



# **Small Satellite Programmes to Enable National Space Capability**

Andy Bradford, Director of Engineering, SSTL ISU, Graz, July 2011



### Introduction to SSTL

UK-based satellite manufacturing company owned by EADS Astrium NV (99%) and the University of Surrey (1%)

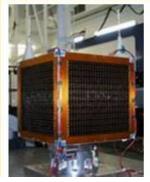






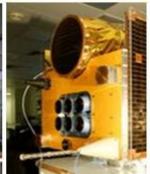


- 34 Satellites completed c.200 satellite years on-orbit experience
- 13 Further satellites (35-47) currently being prepared for launch
- 22 payloads in progress (8 optical, 14 navigation)
- 5 satellites to be launched in 2011









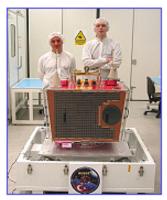






# SSTL Training Programmes

- SSTL has been training 'Emerging Space Nations' since the late 1980s
- Many Institutions & Nations have undertaken an SSTL 'KHTT' (Know How Training and Transfer) programme as their first steps in to the space arena
  - South Africa
  - South Korea
  - Malaysia
  - Portugal
  - Algeria
  - Nigeria
  - Plus many more....



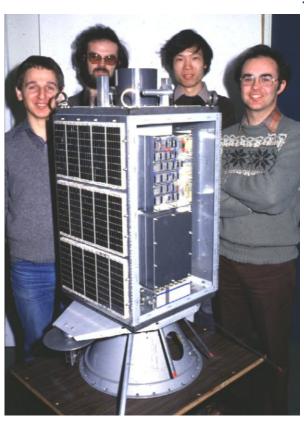






# SSTL - In the Beginning....

- Martin Sweeting led the University of Surrey Electronic Engineering's Department First Satellite Project— UoSat-1 (1981).
- UoSAT-2 was built in in just six months and launched in 1984.



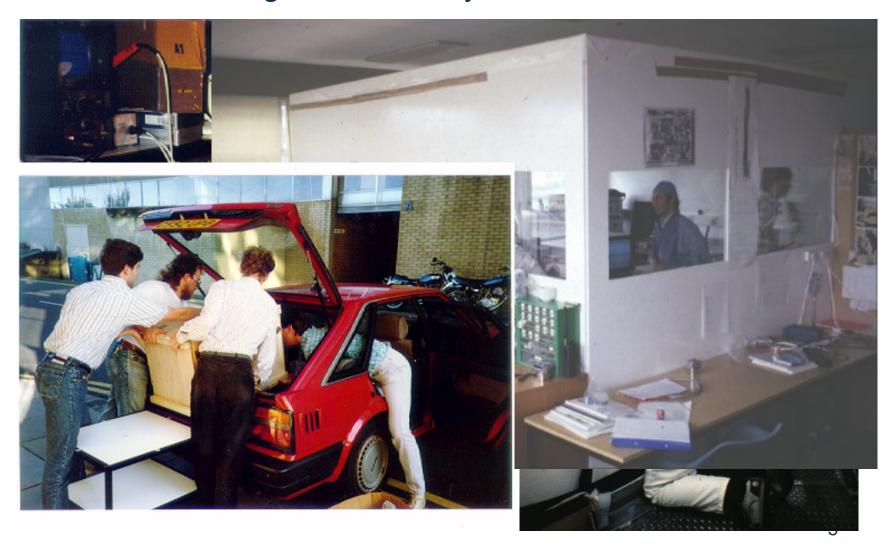


• In 1985, the University formed Surrey Satellite Technology Limited (SSTL) as a spin-out company to transfer the results of its research into a commercial enterprise able to remain at the forefront of satellite innovation.



