

15 January 2015
press@deorbitaldevices.com
(+39) 05 547 4665

NASA Sponsorship and EU Support: A Promising 2015 for D-Orbit

The 2015 looks promising for D-Orbit, the young Italian start-up company whose innovative technology is addressed to realize the long-term dream of a safe and sustainable access to space. Both **NASA** and the **European Commission have actually recognized the value of D-Orbit's mission** – finding a solution to the problem of space debris – by supporting the company in developing a decommissioning device, which will be able to safely remove any kind of spacecraft.

An exponentially growing phenomenon – that of space debris – which requires, according to the scientific community, to the policy makers and to the industry players of the sector, urgent mitigation and prevention measures. The increasing number of defunct objects in orbit around Earth is actually a concrete threat for space mission, posing continuous collision risks to operational spacecraft.

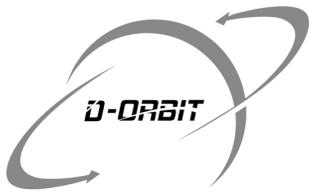
A concrete answer to this concern is D-Orbit's decommissioning device (**D₃, D-Orbit Decommissioning Device**). Customizable for any space system and installed before the launch, D₃ is able to remove the spacecraft in a safe and controlled manner, reducing the end-of-life operational cost, safeguarding the operative assets in space, mitigating the problem of space debris, preventing uncontrolled falls on Earth and promoting a sustainable access to space.

Thanks to the financial support from Venture Capital funds, D-Orbit's staff has reached to date important commercial and technical milestones and is now fully dedicated to the realization of the first demonstrative mission of an independent, quick and safe satellite decommissioning. The **D-Sat Mission** consists in the installation of fully space qualified D₃ on a 30x10x10cm satellite designed to provide a live and on-orbit demonstration of the device's capabilities as well as a validation of its architecture and functionalities.

D-Sat launch is scheduled at the end of second half of 2015 and, **thanks the support of CASIS – the Centre for the Advancement of Science in Space – the mission will be launch by the ISS**. A hard and long selection process has been necessary to receive the sponsorship and to overcome the stringent safety assessment, but CASIS has finally recognized the scientific, social and economic value of D-Orbit technology.

A value which has been recognized by the European Commission as well, in the context of **Horizon 2020**, the biggest EU Research and Innovation Program. After a hard evaluation and competitive process, **D-Orbit has successfully passed Phase₁ of the SME Instrument**, ensuring another investment of €50k. Funds allocated by the EU to support Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) aim at filling the gap in funding research and innovation businesses as well as accelerating the exploitation of innovations. This is clearly another important recognition for D-Orbit.

D-Orbit Via Cavour, 2 | Lomazzo (CO), Italy
(+39) 02 3671 4010
www.deorbitaldevices.com
VAT IT 07373150965



15 January 2015
press@deorbitaldevices.com
(+39) 05 547 4665

Both the sponsorship of CASIS and the support of the European Commission have a strategic power since they will allow D-Orbit to qualify and validate its technology, as well as to gain **reputation**. The company **credibility** is growing fast and this will surely help D-Orbit entering international markets. We are proposing a new solution to a well-known problem: get rid of an old and defunct satellite, that is a costly and complex task. In few hours the Operator can complete the decommissioning operations, with a reliability several orders of magnitude bigger than any other solutions, including the use of on-board station keeping thrusters. Our solutions are safe: for the satellite operators and integrators and for our society.

D-Orbit Via Cavour, 2 | Lomazzo (CO), Italy
(+39) 02 3671 4010
www.deorbitaldevices.com
VAT IT 07373150965