Milbank

Space Business Review

A monthly round-up of space industry developments for the information of our clients and friends.

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June Fundraising & Investment Activity

June 3 – In-space transportation services company Impulse Space, Inc. raised \$300m in a Series C funding round led by Linse Capital LLC, with participation from DFJ Growth Management, LLC, Valor Equity Partners, Founders Fund, Lux Capital Management, LLC and others.

June 12 – Space and defense company **Voyager Technologies Inc.** raised \$402m in its initial public offering, selling 12.35m shares at \$31 and an additional 1.85m shares in an option fully exercised by underwriters.

June 12 – Satellite manufacturer Muon Space Inc. secured \$90m in new funding, adding to the \$56.7m that it raised in its August 2024 Series B investment round. The new funding round was led by Congruent Management, LLC, with participation from Activate Capital Partners, ACME VC, Costanoa Ventures and other existing investors.

June 12 – Satellite start-up Logos Space Services, Inc. raised \$50m in a Series A funding round from sole investor US Innovative Technology Fund.

June 27 – Satellite positioning, navigation and timing start-up Xona Space Systems, Inc. raised \$72m in a Series B funding round led by Craft Ventures, with participation from existing investors Stellar Ventures, Seraphim Space Manager LLP, Toyota Ventures, and others. The company also secured an additional \$20m in funding through a Strategic Funding Increase award from the U.S. Space Force's SpaceWERX organization.

June Financing Activity

June 11 – French space situational awareness start-up Look Up SAS secured €50m in new funding, consisting of a €24m Series A equity round led by ETF Partners LLP, with participation from Leadwind Ventures Fund, EIC Fund, MIG Capital AG, Karista SAS and others, €15m in non-dilutive public funding from the European Union, and €11m in debt financing.

June 25 – German launch services start-up Isar Aerospace SE secured €150m in financing from U.S. investor Eldridge Industries, LLC in the form of a convertible bond. The company plans to expand its launch capabilities and series production facilities.

Viasat, Ligado, AST SpaceMobile Reach Spectrum Deal

On June 13, Viasat, Inc. (Viasat), Ligado Networks LLC (Ligado) and AST SpaceMobile, Inc. (AST) announced a transaction whereby AST will pay Ligado \$550m for certain spectrum rights, \$535m of which will go to Viasat subsidiary Inmarsat Global Ltd. for mid-band spectrum rights, partially satisfying debt owed by Ligado to Viasat in connection with a spectrum agreement between the companies.

June Launch Missions Performed

June 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16, 18, 23, 25, 28, 28 – Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (SpaceX) successfully launched batches of 23, 27, 26, 23, 26, 23, 26, 28, 27, 27, 27, and 26 Starlink satellites, respectively, including a total of 39 direct-to-device satellites, each time using a Falcon 9 launch vehicle and then recovering the launch vehicle's first stage.

June 5 – The China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation launched the fourth batch of Guowang communication satellites into low Earth orbit on a Long March 6A launch vehicle.

June 7 – SpaceX launched the SXM-10 satellite to geostationary transfer orbit for SiriusXM Holdings Inc. using a Falcon 9 launch vehicle and recovering the launch vehicle's first stage.

June 11 – Rocket Lab Corporation (Rocket Lab) successfully launched a satellite into low Earth orbit for Japan's **Institute** for Q-shu Pioneers of Space, Inc. using an Electron launch vehicle.

June 23 – SpaceX successfully performed the Transporter-14 rideshare mission using a Falcon 9 vehicle, delivering 70 payloads to low Earth orbit, including an in-space manufacturing satellite for Space Forge Ltd., two earth observation satellites for GHGSat Inc. and a cargo version of the Nyx capsule for The Exploration Company.

June 23 – United Launch Alliance, LLC successfully launched a batch of 27 Kuiper satellites to low Earth orbit for Amazon.com Inc. on an Atlas 5 Jaunch vehicle

June 26 – Rocket Lab launched four satellites into low Earth orbit for **HawkEye 360**, **Inc.** using an Electron launch vehicle.

June 28 – Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. successfully launched the GOSAT-GW Earth observation satellite for the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency using an H2-A launch vehicle, marking the launch vehicle's 50th and final flight.

June Satellite Orders

June 2 – EchoStar Corporation selected Maxar Space Systems to manufacture the EchoStar XXVI geostationary communications satellite based on the Maxar 1300 platform.

June 23 – The Royal Netherlands Air Force selected ICEYE Oy to supply four synthetic aperture radar satellites, ground segment infrastructure and satellite data on undisclosed terms.

Second ispace Lunar Lander Attempt Unsuccessful

On June 6, ispace Inc. attempted a touchdown on the lunar surface with its second lunar lander, Resilience, but was unsuccessful due to a laser rangefinder malfunction.

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