



Press release

Luxembourg and NorthStar to cooperate on a common Clean Space initiative

Montreal, July 31, 2019 – During the visit of Luxembourg’s Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of the Economy, Étienne Schneider to the NorthStar Earth & Space headquarters in Montreal, a cooperation was launched to enable a Clean Space initiative to foster sustainability in space. The Clean Space initiative would evaluate the use of NorthStar Earth and Space Information services with the support of Luxembourg’s insurance, financial and satellite operator communities to address some of the key issues related to space traffic management, sustainable commercialization of space activities, insurance products for space operations to promote growth in commercial space activities, and satellite operational challenges.

Stewart Bain, CEO of NorthStar Earth & Space, a Canadian tech company developing the world’s first comprehensive Earth and space information platform, commented: *“NorthStar is honoured to have the visit of Deputy Prime Minister Schneider. NorthStar and its international partners are pleased to collaborate with Luxembourg to enable the sustainability of our environment in space with the global Clean Space initiative. Luxembourg is uniquely positioned to provide value-added services within the insurance and financial industry and home to many satellite companies who will benefit from this project.”*

Étienne Schneider, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Economy of Luxembourg stated: *“The proposed cooperation with NorthStar is in line with Luxembourg’s efforts in developing high-fidelity space situational awareness to protect the space environment beyond our planet and in promoting earth observation to better understand the complexity of our planet and monitor its health. Both fit perfectly into our national data-based innovation strategy that aims at building a sustainable and reliable digital economy.”*

[NorthStar](#)’s mission is to empower humanity to preserve our planet by putting into place a unique Space and Earth information platform dedicated to space-based Space Situational Awareness (“SSA”) and Earth Intelligence. Starting in 2021 and based on a satellite constellation equipped with Hyperspectral, Infrared and Optical sensors, the platform will operate continuously from space, imaging, digitizing and analyzing the details of Earth’s ecosystems and surrounding orbit on a daily basis. It will transform the way governments, industry and NGOs assess risk, enforce regulations and make decisions to foster the sustainable development of our planet and deliver a safe and secure near-space environment for the global satellite community.

For more than three decades, [Luxembourg](#) has been at the forefront of commercial and cooperative initiatives that have shaped a vibrant space economy. Luxembourg’s first foray into space came in 1985, with the creation of the Société Européenne des Satellites (SES), a landmark

for satellite telecommunications and a global leader in this sector today. Further space-related services and businesses have developed alongside SES, giving birth to an entire [space industry](#) in Luxembourg. Today, the space sector's contribution to national GDP is among the highest in Europe. Luxembourg launched SpaceResources.lu in 2016 as the next step in its drive to develop a cutting-edge space industry by positioning the Grand Duchy as a centre for the exploration and utilisation of space resources.

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