# The Early Days

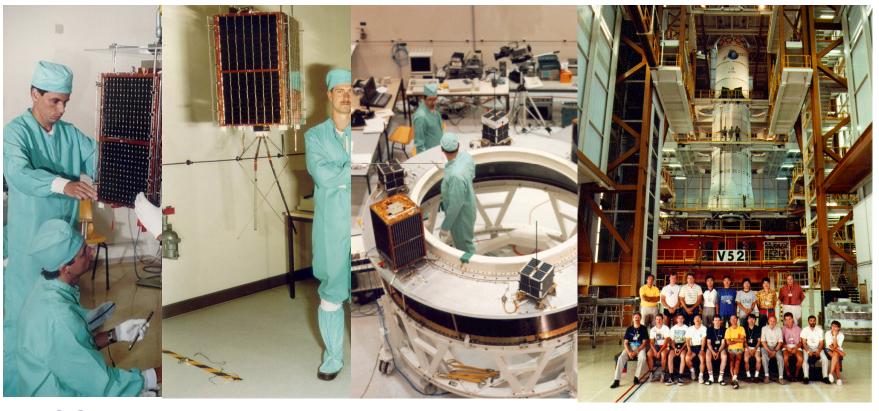
• Early Satellites were Designed and Built by a few enthusiastic Engineers, in very basic facilities!





### The Evolution and Growth of SSTL

 SSTL evolved the MicroSatellite Design and Several Customers Decided they'd like to Buy one!



 SSTL also began training customers to build their own satellites through the KHTT (Know How Training and Transfer) Programme



# Principles of the KHTT Programme

- Typical Programme Content: Contract comprises
  - Development and Delivery of a Satellite and Ground Segment
  - Training programme for a small team of Engineers and Programme Managers
- Programme Delivery:
  - Trainees (literally) sit next to the SSTL team developing and building the satellite
  - Trainees 'shadow' their SSTL responsible engineers through all phases of the project
  - This is typically complemented by some academic training (MSc in a Space qualification from the University of Surrey), and also some more 'vocational', practical training (use of key tools, soldering to space standards, e.g.)
  - Trainees go through all phases build, AIT and also the Launch Campaign









# Typical KHTT Programmes cont'd

- Typical Programme Objectives and Outputs:
  - Customer granted a licence to rebuild the SSTL satellite design, in country only (cannot exploit commercially)
- Ideal end result is the 'production' of a self sufficient team who can either (a) reproduce the programme (mission) in their own country, and/or (b) become an 'intelligent buyer' of future spacecraft (hopefully from SSTL!)
- Can't that Backfire, commercially?
  - Yes we are potentially training up competitors and handing over our secrets....
  - In reality has only happened once (Korea see later slide)
  - In fact this also serves to open up the market and awareness so is still a positive outcome
  - Key is to keep commercial 'state of the art' offerings one step ahead of the KHTT programme material



# KHTT Programme Variations

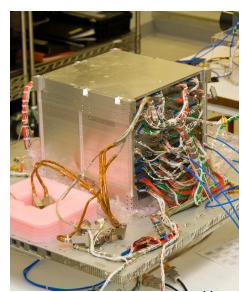
#### Additional Satellite Models

- Additional Flight Model, e.g. NigeriaSat X ('NX')
- Standard SSTL-100 Spacecraft built by Nigerian Team during course of NigeriaSat-2 programme
- Alternatively Engineering and/or Training models have also been built for on ground simulation & training (e.g. operations training)

### Customer Payloads

- Payloads developed & built by KHTT team, with help/guidance of SSTL team, for inclusion on FM Satellite
- Implemented on BILSAT-1 (Turkey) mission







# KHTT Examples & Success Stories

#### Portugal:

- Portuguese Government had ambitions to become a 'space nation' and join ESA
- First step to this was a Surrey KHTT mission & programme ('PoSat-1)
- Portuguese KHTT team completed their training at SSTL and went on to become the core of the new Portuguese Space Agency
- Portugal accepted to join ESA only a few years later

