

# Systems Engineering at ESA

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# Space Environment and Context

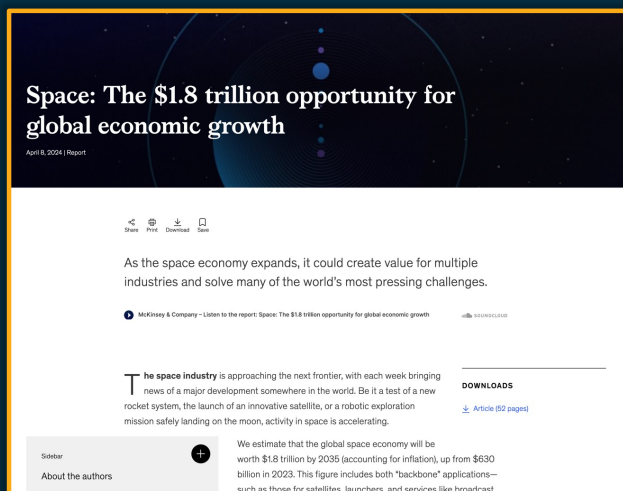


Space is booming

New Space Economy

ESA is expanding its portfolio

ESA is transforming

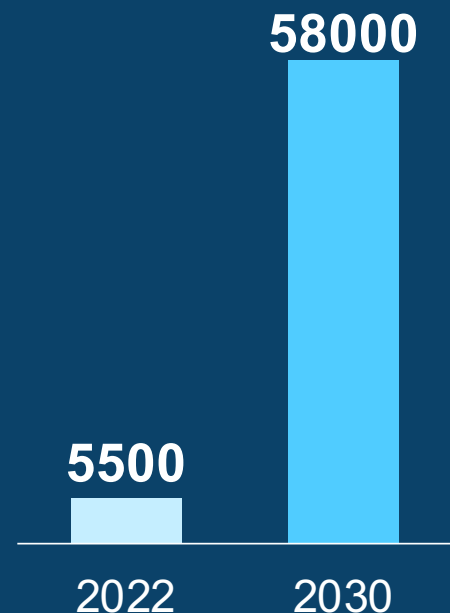


Average number of satellites in orbit per year

x 10.5  
demand increase

80%  
to come from  
constellations

75%  
revenues will come from  
governments

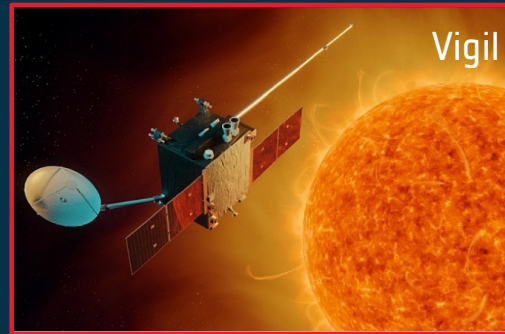


# More Missions

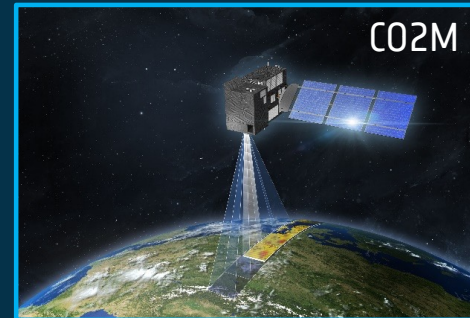


ExoMars, Ariane 6, Mars Sample Return, IRIS2, Cargo Return, Galileo 2G, Flex, EnVision, Metop2G, CO2M, Harmony, Lunar Gateway, HERA, Ramses, Moonlight, Themis, SAGA, Argonaut, Space Rider, ClearSpace-1, Athena, LISA, PLATO, Sentinel, Proba III, Vigil,

And many more....



