

## Press release



**T**echnology **T**ransfer **P**rogramme



# The Technology Transfer Programme of the European Space Agency (ESA-TTP) partner of Solar Impulse

## Space technologies aid solar-powered global flight bid

**ESA's Technology Transfer Programme is to supply state-of-the-art technologies to assist adventurer Bertrand Piccard's flight around the world in a single-pilot solar-powered aircraft, as the ultimate demonstration of the potential for pollution-free flight.**

### ESA Technology Transfer Programme

Over the past 35 years, the European space industry has gained considerable expertise in building, launching, controlling and communicating with satellites. From this long experience in how to overcome the hazards and problems created by such a hostile environment, many valuable new technologies, products and procedures have been developed.

Today, this expertise is improving our daily lives by providing a wealth of innovative solutions for products and services on Earth. Groundbreaking European space technologies are becoming increasingly available for development and licensing to the non-space industry through the process of technology transfer.

In the framework of its research and development activities, ESA spends some €250 million each year and, recognising the enormous potential of the know-how developed within its R&D activities, set up a Technology Transfer Programme in 1990 to exploit the technologies developed as part of the European space programmes.

ESA's Technology Transfer Programme is largely carried out by a network of technology brokers across Europe and Canada under the auspices and support of ESA's Technology Transfer and Promotion Office.

An important aspect of ESA's Technology Transfer Programme is the European Space Incubator (ESI). ESI, together with its associated network of European Space Incubators (ESINET) is designed to help start-up companies wishing to exploit space-based technologies and expertise get off the ground by providing them with premises, assistance and first stage funding.

**The European Space Agency** is Europe's gateway to space. Its mission is to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the citizens of Europe. ESA has 16 Member States. By coordinating the financial and intellectual resources of its members, it can undertake programmes and activities far beyond the scope of any single European country.

<http://www.esa.int>

#### Further information:

**Dr Pierre Brisson**

**Head of Technology Transfer Programme and Promotion Office**

Tel: +31 71 565 49 29

Fax: +31 71 565 66 35

#### Or Media Office Division

Tel: +33(0)1.53.69.7155

Fax: +33(0)153.69.7690