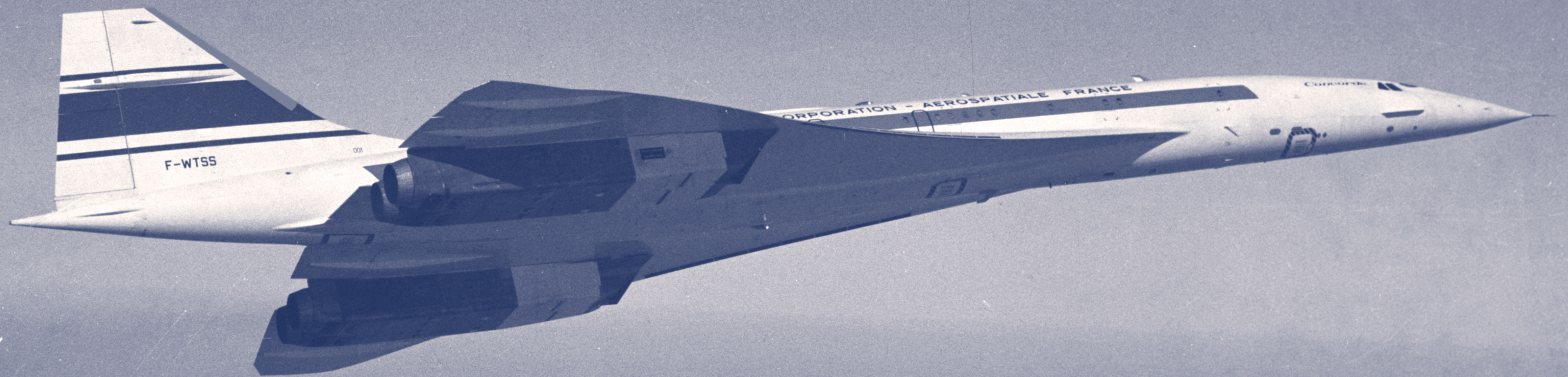




OUR PRODUCT History

LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

(1965-69)





1965

THE SA330 PUMA PERFORMED ITS FIRST FLIGHT
This medium-weight twin-engine was the first of a long series that has been built in various versions down to the present day.



1968

FIRST FLIGHT OF THE GAZELLE SA341
The second prototype of the Gazelle (SA 341) made its first flight on 12 April 1968, and featured a Fenestron tail rotor fairing.



1969

CONCORDE TAKES OFF ON ITS 1ST FLIGHT IN TOULOUSE
Commercial aviation took a supersonic leap into the future with Concorde's maiden flight, which was captained by André Turcat.



EUROPEAN COLLABORATION (1970^s)



1970

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE WAS OFFICIALLY
CREATED AS A GIE

France's Aerospatiale (a merger of SEREB, Sud Aviation and Nord Aviation), and Germany's Deutsche Airbus were the initial founding partners of the Airbus Industrie GIE (Groupement d'Intérêt Economique) with a 50% stake each. In 1971 that stake was diluted to 47.9% each to allow Spain's CASA (Construcciones Aeronáuticas SA) to join the GIE with a 4.2% stake. In 1979 Aerospatiale and Deutsche Airbus reduced their shares to 37.9% and BAe (British Aerospace), which had absorbed Hawker Siddeley, acquired a 20% stake in the GIE, with CASA retaining its 4.2% stake. creation to customers, pilots and executives.



1971

FIRST FLIGHT OF C-212 AVIOCAR

Developed by Airbus predecessor CASA, the C212 has been used in charter and short-haul cargo roles, for search and rescue missions, and various military applications.



1972

FIRST FLIGHT OF THE SA360 DAUPHIN

The Dauphin was originally designed as the successor to the Alouette III and was to be called the "Business Alouette".



THE WORLD'S FIRST TWIN ENGINE WIDE-BODY
AIRCRAFT

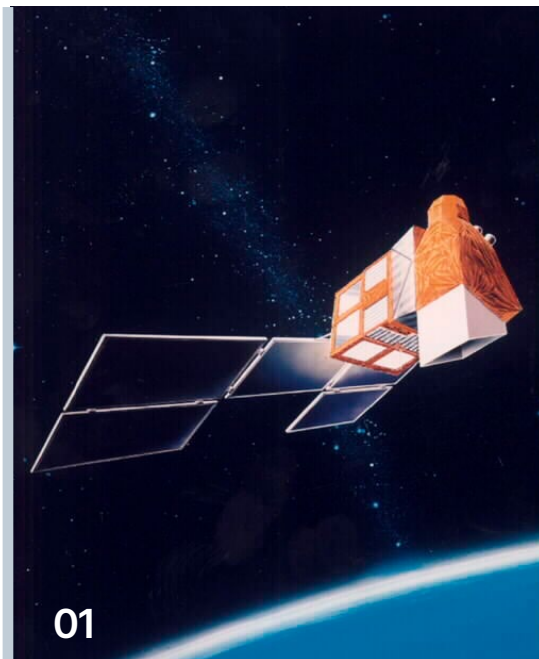
The first flight of the A300 took place in Toulouse on 28 October 1972, a month ahead of schedule despite several delays due to bad weather.





1973

AN ODYSSEY ACROSS SOUTH AND NORTH AMERICA
A300 embarks on a six-week sales expedition across North and South America to show off Airbus' new creation to customers, pilots and executives.



