contracts have been signed with European companies as part of the Flight Ticket Initiative organised by ESA and the European Commission – helping companies demonstrate or validate services and technologies on board satellites that are supplied as "ready-to-fly".

The Flight Ticket Initiative provides co-funding of launch opportunities to European companies and organisations to fly their services and test new satellite technologies in orbit.

— Flight Ticket Initiative - first contracts

The first signatures are with Arianespace, Isar Aerospace, PLD Space, Orbex and Rocket Factory Augsburg. These now retained European launch services providers will be able to compete for specific work orders up to a ceiling of €5 million each for identified launch service needs.

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THANK YOU!