

**Press Release**

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2009

**SSTL successfully launch two further satellites**

With the successful launch last night of the UK-DMC2 and Deimos-1 satellites, SSTL has expanded the capability of the world's only spaced-based disaster monitoring system, the Disaster Monitoring Constellation (DMC). The British built satellites were launched onboard a Dnepr rocket from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan at 18:45 UTC on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

Following confirmation of separation from the launch vehicle, ground stations in Guildford and Spain established contact with UK-DMC2 and Deimos-1 respectively and commissioning of the satellites is now progressing.

Both satellites will bring significant enhancements to the DMC, which provides Earth observation imagery for a range of commercial and environmental applications as well as to the International Charter: Space and Major Disasters. The first satellite in the DMC, AISAT-1, was launched in 2002 and with the addition of these further two satellites the total number of operational DMC "eyes in the sky" has been increased to six.

UK-DMC2 and Deimos-1 were designed and built by SSTL at the Company's state-of-the-art facilities in Guildford UK. Deimos-1 was manufactured for Spanish customer, Deimos Space, while UK-DMC2 is owned by SSTL and will be operated by the Company's subsidiary, DMCii. The latest spacecraft continue SSTL's rapid advances in innovative space solutions with each satellite having ten times the capability of the satellites launched just five years ago.

SSTL's Chairman, Sir Martin Sweeting, commented: "These latest two satellites will advance the capability of the DMC, an international constellation conceived and established by SSTL to provide affordable Earth observation space assets to all, and

continue to demonstrate the commercial value of space as evidenced by SSTL's investment in UK-DMC2. The launch is also timely as the UK Government has just launched the Space Innovation & Growth Team (IGT) tasked with creating a 20-year strategy for the space industry that will build Britain's leadership in space. SSTL welcomes the initiative and is represented on the team."

UK-DMC2 and Deimos-1 were launched alongside four other satellites onboard the Dnepr launch vehicle: DubaiSat-1, AprizeSat-3, AprizeSat-4 and Nanosat-1B.

To find out more about UK-DMC2, its future role in disaster relief and Earth observation visit [www.sstl.co.uk/Missions/UK-DMC2](http://www.sstl.co.uk/Missions/UK-DMC2)

### **About SSTL**

Surrey Satellite Technology Limited (SSTL) is the world's leading small satellite company, delivering operational space missions for a range of applications including Earth observation, science and communications. The company design, manufacture and operate high performance satellites and ground systems for a fraction of the price normally associated with spacecraft, with 300 staff working on turnkey satellite platforms, space-proven satellite subsystems and optical instruments.

Since 1981 SSTL has launched 34 satellites as well as providing training and development programmes, consultancy services, and mission studies for ESA, NASA and commercial customers, changing the economics of space.

Based in Guildford, UK, SSTL is owned by EADS Astrium NV.

[www.sstl.co.uk](http://www.sstl.co.uk)

### **Notes to editor:**

This press release can be downloaded as a Word or Pdf document at the following url:

<http://www.ballard.co.uk/sstl/>

Image caption:

Both UK-DMC2 and Deimos-1 are based on the SSTL-100 satellite platform.

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