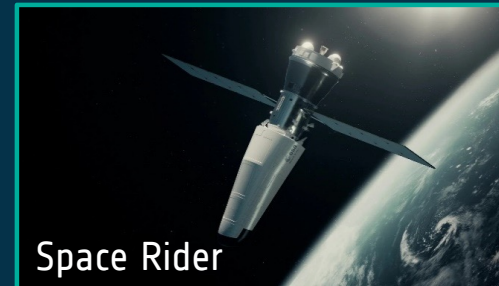
Vigil



CO2M



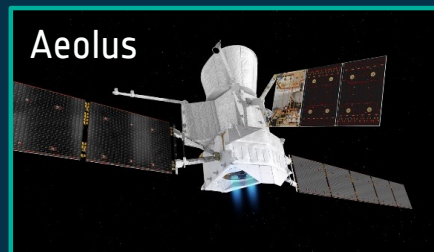
EnVision



Space Rider



ExoMars



Aeolus



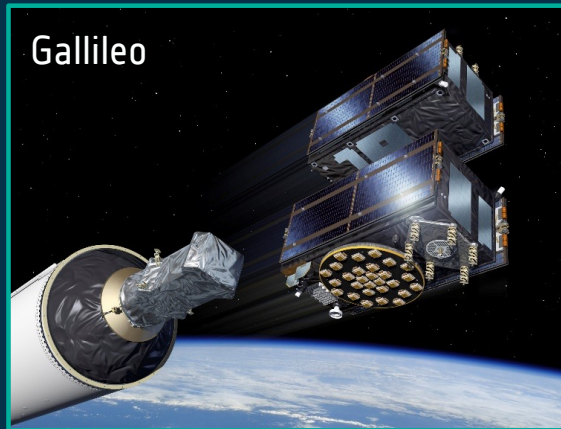
LISA



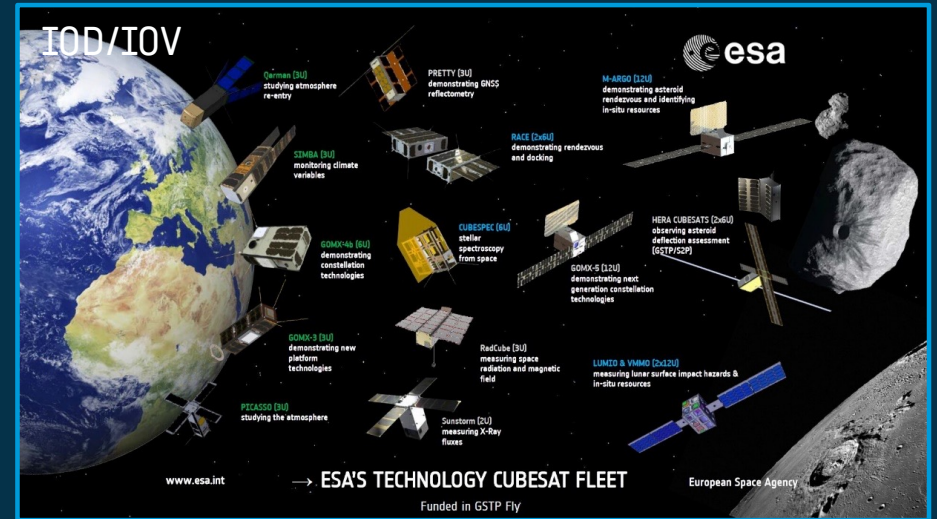
Lunar Gateway

More (industrial and complex) missions → smaller teams → more (sub)system engineers

