

Space Compass and Airbus Sign MOU to Explore Cooperation in Optical Communications and Earth Observation Solutions

TOKYO - April 28, 2026 Space Compass Corporation (Space Compass) and Airbus Defence and Space have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to explore opportunities for collaboration on optical communications and Earth observation (EO) solutions. Under the MOU, the two parties will explore how optical communications—leveraging their high-speed, high-capacity characteristics and relay architectures that enable near-real-time delivery—can support the rapid growth in Earth observation data volumes.

The Immediate Application: Real-Time Earth Insights and the Next Frontier of Connectivity

The collaboration will assess how Space Compass’s optical data relay services could be integrated with Airbus Defence and Space’s next-generation EO imagery solutions, building on the operational expertise Airbus has developed over decades, to overcome current radio-frequency constraints and enable near real-time transmission of large EO data volumes through high-capacity optical “data highways.”

In addition, the parties will explore how optical communications and relay architectures—extending beyond traditional radio-frequency constraints—could support other potential applications, including airborne and aerial connectivity, leveraging Airbus technologies.

All such activities are exploratory in nature and subject to further technical evaluation and future agreements.

This milestone was marked by the attendance of senior representatives from the space policy and research communities of both Japan and France, highlighting the growing importance of international collaboration in space.

Comments

Hiromi Komatsu, Co-CEO, Space Compass Corporation, said: “I am delighted to collaborate with Airbus Defence and Space to develop optical communications and Earth observation solutions. This joint initiative will pave the way to transform Earth observation into a real-time decision-making tool - unlocking its full potential.”

Eric Even, Head of Airbus Space Digital, Airbus Defence and Space, said: “Space Compass is a visionary partner that has extensive knowledge in optical infrastructure. Strengthening our relationship now allows us to accelerate the industrialization of technologies Airbus has pioneered: from space-based data relays to cross-atmospheric links. Together, we are ensuring that high-speed intelligence reaches the ground exactly when it is needed.”

About Space Compass

Space Compass is a joint venture between NTT, a global Information and Communications Technology (ICT) company, and SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation, Asia's largest satellite operator. The company was established to develop the Space Integrated Computing Network, a new multi-orbital, optical communication-based independent space infrastructure designed to address social challenges. <https://space-compass.com/en/>

This project is one of the initiatives under NTT Group's space business brand “NTT C89” and SKY Perfect JSAT's “JSAT”.



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<https://www.skyperfectjsat.space/jsat/en>