



## NanoRacks to Launch Second Generation Plate Reader to NASA's International Space Station

**Houston, TX – July 12, 2016** – NanoRacks, LLC, a leading provider of commercial pathway solutions aboard the International Space Station, is launching the NanoRacks Plate Reader-2 to the International Space Station. In May 2011, NanoRacks launched the first-ever microplate reader in space providing researchers the ability to conduct microplate reader experiments in microgravity for the first time.

The NanoRacks Plate Reader-2 is a reconfigured SpectraMax M5e, one of Molecular Devices' most reliable, durable, and feature-rich microplate readers, and has been configured to operate comfortably in the microgravity environment of the space station. The self-funded NanoRacks Plate Reader-2 features a wide range of high-performance multi-mode reader capabilities ideal for life science research including absorbance, fluorescence, time-resolved fluorescence, and fluorescence polarization modes with full spectral range detection for 6-, 12-, 24-, 48-, 96-, and 384-well microplates. Researchers can also utilize the CuvettePlate microplate adapter for cuvette samples.

This second generation platform now includes temperature control, allowing researchers to extend their experiments to long durations, and the ability to configure every aspect of the researcher's experiment from an Earth-based workstation using SoftMax Pro, the industry's leading data acquisition and analysis tool. With these improvements, NanoRacks is able to offer scientists the same flexibility they have with their experiments in their own laboratories.

*"The quality of microgravity research continues to increase with commercial partnerships on the International Space Station. This newer version of the NanoRacks Plate Reader is even better as a result of listening closely to our customers and astronauts' suggestions"* said Dr. Carl Carruthers, Chief Scientist for NanoRacks. *"From monitoring bacterial growth or gene expression to changes in material properties, the NanoRacks Plate Reader-2 provides researchers access to the same type of hardware and microplate format found in their lab, allowing a smooth continuation of their ground-based research to the microgravity environment of the ISS."*

The NanoRacks Plate Reader-2 is scheduled to launch aboard the SpaceX-9 Mission.

To inquire about researching on the International Space Station via the NanoRacks Plate Reader-2, contact NanoRacks at [info@nanoracks.com](mailto:info@nanoracks.com).

NanoRacks will provide regular updates on the Plate Reader program via [@NanoRacks](https://twitter.com/NanoRacks) on Twitter and at [www.nanoracks.com](http://www.nanoracks.com). For more information about the SpectraMax® M5e Multi-Mode Microplate Reader or other products from Molecular Devices, please visit our website ([www.moleculardevices.com](http://www.moleculardevices.com)) or send an email to [info@moldev.com](mailto:info@moldev.com).

## **About NanoRacks, LLC**

NanoRacks LLC was formed in 2009 to provide commercial hardware and services for the U.S. National Laboratory onboard the International Space Station via a Space Act Agreement with NASA. NanoRacks' main office is in Houston, Texas, right alongside the NASA Johnson Space Center. The Business Development office is in Washington, DC. Additional offices are located in Silicon Valley, California and Leiden, Netherlands.

In July 2015, NanoRacks signed a teaming agreement with Blue Origin to offer integration services on their New Shepard space vehicle. The Company has grown into the Operating System for Space Utilization by having the tools, the hardware and the services to allow other companies, organizations and governments to realize their own space plans.

As of March 2016, over 350 payloads have been launched to the International Space Station via NanoRacks services, and our customer base includes the European Space Agency (ESA) the German Space Agency (DLR,) the American space agency (NASA,) US Government Agencies, Planet Labs, Urthecast, Space Florida, NCESE, Virgin Galactic, pharmaceutical drug companies, and organizations in Vietnam, UK, Romania and Israel.