# More Complexity, Faster & More Efficient



- Constellations
- Systems of Systems
- AI & Quantum & Crypto technologies

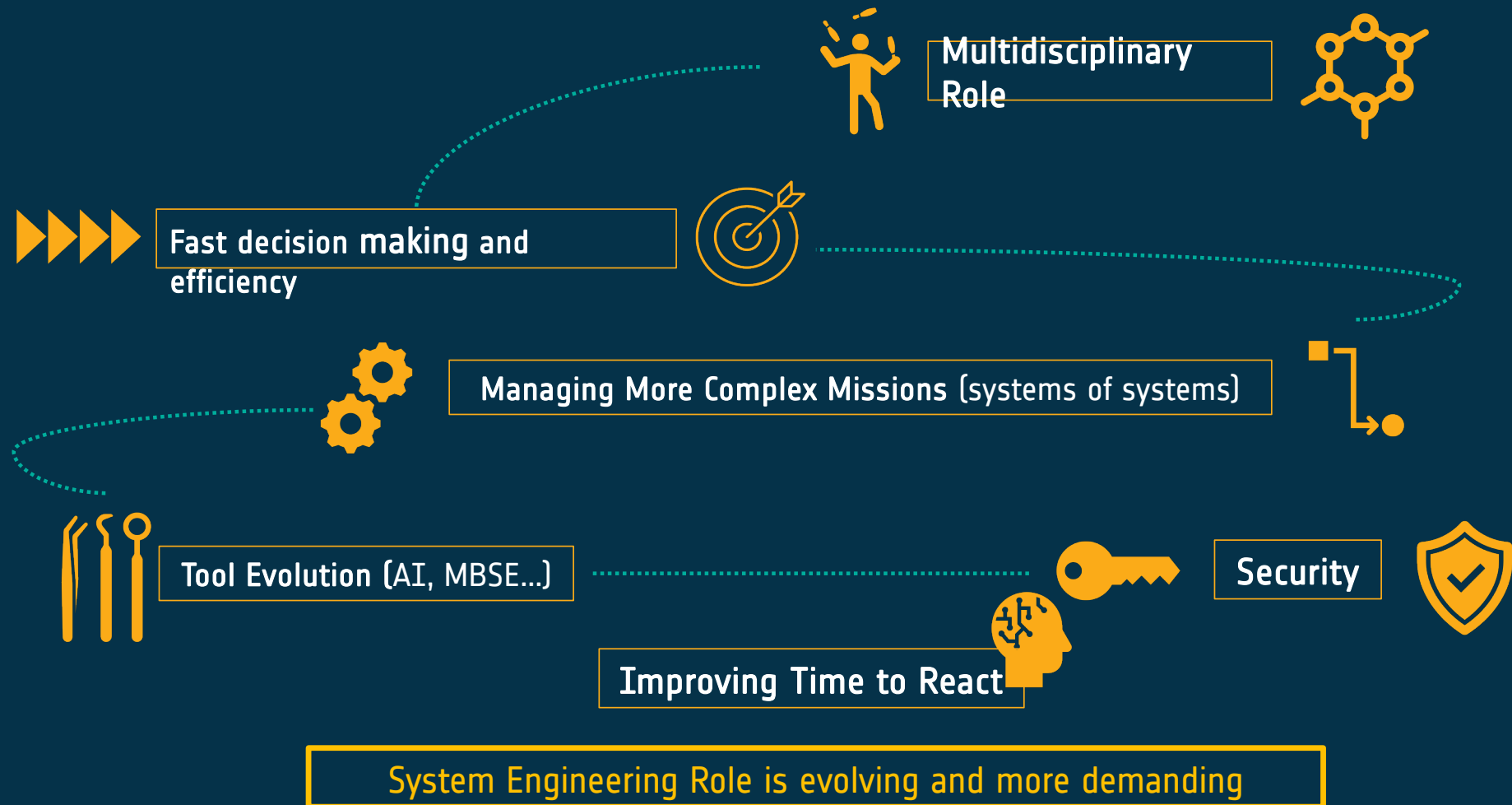


ClearSpace



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# Space System Engineers Profile



# System Engineers in ESA



## MORE System Engineers:

Expand the pool of talents:

Multidisciplinary mindset , SE-directed career path → expert → subsystem → system

Recognition: Career Path, Grading, Tools



## BETTER QUALIFIED:

Training, System Engineering Community,

Mindset: Multi-disciplinary, System Engineering, decision making, Sustainable engineering, System Security, Cost Engineering, Concurrent Engineering,



## BETTER Equiped:

MBSE, (Improved) Space Standards (ECSS NG), Interface Standardization, modern Requirements Engineering Tools, Streamlined processes, Mission Classification, Faster Review Processes, Simulation & Modelling, AI & Data Science

# Standardisation

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# The Fundamental Need for (Space) Standards



## Competitiveness and commercialisation

Strengthen industry competitiveness and sustain the development of new EU and international markets.



## Product performance and quality

Improve performance, reliability, safety, and sustainability aspects thanks to a coherent approach to development, manufacturing, supply, and services.



## Trade facilitation and interoperability

Reduce trade barriers (including new technologies), improve legislation, and develop trust.



## Knowledge transfer

Enhance engineering and product assurance knowledge while developing the capabilities of new organizations (eg SMEs).



## Education

Develop and strengthen engineering, quality, reliability, safety, sustainability, and management education avoid reinventing the wheel.

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# Why Was ECSS Created?

