

Press Release

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French space in Adelaide for 68th IAC (International Astronautical Congress)

A large delegation of French space scientists, engineers and executives led by Jean-Yves Le Gall, President of CNES and of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), is at the 68th International Astronautical Congress (IAC) being held this week in Adelaide, Australia, from 25 to 29 September. This leading event for the international space community offers the opportunity to show to the world the innovations being developed by CNES and French industry, and to forge many fruitful high-level contacts.

With more than 5,000 delegates from 70 countries expected to attend, this year's IAC is a somewhat special event for CNES as the first under Jean-Yves Le Gall's presidency of the IAF. In his opening speech, Jean-Yves Le Gall underlined the IAF's key role on the international space scene and the timeliness of its mantra, **Connecting @ll Space People**, reflected in the principle of 3-G for **Geography, Gender** and **Generation**, the federating theme of its **Global Innovation Agenda 2016-2019**. IAF brings together scientists, academics and representatives of agencies and industry from all over the world, united behind the same goal of advancing knowledge and promoting space.

Recalling the theme of the 68th IAC, **Unlocking Imagination, Fostering Innovation and Strengthening Security**, Jean-Yves Le Gall asserted how vital it is for the space community to continue its unwavering commitment to working for the benefit of humankind, notably to curb global warming and mitigate natural disasters. Among the high points of the IAC programme this week will be the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IAF, the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) and the International Institute of Space Law (IISL), demonstrating the necessity of broad cooperation, as well as new prospects for cooperation with Australia, the traditional meeting of heads of space agencies and much-awaited presentations of a range of industrial projects being pursued by large firms and start-ups, all of them sharing the common trait of **innovation**.

At the centre of the exhibition space, attendees at this 68th IAC will once again be able to see the CNES stand and more than 100 in all, with for the first time stands representing NASA, the Chinese Society of Astronautics, the United Arab Emirates Space Agency, the International Space University and the University of Sydney.

CONTACTS

Fabienne Lissak Head of Media
Pascale Bresson Press Officer
Raphaël Sart Press Officer

Tel +33 (0)1 44 76 78 37 fabienne.lissak@cnes.fr
Tel +33 (0)1 44 76 75 39 pascale.bresson@cnes.fr
Tel +33 (0)1 44 76 74 51 raphael.sart@cnes.fr

presse.cnes.fr