

NanoRacks' Research Platform Outside of International Space Station Ready to Host New Research

February 23, 2016 – Houston, TX – Early this morning, SpaceX's Dragon successfully berthed to the International Space Station, carrying the next payload, Thermo Fisher Scientific's "CID," for the NanoRacks External Platform (NREP). The NREP is a permanent addition to the International Space Station, mounted each mission on the outside of the Space Station on the Japanese Exposed Facility.

CID is studying a specific type of modern camera called a "charge-injection device" (CID), which measures light from individual pixels, which enables pictures of scenes with extremely bright and extremely faint objects. This mission will study the feasibility in space, paving the way for their use in studying planets orbiting around distant stars.

CID was sponsored by the Center for Advancement of Science in Space (CASIS). CASIS, which manages the U.S. National Lab on the International Space Station, is chartered with facilitating microgravity research with the potential to generate benefits to life on Earth

The self-funded NanoRacks External Platform is the first-ever commercial service – including return—to the extreme environment of space. NREP payloads follow the CubeSat form factor—customers experience the microgravity, radiation and other harsh elements native to the space environment, observe earth, test sensors, materials, and electronics, all while having the opportunity to return the payload back to Earth.

"We've got six months of non-stop operations ahead of us," says NanoRacks Operations Manager Keith Tran. "We're excited to see how CID reacts to the extreme space environment and to continue testing the full capabilities of NREP. Thank you to our friends at Thermo Fisher Scientific and CASIS for working with us on this program and for choosing our External Platform to conduct their research."

To learn more about how the NanoRacks External Platform can meet your mission requirements, [click here](#).

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