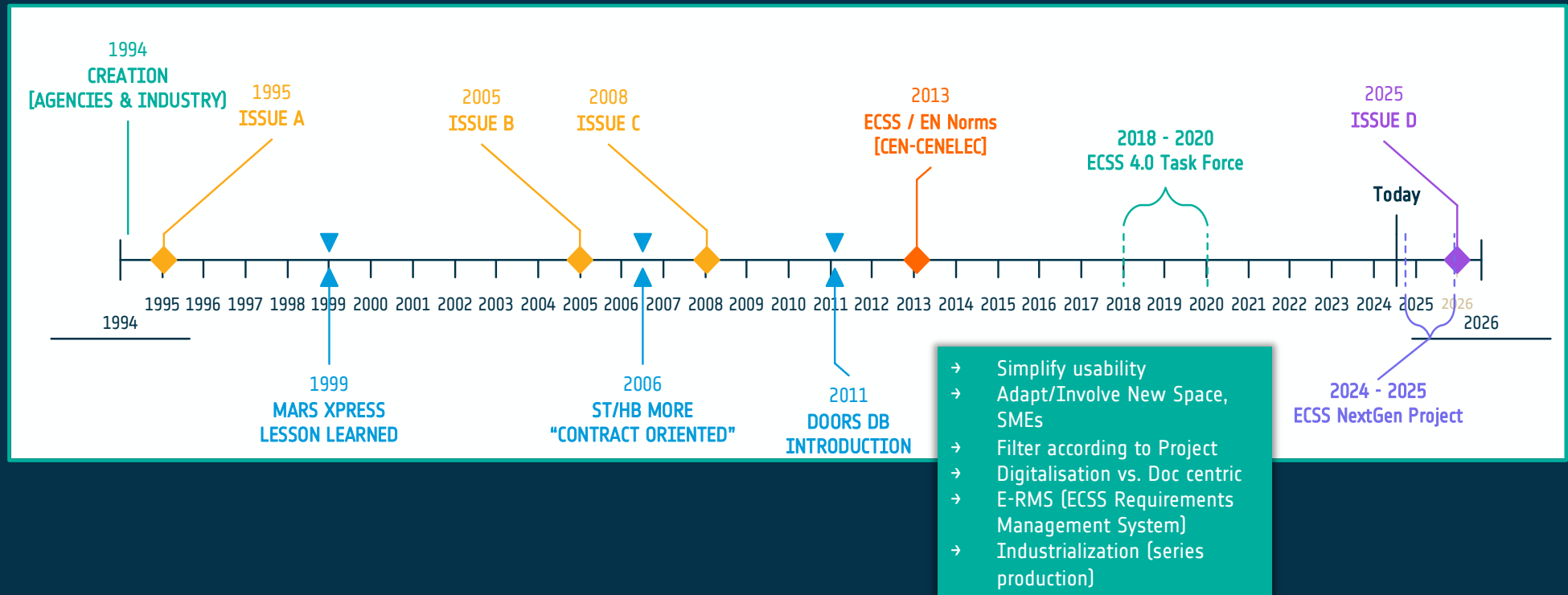
**Back in the  
early 1990s...**

- Each customer had its own set of standards (eg NASA, US MIL, Industry best practices)
- European Space Industry had to meet different requirements
- Expensive

- Need to develop a common standardization system
- ECSS created as a common system
- 1 pool of standards for all customers



# ECSS Timeline, Evolution and ECSS NextGen Project



→ The ECSS system is fully operational (until publication of Issue D – expected by end 2025)

# European Cooperation for Space Standardization ECSS



**ASD-EUROSPACE**  
The Space group in ASD

## ECSS Purpose

- Develop and maintain a single set of consistent space standards
- Recognized and applied for use by the entire European Space Community
- The European way of procuring space systems
- Standards are made applicable by contract



