

D-Orbit Signs Hosted Payload Contract with Zenno Astronautics

The contract covers launch and operations of Z01, a new generation magnetic torquer for the New Space market.

Fino Mornasco, Italy, September 15th, 2022: The space logistics company [D-Orbit](#) signed a hosted payload service contract with [Zenno Astronautics](#), a company based in New Zealand specialized in super magnets and space hardware. The payload, named Z01, is the first flight prototype of a new generation of magnetic torquer, a device designed to de-tumble, stabilize, and control the attitude of a spacecraft by aligning it to the Earth's magnetic field.

The contract, which covers the integration of the payload inside D-Orbit's orbital transfer vehicle ION Satellite Carrier, transportation to the launch site, integration onboard the rocket carrier, launch, and operations, includes the provision for a follow-up mission. The launch, slated for Q4 2023, will target a sun synchronous orbit of about 550km of altitude.

*"We are excited by the opportunity to demonstrate Zenno's Z01 in orbit," said **Renato Panesi, D-Orbit's chief commercial officer (CCO)**. "The innovation brought by companies like Zenno, combined with the flexibility of ION Satellite Carrier in performing in-orbit validation missions is accelerating the progress towards more affordable high-performance spacecraft."*

*"D-Orbit's capability and heritage gives us the certainty we need to prove our technology in space and our collaboration has been smooth and seamless", said **Max Arshavsky, CEO of Zenno Astronautics**. "We look forward to continue working with them to expand our technology and to enable the future of magnetic force in space."*

ION Satellite Carrier is an orbital transfer vehicle designed, manufactured and operated by D-Orbit. The vehicle is designed to transport a batch of satellites across orbits, deploying each one of them in a custom orbital slot that enables the operator to significantly reduce the time to operations, and to operate proprietary and third-party payloads through an innovative plug-and-play mechanical, electrical, and data interface that simplify integration and flight qualification.

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, D-Orbit is the first company addressing the logistics needs of the space market. 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. The whole, fully redundant ION can be rented for edge computing applications and space cloud services to provide satellite operators with storage capacity and advanced computing capabilities in orbit.



D-Orbit's roadmap includes becoming a relevant player in the in-orbit servicing market, which is forecasted to become one of the largest, growing markets within the space sector.

D-Orbit has 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 D-Orbit S.p.A. to become the first certified B-Corp space company in the world.

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