

Welcome to the first issue of Planet Aerospace News. This News publication is for all the members of Planet Aerospace to inform them about the activities of PA and connect them with objectives of PA. Since this is the first issue it covers all the developments and activities till end of February 2017 right from its inception in May 2016.

Initially, we intend to publish the PA News every three months since the pace of activities could be a bit slow. Later we could make it a monthly issue once the activities pick-up.

Our request to the members is not to treat this news issue as a mere reading material but use it to trigger your imagination what PA could achieve in future, to proactively participate in all the activities and to help PA in searching for business opportunities that match the framework and objectives of PA. Your feedback in this respect is very valuable.

So let us begin...

The Beginning

It all started when some of us met informally sometime in February 2016. We felt that the knowledge and expertise gained during our career in ISRO is not being used in a meaningful manner once we retire from our tenures in ISRO. Individuals were finding some suitable openings in academics or industries to do part-time or full-time engagements, but there was no forum that could address the needs and opportunities jointly, especially where a multidisciplinary expertise and approach becomes essential.

To bounce back the idea against some of the best brains, we presented the concept to our seniors like Dr. Kasturirangan, Dr. Goel and current Chairman Shri. Kirankumar in an open forum, on March 27, 2016. With the guidance and encouragement from seniors, it was decided to form an association of persons who have worked for at least 15 years in any centre of ISRO.

Through subsequent discussions and brain storming within core group, we could finalise the objectives, prepare an MOA, rules and regulations and finally register Planet Aerospace with the Registrar in May 2016. The first executive committee emerged out of the core group.

The Initial Actions

While some of the members of the Executive Committee were continuously exploring to create some business opportunities, some other members were carrying out the daunting tasks right from christening the organisation to finalising the logo, stationery design, getting PAN,TAN, opening bank account, getting e-mail addresses/domain name, and so on. We also have completed the formal registration process with some of the ISRO units as well defence organisations.

Progress in Business

As you are aware, enormous efforts are required to develop business in the initial stages. We have been developing and following leads in the verticals like education, training, space technology & associated facilities, quality and reliability engineering to name a few. We also started looking for Industrial partners and started signing MOUs with them. Many educational institutions are showing interest in building micro/nano satellites and to leverage that interest, we started exploring tie-ups with educational institutions. We are regularly holding meetings with prospective customers to explore different opportunities.

Highlights

- Initial discussions were held with a defence organisation for consultancy in quality and product assurance area. However, it did not move further due to lack of response from the customer
- A full day workshop with six speakers from Planet Aerospace was conducted by us on December 3, 2016 at M S Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences. Topic of the workshop was – Satellite Architecture for a small remote sensing satellite. Before the workshop, an MOU between MSRUS and PA was signed for future cooperation. The workshop was well appreciated by all the participants and faculty members.
- A full day workshop “Health QUEST” on January 12, 2017 was facilitated by Planet Aerospace between quality engineers of ISRO and various associations of medical fraternity. The idea was to adopt ISRO’s quality practices in medical field, especially in Emergency Care and Critical Care. This cooperation between ISRO and Medical Experts is continuing and experts from Planet Aerospace are actively involved in the process.
- An MOU is signed between PA and an industry carrying out hybrid micro circuits and other work for defence and auto sectors
- Discussions were held with an Industrialist from Chennai on common interest and possible business opportunities. The work on these opportunities is continuing.
- Discussions are being held between PA and one private MNC working in Space Technology for possible consultancy in their projects
- Planet Aerospace is looking forward to participate in ISRO’s ambitious plan to generate its own quality standards.



***This is just
a beginning...***

Signing of MOU between MSRUS and Planet Aerospace