## ECSS Way of Working

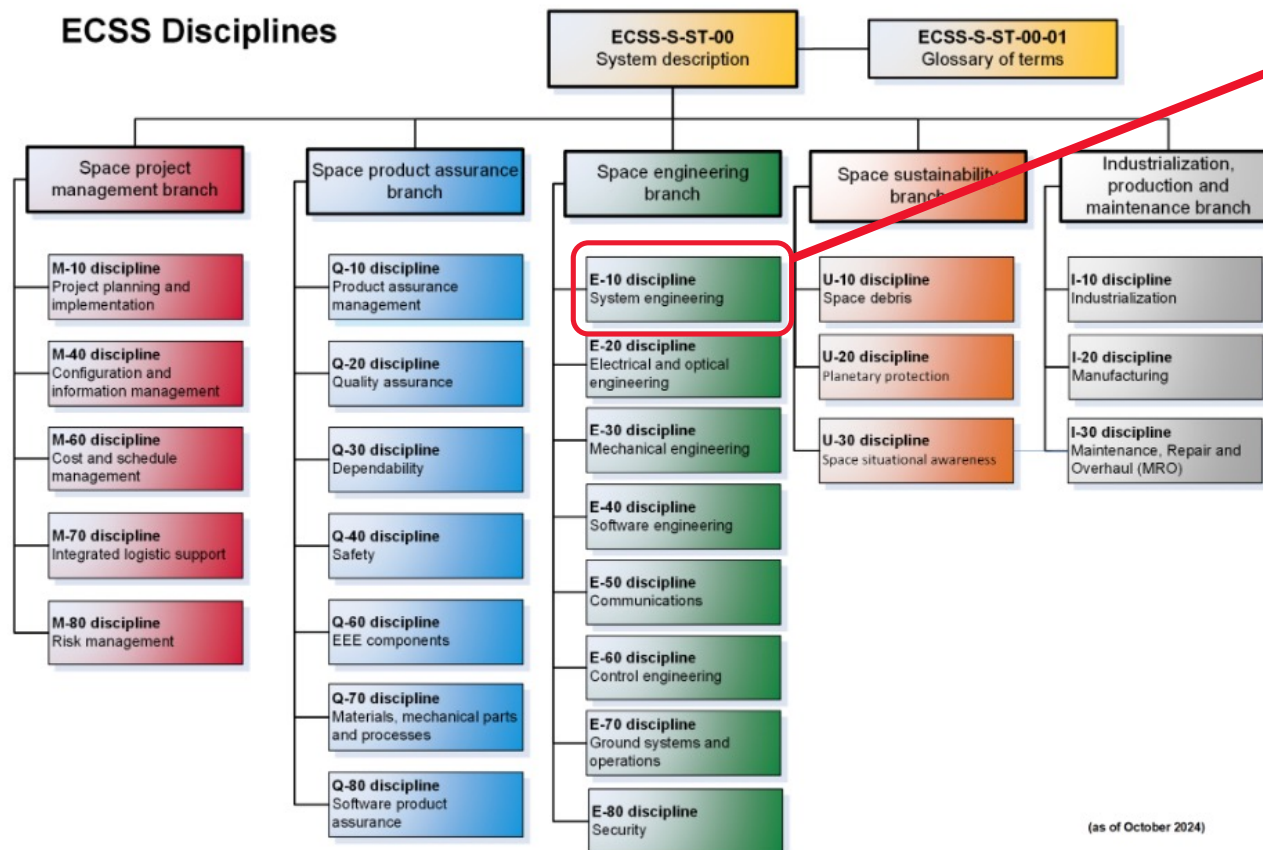
- Capitalises on more than 40 years of experience in space projects
- Developed through a partnership between ESA, National Space Agencies, and the European Space Industry (Eurosace)
- A liaison with CEN, European Committee for Standardization, ensures all ECSS standards become European Norms (ECSS / CEN MoU signed 2013)



# European Cooperation for Space Standardization (ECSS.nl)



## ECSS Disciplines



- E-10 discipline**  
System engineering
- ECSS-E-ST-10C Rev.1  
System engineering general requirements
- ECSS-E-ST-10-02C Rev.1  
Verification
- ECSS-E-ST-10-03C Rev.1  
Testing
- ECSS-E-ST-10-04C Rev.1  
Space environment
- ECSS-E-ST-10-06C  
Technical requirements specification
- ECSS-E-ST-10-09C  
Reference coordinate system
- ECSS-E-ST-10-11C  
Human factors engineering
- ECSS-E-ST-10-12C +Corr.1  
Method for the calculation of radiation received and its effects, and a policy for design margins
- ECSS-E-ST-10-24C  
Interface management
- ECSS-E-ST-10-24C Rev.1
- ECSS-E-AS-11C  
Adoption Notice of ISO 16290 - Definition of TRLs and their criteria of assessment

# ECSS E-10 Standards Scope



## The E-10 standards cover the following System Engineering areas:

- General principles, definitions and documentation (incl. DRDs)
- Requirements specification
- Interface management
- Verification
- Testing
- Coordinate Systems
- Space Environment / Radiation
- Human Factors

## Several other areas of system engineering (traditionally) are covered by standards in other disciplines, for instance:

- Space Segment Operability (E-ST-70-11C) which defines autonomy and system requirements for operability
- Software (ECSS-E-ST-40C) for the definition of the System inputs to SW
- Testing at subsystem level (e.g. propulsion) covered by the relevant discipline standards

# Concurrent Engineering and Concurrent Design Facility

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# Concurrent Design Facility (CDF)



ESA CDF is an Integrated Design Environment based on Concurrent Engineering Methodology

ESA CDF Website <http://www.esa.int/CDF>

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# Concurrent Design Facility (CDF)



IT Infrastructure

AV Infrastructure



Team

Design Process

CE Methodology



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# CE Methodology: Interdisciplinary Communication



