



Orange Silicon Valley

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Press Release

8 april 2019

PR058-2019

CNES and ESA to take part in Orange Silicon Valley's Fab Force program

CNES and ESA officially announce their partnership with Orange Silicon Valley, through which they will be taking part in its Fab Force alliance. The aim of this one-year partnership is to forge a closer relationship between the two agencies and the Silicon Valley ecosystem, foster new ties in this region, promote European industry and expertise in the United States and prime the pipeline of talent between the two continents.

Orange Silicon Valley is Orange's strategic Bay Area presence, which was established in 1999. Fab Force is an alliance bringing together large corporations looking to access Orange Silicon Valley's expertise and start-up deal flow. The program is organized around industry-specific councils, each lead by an OSV analyst expert in the particular domain. The "Fab Force partners" engage on a monthly basis with the OSV experts, sharing strategic insights and reviewing start-ups they could partner with and invest in.

Innovation is central to everything CNES and ESA do, driving the emergence and development of both public and private players throughout the space ecosystem chain. This latest partnership will enable new approaches to connect space players and devise disruptive processes to meet modern-day challenges.

To promote space and its applications, both locally and globally, CNES last year launched its *Connect by CNES* initiative, the main goal of which is to reach outside the agency and engage with communities. With similar objectives, ESA has a network of 20 Business Incubation Centres, 15 Innovation Partners and 14 Ambassadors throughout Europe. This new partnership with Orange Silicon Valley reflects these shared goals and the ambition of both agencies to meet the needs of entrepreneurs — from start-ups to large industrial groups — looking to make space a part of their business.

About CNES

CNES (Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales) is the government agency responsible for shaping France's space policy and implementing it in Europe. Its task is to conceive and orbit satellites, invent the space systems of the future and nurture new services to aid us in our daily lives. Founded in 1961, it is the initiator of major space projects, launch vehicles and satellites, and the partner of choice for industry fuelling innovation. CNES comprises some 2,500 men and women with a passion for space working to open up new and infinite fields of applications in five core areas of focus: Ariane, science, Earth observation, telecommunications and defence. It is a key player driving technology innovation, economic development and industrial policy for the nation. It also fosters scientific collaborations and has forged numerous international partnerships. France, represented by CNES, is the leading contributor to the European Space Agency (ESA).

www.cnes.fr - [CNES photo and video library](#)

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About the European Space Agency

The European Space Agency (ESA) provides Europe's gateway to space. It is an intergovernmental organisation, created in 1975, with the mission to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space delivers benefits to the citizens of Europe and the world.

ESA has 22 Member States, of whom 20 are Member States of the EU. Slovenia is an Associate Member and ESA has formal cooperation with several other Member States of the EU. Canada takes part in some ESA programmes under a Cooperation Agreement. By coordinating the financial and intellectual resources of its members, ESA can undertake programmes and activities far beyond the scope of any single European country. It develops and launches satellites for Earth observation, navigation, telecommunications and astronomy, sends probes to the far reaches of the Solar System and cooperates in the human exploration of space. In addition, ESA is working with the EU on implementing the Galileo and Copernicus programmes.

ESA's Business Applications and Space Solutions programme transforms research and development investment into services that benefit our daily lives. Details can be found at: <https://business.esa.int>

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About Orange Silicon Valley

Orange Silicon Valley (OSV) is the wholly owned strategy subsidiary of Orange SA, one of the world's leading telecommunications operators, serving 264 million customers across 27 countries. OSV counts 50 engineers and business analysts engaging with the local Silicon Valley ecosystem to find product, services and new technologies that Orange or its customers can invest in or work with. www.orangesv.com

About Orange Fab

Orange Fab, an Orange Silicon Valley initiative, is a platform connecting innovative startups to corporations for proof-of-concept projects, distribution, or investment opportunities utilizing our onsite team of industry analysts, online content platform, CVC network, and thought leadership events. www.orangefab.com

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