#### South Korea

- KHTT Team Trained by SSTL
- Team Formed Nucleus of Korean Satellite company, developed in to SATREC-I
- SATREC-I now a credible player in Small Satellite
  Market and in fact a competitor to SSTL

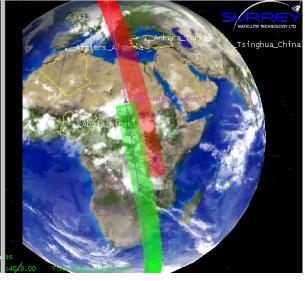






### Other Successes – Disaster Monitoring Constellation

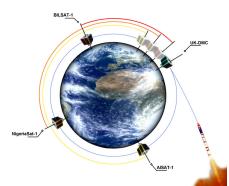




#### **Novel International Collaboration – 6 countries**

- ★3 Cosmos launches into the same orbit
- **★Individual satellite ownership**
- **★**Collaborative operation
- **★ Data sharing and exchange**
- **★**Mutual data exploitation

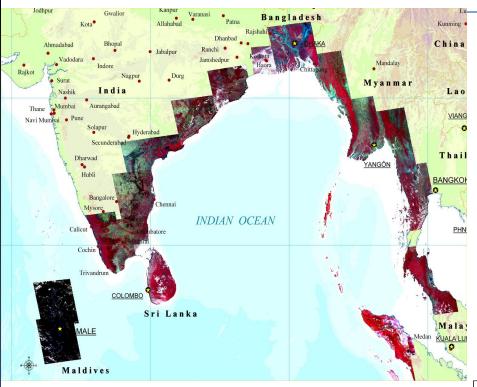








### DMC in the international charter



 International charter space and major disasters

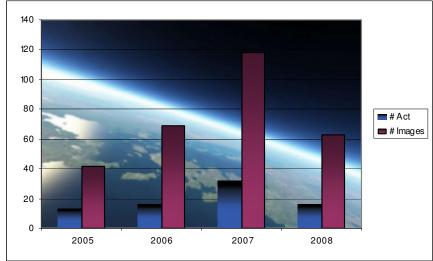
#### Since 2005 DMC has:

- responded to 77 activations
- with 292 wide-area images

#### Major campaigns in 2008:

- Floods in Southern Africa
- Earthquake in China
- Cyclone in Myanmar

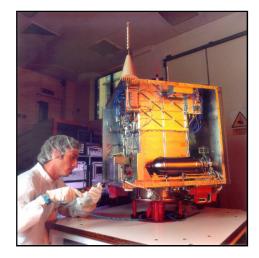


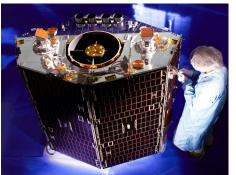


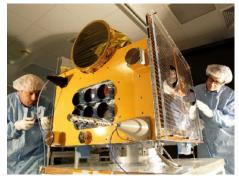


### Why Small Sats are Ideal for Training Programmes

- The price of the 'Entry Ticket' can be less than \$10m, rather than the more 'traditional' \$100m -\$1bn
- Small team size possible less than 20 can all work together, learn together, understand each other's specific issues, problems, challenges etc.
- Small team can see the whole project lifecycle not easy to achieve if you're first project is a 6 tonne science mission with 15 payloads....
- Small Satellite can still give a small team a good grounding/introduction in all aspects of a mission
  - Short timescales haven't forgetten how mission design was done (or have different team in place) by the time you get to AIT...



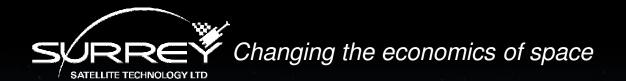






### Summary

- Small Satellites Missions are Ideal Vehicles for Training Programmes
- SSTL have successfully delivered over 15 KHTT programmes, to a variety of customers and nations, in a variety of ways
- Many of the Teams trained have gone on to form the Nucleus of Space Agencies in their Home Countries



# Thank you

Questions?