## Approach:

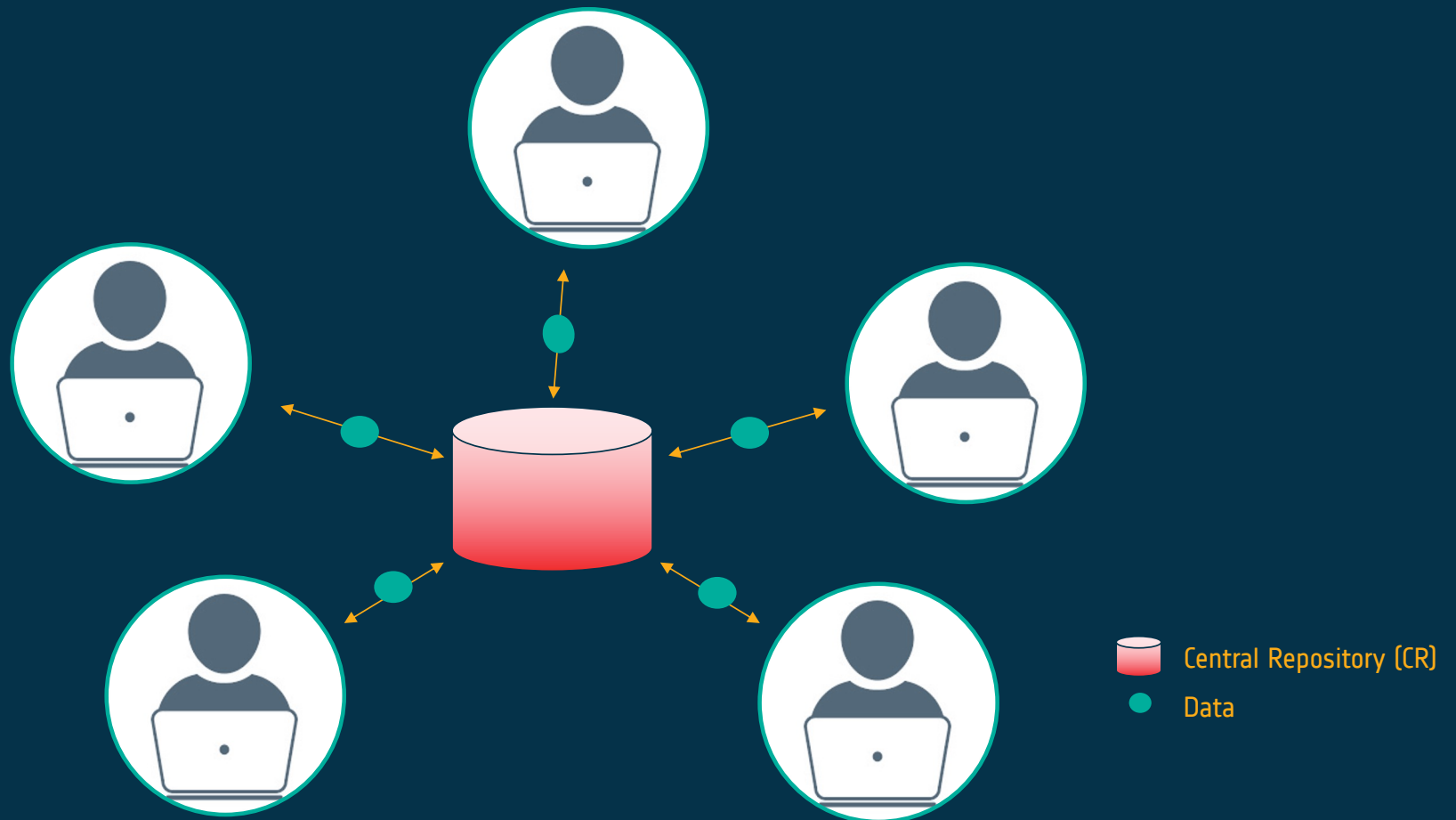
- Multidisciplinary
- Holistic
- Systematic
- Centralized
- Focus on customer expectations
- ...



