



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Aerospace, GMES, security and defence  
Space Research and Development

Brussels, -7 JUIN 2010  
RSB D(2010)

**Re: Conference on EU-US opportunities for collaboration and funding in the EU Space Research Programme**

**Invitation to US Space research and technology organizations**

**Wednesday, July 21 – Stanford University Faculty Club, Palo Alto, CA**

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

You are cordially invited to a half-day conference on opportunities for US space companies, universities, research labs, government agencies, foundations and related research organizations to participate in the European Commission's Space Research Programme. This event will be held on Wednesday, July 21 at Stanford University, from 8:30am to 2pm.

You may be aware of the EU Research Framework (Seventh Framework Programme, or "FP7") and the related Space Research programme, which supports research activities in the earth observation field (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security – GMES), and also finances research activities in space science and technology. The European Commission's Space Research Department updates its work programme annually and publishes Calls for Proposals which are addressed to research establishments in the European Union's Member States, but which are also open to scientific and technical organizations from all over the world. Our next Call for Proposals ("Call") is due to be issued in late July 2010, with formal proposals due to the European Commission in Brussels by the end of November. The funding level from the Commission for this Call is 20 – 30 Mn Euros; interested US organizations will need to identify European partners in order to participate. The EU Space Research Programme is organized, funded and operated separately from the European Space Agency (ESA).

As the US and the European space research communities are recognised as the leading actors in space-related research and technology efforts, we expect to see a considerable degree of mutual interest and potential synergies. Of course, there is a long-standing and well-known collaboration between the Space agencies NASA and ESA, but the EU Space Research Programme offers additional opportunities for funding of collaborating US space organizations.

Therefore, we are organising an **Information Event** on the content and objectives of our programme as well as on the topics of our upcoming Call for Proposals, which this year will focus on innovative propulsion and space transportation technologies, robotic exploration, Cubesats, mitigation of impacts from Near Earth Objects, and exploitation of the vast amount of data from space missions. Funding ranges from 500K to 4 Mn Euros per project, over a three year period, which must be shared between the European and US partners; there is a certain requirement for matching of EU funds.

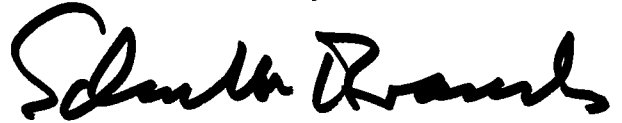
If you are interested in European Space research and funded collaboration opportunities, we would be happy to see you at our half-day conference at Stanford University. Dr. Burton Lee of the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering has kindly agreed to host this event at the Stanford Faculty Club.

Participation is free of charge and we would also like to invite you after the presentations to a networking and light lunch. Please find enclosed the conference agenda with links to our research programme and event webpages. If you would like to attend, please RSVP at:

[delegation-usa-era@ec.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-usa-era@ec.europa.eu)

by Friday July 16. Please note that space is limited, so please register promptly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Reinhard Schulte-Braucks', written in a cursive style.

Reinhard Schulte-Braucks  
Head of Unit,  
Space Research & Development

Contact person for questions: Astrid-Christina Koch, EU Delegation to the USA, Washington DC  
([Astrid-Christina.KOCH@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Astrid-Christina.KOCH@ec.europa.eu))