



SPACE COST ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

Space Cost Engineering Conference 2026

25/08/2026

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→ THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

WELCOME!



What is a Space Cost Engineer?

Let's ask AI for an enthusiastic intro for a Space Cost Engineer LinkedIn page!

Forging budgets in the fires of uncertainty. Turning impossible ambitions into funded realities.

From spacecraft to complex engineering projects, I navigate uncertainty with the precision of a mission trajectory analyst and the stubbornness of someone who has reviewed one too many "rough order of magnitude" estimates.

As a Cost Engineer, I decode complexity, expose hidden risks, and reveal the true price of ambition before reality sends the invoice. I live at the intersection of engineering, economics, strategy, and occasionally panic.

I have spent my career answering humanity's most difficult question:
"How much will it actually cost?"

What is a Space Cost Engineer?



Disclaimer:
Generated with
use of Google
Gemini – any
resemblance to
actual cost
engineers is
unintentional!

Where are we?

1 Long-standing Cooperating State

4 Associate Members



23 Member States





If you need help or info, ask an ESA Cost Engineer



Space Cost Engineering Conference

- SCE2019 ESA-ESTEC
- SCE2021 CNES-Toulouse  → Online workshop
- SCE2022 ESA-ESTEC
- SCE2024 CNES-Toulouse
- **SCE2026**
 - Industry & students: 80
 - ESA & CNES: 32 + 1 EUMETSAT



Reference	Title	Authors; Presenter(s) in Bold	Organisation	Start	Duration	End	
	Welcome with Coffee			8:00	1:00	9:00	DAY 1, Oct. 1
INTRO 01	Introduction	Jean Oswald & Michel van Pelt	CNES, ESA	9:00	0:15	9:15	
INTRO 02	Welcome by CNES	Gwendoline Blanchet	CNES	9:15	0:15	9:30	
INTRO 03	Welcome by ESA	Nicoletta Wagner	ESA	9:30	0:15	9:45	
PRES 01	Value Engineering in Space Missions: How Can We Achieve Effective Value-Driven Design in Early Phases?	Ines Henriques, Q. Berti, I. Henriques, R. Janovsky, V. P. Mogha, F. Torrini	OHB System AG	9:45	0:30	10:15	
PRES 02	Cost Modeling of Satellite Constellations: Assessing the Impact of Optical Inter-Satellite Links	Gordon Hahmeyer, Dr. U. Kling	DLR	10:15	0:30	10:45	
	Coffee Break			10:45	0:30	11:15	
PRES 03	VPL: A Novel Cost Model for Earth and Mars Orbit Navigation and Communication Constellations	Minas Cholevas, G. Vardanikas	Technische Universität München / Delft University of Technology	11:15	0:30	11:45	
PRES 04	From Bespoke to Industrialized Space Systems: A Hybrid COSYSMO 4.0 Calibration for ISO 15288-Compliant Lifecycle Costing using MBSE and Machine Learning	Francisco Somohano-Rodríguez, A. Granados, J. Llorens, V. Moreno, R. Valerdi	Universidad Carlos III de Madrid / University of Arizona	11:45	0:30	12:15	
PRES 05	Efficiency of Design to Cost applied to Prometheus avionics	Pierrick Beau, Jean Oswald, Yoann Moguer, Igor Le Pivert, Jonathan Lesel, Julien Fontaine	ArianeGroup / CNES / Cost House / Prometheus Avionics	12:15	0:30	12:45	
	LUNCH			12:45	1:30	14:15	
PRES 06	Cost Engineering as a lever for product industrialisation	Stefano Patisso	MeC	14:15	0:30	14:45	
PRES 07	Economic and Environmental Analysis of Resource Generation to Support a Lunar Base	Evangelia Gkaravela, H. Chen	ESA / Stevens Institute of Technology	14:45	0:30	15:15	
	Coffee Break			15:15	0:30	15:45	
INV 01	Key note lecture	Samantha Cristoforetti	ESA	15:45	0:45	16:30	
PRES 08	Modern cost analysis with AI – support for analysing structures, parameters and cost values	Joachim Schöffner	4cost GmbH	16:30	0:30	17:00	
PRES 09	Making Sense of Evolving Space Costing with Estimation-Centric AI	Charles Orlando	Galorath, Inc.	17:00	0:30	17:30	
	Wrap-up	Frédéric Moll & Michel van Pelt	CNES, ESA	17:30	0:30	18:00	
	Dinner at ESTEC (Optional)			18:30	2:00	20:30	

	Welcome			8:00	1:00	9:00	DAY 2, Oct. 2
INTRO 04	Introduction, with brief overview of EUMETSAT	Youssef Sakho & Michel van Pelt	EUMETSAT, ESA	9:00	0:15	9:15	
INTRO 05	Student Poster Challenge introduction	Beatriz Sanchez de la Villa	ESA	9:15	0:05	9:20	
POS 01	Winner Student Poster Challenge presentation	Diego Bravo		9:20	0:30	9:50	
PRES 10	The Future of Space Cost Engineering: A Joint Effort Between Industry and Academia to Train the Next Generation of Space Cost Engineers	Dr. Livia Ordóñez Valles, F. Torrini	DLR, OHB System AG	9:50	0:30	10:20	
PRES 11	Cost Engineering in the ESA Academy Concurrent Engineering Workshop	Michel van Pelt, B. Sanchez de la Vila, N. Savage	ESA	10:20	0:30	10:50	
	Coffee Break			10:50	0:30	11:20	
PRES 12	Cost evaluation process in CNES preliminary projects	Frédéric Moll, Simona Muller	CNES	11:20	0:30	11:50	
PRES 13	Multivariate Modelling for Hardware Estimates in Predevelopment Projects – OHB expanding toolset	Giulia Cambone, L. Spani Molella	OHB	11:50	0:30	12:20	
PRES 14	Most Common Failure Modes in Tests for COTS Components: Lessons Learned from ALTER	Antonio Rodriguez Arenas, J. Velasco	Alter Technology Tüv Nord S.A.U.	12:20	0:30	12:50	
	LUNCH			12:50	1:30	14:20	
PRES 15	A Simplified Estimating Interface for TruePlanning Cost Estimating and Modelling	Pascal Gendrot	UNISON Cost Engineering	14:20	0:30	14:50	
PRES 16	Company Productivity as a Cost Driver	Paolo Ponzio	ESA	14:50	0:30	15:20	
PRES 17	Cost Drivers for in- space logistics of recycled Space Debris	Dr. Stella Tkatchova, Jeffrey Hendrikse	S-Cosmos / ATMOS	15:20	0:30	15:50	
	Coffee Break			15:50	0:30	16:20	
INV 02	Present scenario and future perspectives of smart manufacturing for space industrialization	Prof. Dr. Paolo Gaudenzi	Science and Technology Counselor - General Consulate of Italy in Boston - Full Professor at University of Rome "La Sapienza"	16:20	0:30	16:50	
PRES 18	ECOS 6: ESA's Next-Generation Costing Software Supporting Digital Procurement	Audrey Maltier, P. Ponzio, C. Le Blay, F. Doullat, J. F. Prieto, C. Garrido	ESA / Immedia IT Software	16:50	0:30	17:20	
	Wrap-up & Intro Next Conference	Youssef Sakho & Gwendoline Blanchet & Michel van Pelt	EUMETSAT, CNES, ESA	17:20	0:20	17:40	