

Report: The Global Space & Technology Convention (GSTC) 2017

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Summary

Hosted by the Singapore Space and Technology Association (SSTA), the ninth the Global Space & Technology Convention (GSTC) 2017 was held at the Singapore Marriott Tang Plaza Hotel, on February 22nd and 23rd, 2017.

As the SSTA is celebrating their 10th anniversary this year, presentations of some significance took place at this conference. Various presentations covered technical matters, such as upcoming Singapore satellites, and also business interests, concerning investments, U.S. export licenses, and other items. Content at this event was as much rich as the one at the SmallSat Symposium held in the United States two weeks previous. Similar to last year's same event, about 300 people took part. Most participants were from Singapore, but some also came from Europe, and there were about 15 attendees from Japan. The President of JAXA and a Cabinet Secretariat

Director participated as panel attendees, and provided presentations. Representatives from China provided a video presentation at last year's conference, but did not appear to be shown at this one. Some officials and private companies from Israel like the Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) also attended.

Exhibitions were provided by 10 companies and organizations, including Japan's Mitsubishi Electric and NEC.

Our Impressions

After taking part in this conference every year, I've been left with a strong impression that space business in Singapore is growing at an incredible pace. At the conference held 2 years ago, ST Electronics announced plans for Singapore's first optical earth observation (EO) satellite, called "TeLEOS-1". At last year's conference, presentations about that satellite launch were

provided, along with the first images acquired by it. At this year's event, ST Electronics described plans for the launch of their next earth observation satellite named "TeLEOS-2", equipped with Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR). Also at this year's conference, Singaporean company AddValue Technologies Limited announced the commencement of an Inter-Satellite Data Relay System (IDRS) service that will provide telemetry and command links to low earth orbit satellites via an Geo stationary satellite which was verified by the experimental satellite called "VELOX-II", launched in December, 2016. Singapore space companies and organizations are moving forward at an aggressive pace.

<Omitted below>

Presentations and Discussions

<Omitted below>

Other Miscellaneous Comments

Regional food is always an attractive aspect of a visit to Singapore, and one can enjoy the



flavors of Malaysia, China, India, and Britain. Hawker Center, an open-air complex of inexpensive food stalls, is a great place to explore. During this trip, I ventured to a local restaurant serving Singapore chicken, recommended by an acquaintance that had lived in the city. I found steamed and roasted duck to be delicious, and duck soup with rice was very tasty. Another highlight was fish head curry. One really must visit Singapore to experience these delicacies!

If you have any questions about this report, please contact:

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