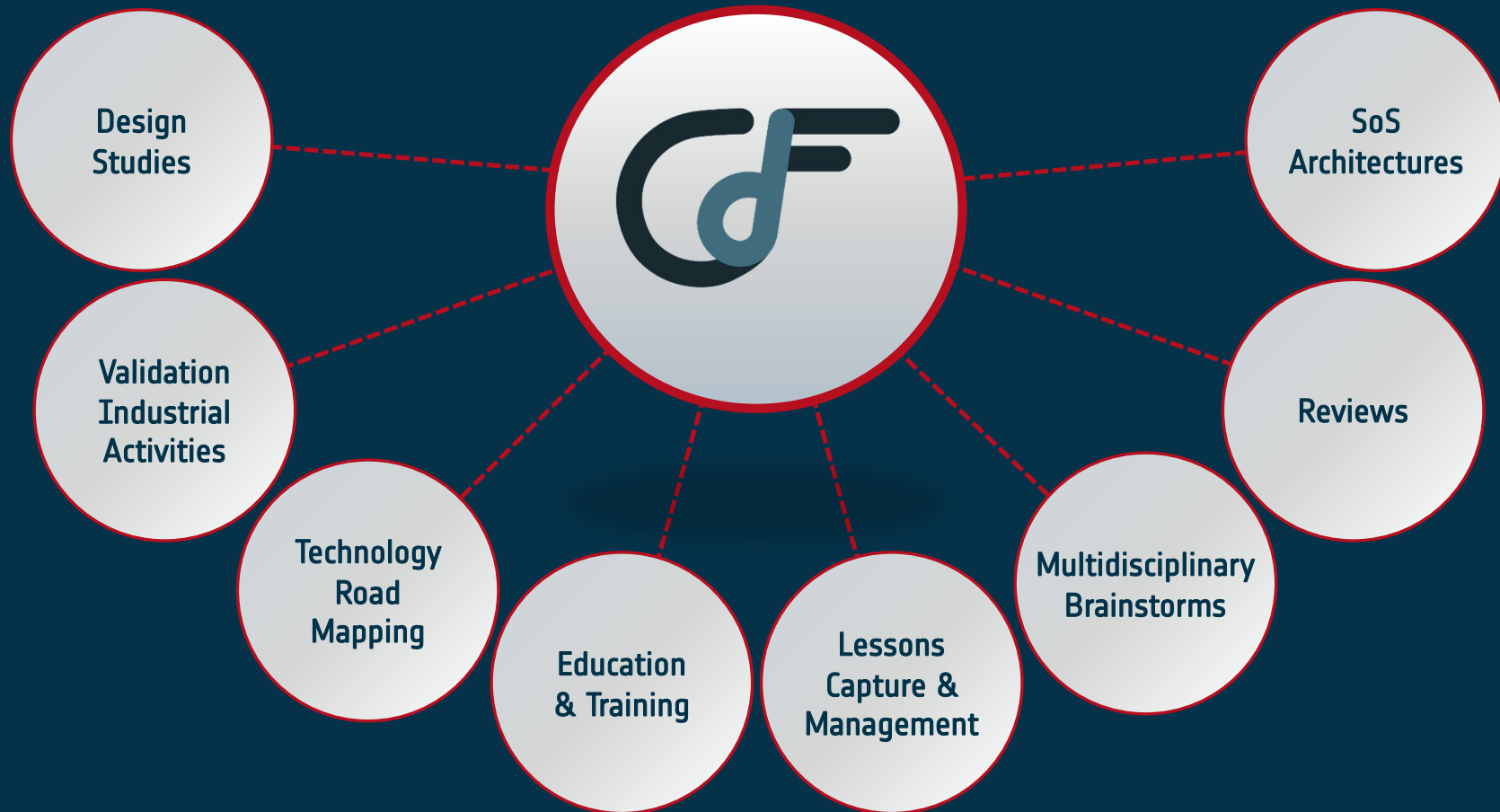
## Methodology:

- Iterative presentations
- Debate
- Consensus
- System awareness
- ...

# Multidisciplinary Data Exchange



## CDF: An essential tool for the ESA Decision Making processes



## Features

ESA's Concurrent Design Facility performs about **10 to 15 studies per year.**

- Technical experts working together as a multidisciplinary team.
- In the same place and at the same time.
- Including domains such as Operations, Assembly Integration & Verification, Programmatics, Cost Engineering, Risk Analysis, CAD, and Simulation.
- Rapidly assessing the feasibility of new mission concepts.

## Benefits

### Increased performance

- Duration: reduction factor of 4
- Cost: reduction factor of 2

### Improved quality

- CDF provides fast, consistent and complete mission design.

