

July Fundraising & Investment Activity

July 10 – Eutelsat Group announced that the United Kingdom joined the Government of France, Bharti Space Ltd., CMA CGM S.A., and Le Fonds Stratigique de Participations as a participant in its current funding round, adding a €90m investment to boost the total amount of capital raised to €1.5b.

July 10 – Japanese launch start-up **Interstellar Technologies** raised \$45.1m in a Series F investment round, together with \$16.7m in debt financing for a total of \$61.8m in new capital, with participation from **Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation**, **SPARX Asset Management Co., Ltd.** (via its **Space Frontiers Fund II**), **Japanet Holdings Co., Ltd.** and existing investors.

July 10 – Orbital manufacturing start-up **Varda Space Industries, Inc.** raised \$187m in a Series C funding round led by **Natural Capital Management, LLC** and **Shrug Capital LP**, with participation from **Founders Fund**, **Lux Capital Management, LLC** and others.

July Mergers & Acquisitions

July 2 – **MDA Space, Inc.** completed its acquisition of Israeli satellite semiconductor and communications component supplier **SatixFy Communications Ltd.** at a valuation of roughly \$280m.

July 15 – Quantum computing company **IonQ, Inc.** completed its acquisition of **Capella Space Corp.** on undisclosed terms.

July 17 – **SES S.A.** completed its \$3.1b acquisition of fellow satellite operator **Intelsat Holdings S.à r.l.** following the receipt of approval from the **Federal Communications Commission**. The combined company operates over 120 medium Earth orbit and geostationary orbit satellites.

July 18 – Satellite manufacturer and operator **York Space Systems, LLC** announced that its parent company is acquiring ground station services provider **Atlas Space Operations, Inc.**

July 23 – Launch start-up **Innovative Rocket Technologies Inc.** announced plans to go public through a merger with **BPGC Acquisition Corp.**, a special purpose acquisition company backed by former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross.

July Financing

July 15 – Spanish firm **Indra Sistemas S.A.** entered into a €385m financing agreement with the **European Investment Bank**.

July 23 – **Space42 PLC** secured \$695.5m in debt financing from **Crédit Agricole S.A.**, **Banco Santander S.A.** and others to fund its procurement and deployment of the **Al Yah 4** and **Al Yah 5** geostationary communications satellites.

Firefly to go Public

On July 11, launch services provider **Firefly Aerospace, Inc.** announced its initial public offering, consisting of 16.2m shares priced at \$35-39 each. Current owner **AE Industrial Partners, LP** is expected to retain a 41.8% interest and a majority of board seats.

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July Launch Missions Performed

July 1 – **Space Exploration Technologies Corp.** (SpaceX) successfully launched the **MTG-S1** satellite to geosynchronous transfer orbit for European agency **EUMETSAT** on a **Falcon 9** launch vehicle and then recovered the vehicle's first stage.

July 2, 8, 15, 18, 26, 26, 30, 31 – SpaceX successfully launched batches of 27, 28, 26, 24, 28, 24, 28 and 19 **Starlink** satellites, respectively, including an unspecified number of direct-to-device satellites, each time using a **Falcon 9** launch vehicle and then recovering the vehicle's first stage.

July 16 – SpaceX successfully performed the **KF-01** mission for satellite operator **Kuiper Systems LLC**, delivering a batch of 24 **Kuiper** communications satellites to low Earth orbit on a **Falcon 9** launch vehicle, and then recovered the vehicle's first stage.

July 22 – SpaceX successfully launched two **O3b mPower** satellites to medium Earth orbit for **SES S.A.** using a **Falcon 9** launch vehicle and then recovered the vehicle's first stage.

July 23 – SpaceX successfully performed the **TRACERS** mission for the **National Aeronautics and Space Administration** (NASA), launching two heliophysics satellites to sun-synchronous orbit, along with five NASA-sponsored rideshare payloads, on a **Falcon 9** launch vehicle and then recovered the vehicle's first stage.

July 25 – **Arianespace S.A.** successfully performed the **CO3D** and **MicroCarb** missions for French space agency **Centre National D'Etudes Spatiales**, delivering five imaging satellites to sun-synchronous orbit using the **Vega C** launch vehicle.

July 27, 30 – The **China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation** launched the fifth and sixth batches of **Guowang** communication satellites into low Earth orbit using **Long March 6A** and **Long March 8A** launch vehicles, respectively.

July 29 – Chinese launch start-up **Beijing Interstellar Glory Space Technology Ltd.** successfully delivered the **HS-9** satellite to sun-synchronous orbit using a **Hyberbola-1** launch vehicle.

July 30 – The **Indian Space Research Organization** (ISRO) launched the **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar** spacecraft, into sun-synchronous orbit using a **GSLV** launch vehicle.

July Satellite Orders

On July 24, **SES S.A.** and the government of Luxembourg selected **Thales Alenia Space** to manufacture the **GovSat-2** geostationary communications satellite using the **Spacebus 4000B2** platform.

July Launch Services Orders

July 7 – **Globalstar Inc.** selected **Space Exploration Technologies Corp.** to launch nine satellites using a **Falcon 9** launch vehicle.

July 9 – **Synspective Inc.** selected **Exolaunch GmbH** to arrange the launch of 10 satellites on an unspecified launch vehicle.