



NanoRacks Completes 4th External Cargo Ship Satellite Deployment Mission, Largest to Date

Dulles, Virginia - December 7, 2017 – Last night, NanoRacks successfully completed the Company's 4th External Cygnus Deployment mission after commands were sent to the Cygnus spacecraft from Orbital ATK's Mission Control at their Dulles headquarters.

The Orbital ATK CRS-8 mission launched on November 12, 2017, carrying NanoRacks' fourth mission providing opportunities for CubeSat deployment from Cygnus after the vehicle departs from the International Space Station. Prior to launch, the [NanoRacks External Cygnus Deployer](#) is installed on the exterior of the Cygnus service module with the capability to deploy satellites after the spacecraft completes its primary space station commercial resupply mission.

After departing from the Space Station, Cygnus was elevated to an altitude of 450 kilometers before deploying the satellites.

On this External Cygnus Deployment mission, NanoRacks deployed 14 satellites with customers including Spire, Asgardia, Tyvak, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), and more. Also a part of this External Cygnus manifest were The Aerospace Corporation's Optical Communications and Sensor Demonstration (Aerocube 7B/C) satellites, water-based propulsion CubeSats.

"NanoRacks is proud to be the primary program on the OA-8 Cygnus secondary mission," says Senior Mission Manager Henry Martin. "This successful mission further exemplifies the growing opportunities for our diverse customer base in low-Earth orbit. We've now deployed over 200 satellites across all of our platforms. This is a big milestone for us and we're proud to remain a leading provider as the market continues to grow."

The NanoRacks External Cygnus Deployer released the following satellites:

- ISARA
- PROPCUBE-Fauna
- Lemur-2 (8 CubeSats)
- Aerocube 7B/C (2 CubeSats)
- Asgardia-1
- CHEFSat

"We're especially pleased to further contribute to the growth of Spire's global ship, weather, and aviation tracking constellation in low-Earth orbit," adds Martin. "It's great to serve a critical role in ensuring Spire is able to continue meeting their goal of providing unmatched data on parts of the world where collecting data is notoriously difficult."

Additionally of note, the ISARA and Aerocube 7B/C satellites deployed in this mission were funded through NASA's Small Spacecraft Technology Program (SSTP), which is chartered to develop and mature technologies to enhance and expand the capabilities of small spacecraft with a particular focus on communications, propulsion, pointing, power, and autonomous operations.

Thank you to NASA and Orbital ATK on their ongoing support for our External Cygnus Deployment program.

For continued updates, follow [@NanoRacks](https://twitter.com/NanoRacks) on Twitter.

For media inquiries, contact Abby Dickes at adickes@nanoracks.com

About NanoRacks

NanoRacks is enabling space research and in-space services to customers world-wide from multiple platforms and launch vehicles. The company offers low-cost, high-quality solutions to the most pressing needs for satellite deployment, basic and educational research and both at home and in 30 nations world-wide for those new to the industry and aerospace veterans. Since 2009, Texas-based NanoRacks has truly created new markets, and ushered in a new era of in space-services.

In July 2015, NanoRacks signed a teaming agreement with Blue Origin to offer integration services on their New Shepard space vehicle. NanoRacks, along with partners at ULA and Space Systems Loral was also selected by NASA to participate in the NextSTEPS Phase II program to develop commercial habitation systems in low-Earth orbit and beyond.

As of November 2017, over 600 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, Millennium Space Systems, Space Florida, NCESSSE, Virgin Galactic, pharmaceutical drug companies, and organizations in Vietnam, UK, Romania and Israel.