



## D-Orbit Wins Public Tender for Launch and Deployment of Two TU Berlin's Satellites

*The satellites will be integrated aboard D-Orbit's orbital transfer vehicle, ION Satellite Carrier. After performing a series of timed orbital maneuvers, ION will deploy the satellites in a helix formation*

**Fino Mornasco, Italy, August 25th, 2022:** Space logistics and orbital transportation company [D-Orbit](#) won a public tender for the launch and deployment of satellites designed and built by [TU Berlin's Chair of Space Technology](#). The satellites will be integrated inside **ION Satellite Carrier**, D-Orbit's proprietary orbital transfer vehicle (OTV). ION is a versatile and cost-effective orbital spacecraft designed to both precisely deploy satellites and perform technology demonstrations of third-party payloads in orbit. ION's propulsion module also enables the vehicle to change altitude, inclination, and local time of the ascending node (LTAN).

The two satellites are the space segment of **the Nanosatellite Formation Flights (NanoFF) project**, funded by the German Aerospace Center, which aims at demonstrating how to achieve, maintain, and utilize a helix formation flight, where the satellites spiral along a common orbital path. The project is undergoing qualification testing, and launch is slated for Q2 2023.

*"We are proud to collaborate with TU Berlin, a leading institution in the German New Space community," said **Renato Panesi, D-Orbit's CCO**. "The two NanoFF CubeSats fly in a formation that is difficult to reach with traditional rideshare launches. ION Satellite Carrier, enables small satellite operators to perform scientific missions that were previously too expensive, impractical, or even impossible to do."*

ION will be released into a 500-600km Sun-synchronous orbit. The OTV will then perform a series of timed orbital manoeuvres and deploy the satellites in a helix formation. The satellites, which will feature high-precision attitude control hardware powered by deployable solar panels developed by the department itself, will perform several experimental orbital manoeuvres to change the relative distance between the satellites and demonstrate different application scenarios.

*"For the initiation of the helix formation ION is a great fit. The possibility to set up the deployment vectors individually will help to decrease the drift between the satellites and ultimately save fuel" said **Dr. Weiss, the project lead of NanoFF**. "We are looking forward to launch a challenging mission and demonstrate precise relative navigation of nanosatellites in a formation", added **Prof. Enrico Stoll, the chairholder of Space Technology**.*

### About D-Orbit

D-Orbit is a market leader in the space logistics and transportation services industry with a track record of space-proven services, technologies and successful missions.

Founded in 2011, before the dawn of the New Space market, D-Orbit is the first company addressing the logistics needs of the space market. The first line of business ION Satellite Carrier, for example, is a space vehicle that can transport satellites in orbit and release them individually into distinct orbital slots, reducing the time from launch to operations by up to 85% and the launch costs of an entire satellite constellation by up to 40%. ION can also accommodate multiple third-party payloads like innovative technologies developed by startups, experiments from research



entities, and instruments from traditional space companies requiring a test in orbit and offer the fully redundant ION for rent, or edge computing and space cloud services, to those satellite operators in need of additional capacity and capabilities in orbit. In addition, D-Orbit is investing in becoming a leader in the new in-orbit servicing market, which is considered to be one of the largest, growing markets within the space sector and is already demonstrating significant traction.

D-Orbit is a space infrastructure pioneer with offices in Italy, Portugal, the UK, and the US; its commitment to pursuing business models that are profitable, friendly for the environment, and socially beneficial, led to D-Orbit S.p.A. becoming the first certified B-Corp space company in the world.

## Contacts

Patrizia Tammaro Silva – Investor Relations  
[Patrizia.tammaro@dorbit.space](mailto:Patrizia.tammaro@dorbit.space)

Elena Sanfilippo Ceraso – Media Manager  
[comms@dorbit.space](mailto:comms@dorbit.space)

## Follow us on:

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/d-orbit](http://www.linkedin.com/company/d-orbit)

Facebook: [facebook.com/deorbitaldevices/](https://facebook.com/deorbitaldevices/)

Twitter: [twitter.com/D\\_Orbit](https://twitter.com/D_Orbit)

Instagram: [instagram.com/wearedorbit/](https://instagram.com/wearedorbit/)