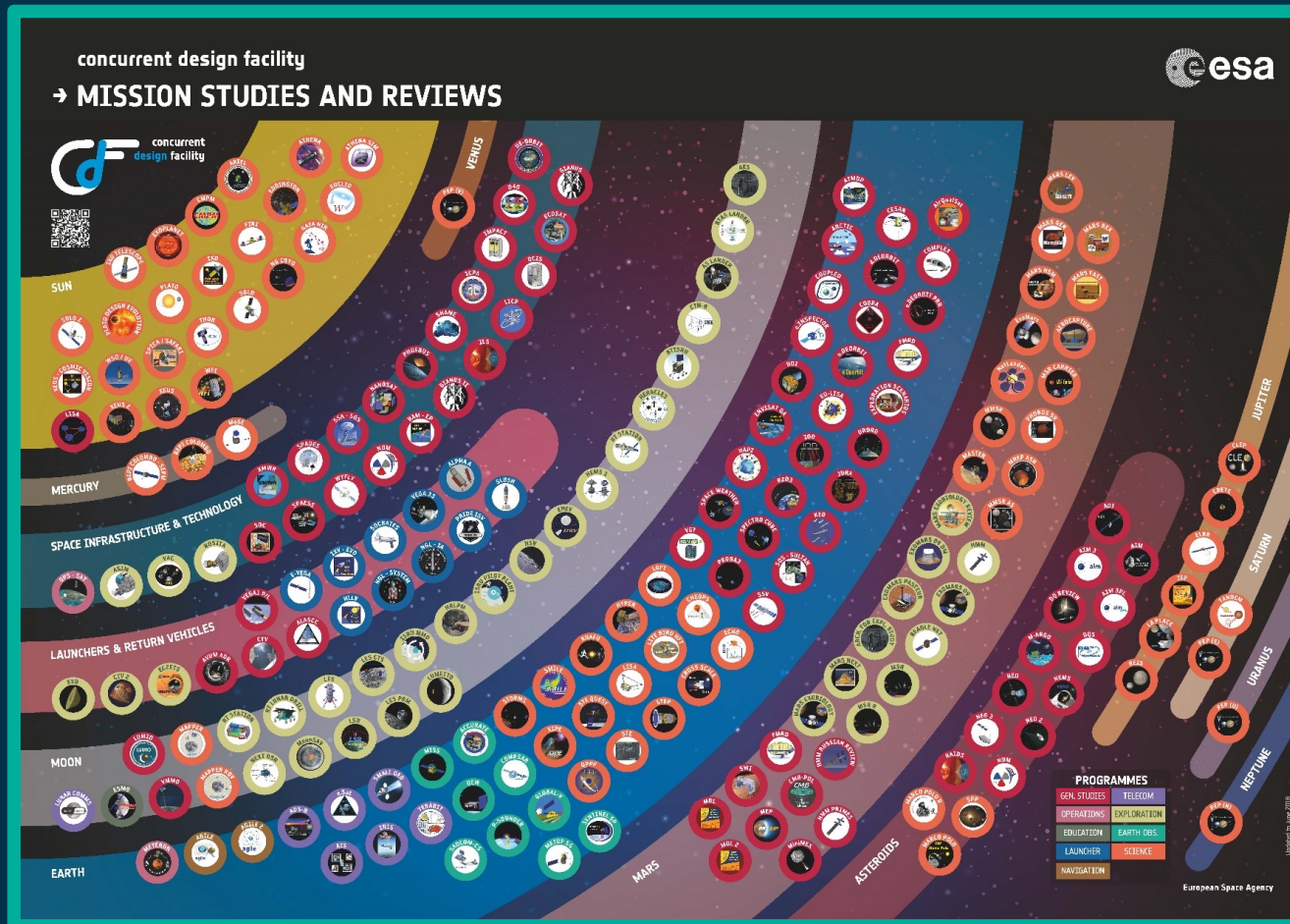
### Detailed reporting

- Technical report becomes part of the inputs to subsequent industrial activities.

### Capitalisation of corporate knowledge

- CDF promotes and enables further reusability.

# CDF Mission Studies and Reviews



# Remarkable CDF Contributions



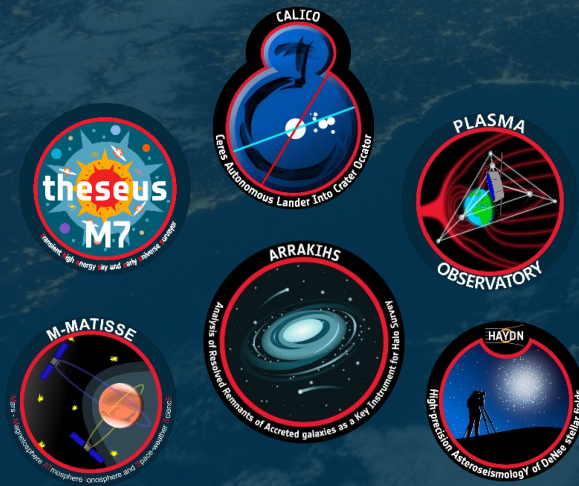
Zero Debris



Artemis



Human Inspirator



Voyage 2050 – F2 & M7