1974

01. HELIOS-A AND HELIOS-B, LAUNCHED IN 1974 AND 1976
Helios-A and Helios-B were the first space probes produced outside of the U.S. and the Soviet Union to leave Earth orbit, with their launches in 1974 and 1976.

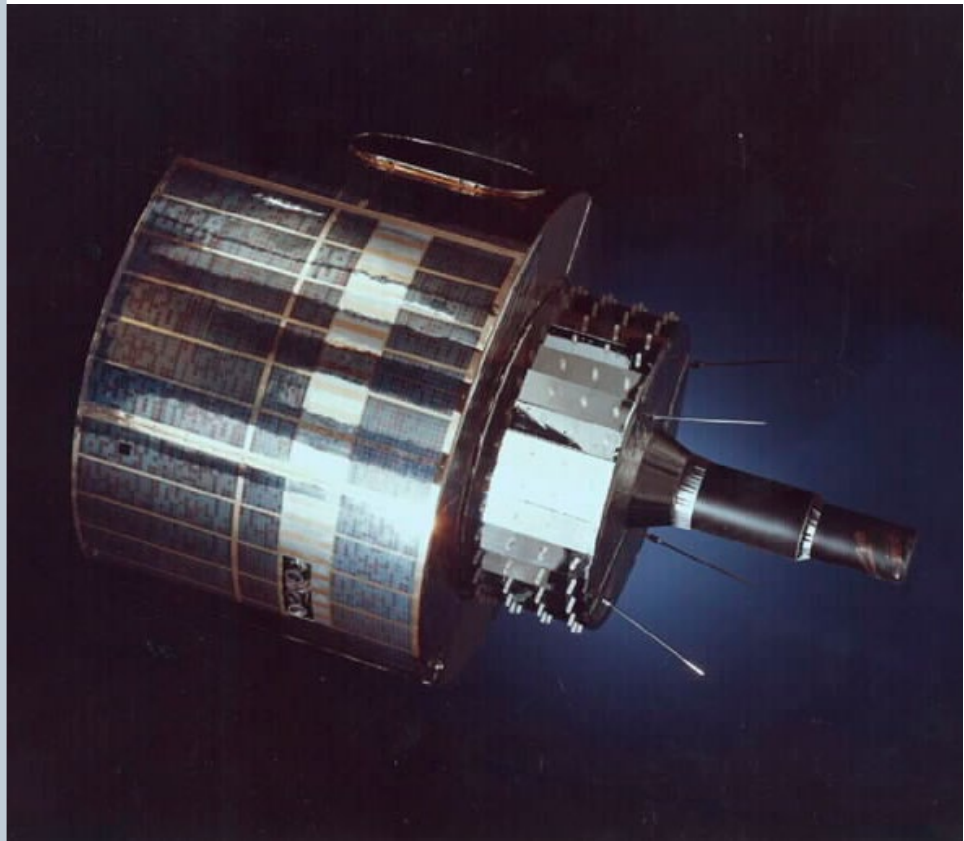
02. A300B2 ENTERS REGULAR SERVICE FOR AIR FRANCE
Initial commercial flights for Air France were from Paris to London.

03. FIRST FLIGHT OF THE TORNADO
The MRCA prototype, later known as the Tornado, took its maiden flight at Manching

04. THE LAUNCH OF THE FRANCO-GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE SYMPHONIE
Symphonie was the first European communications satellite system launched into orbit aboard an American Delta rocket.

1977

LAUNCH OF THE FIRST EUROPEAN WEATHER SATELLITE METEOSAT
Meteosat, the first European weather satellite and the basis for Airbus' competence in meteorological platforms. Built by an industrial consortium, the prototype Meteosat-1 was launched in 1977 on a U.S. Delta rocket.



1978

EASTERN AIRLINES, AIRBUS' FIRST US CUSTOMER, ORDERS 23 A300B4 AIRCRAFT

After the breakthrough agreement with Eastern Airlines, there followed a series of orders that confirmed Airbus as a serious contender in the global aircraft manufacturing industry.

FIRST FLIGHT OF THE AS332 SUPER PUMA

The AS332 Super Puma, featuring anti-crash fuel tanks, which offered military users new guarantees in terms of survivability and, in time, all the customers of the range would benefit from these improvements.



FIRST LAUNCH OF ARIANE 1

Ariane 1, the launcher's first variant, made its maiden flight from the Guiana Space Centre (CSG) on December 24, 1979.



1979

FIRST FLIGHT OF BK 117

The precursor to the EC145, the BK117 was a 50:50 joint venture by MBB and Kawasaki.



NEW STARS ARE BORN (1980^s)



1982

COCKPIT ADVANCES

Delivery of the first A300 FFCC jetliner version, received by Indonesian airline Garuda, incorporating the Forward-Facing Crew Cockpit configuration, which enabled a two-pilot crew to fly the aircraft without the need for a flight engineer.



FIRST FLIGHT OF THE A310

The "Airbus Family" began with the shorter-fuselage A310 and longer-range A300. Lufthansa and Swissair were the first carriers.



1983

SPACELAB STARTS ITS JOURNEY INTO SPACE

Spacelab, built in Bremen by MBB-Erno as prime contractor, starts its first journey into space on board the Columbia space shuttle. The command and data management subsystem CDMS was developed by MATRA.engineer.

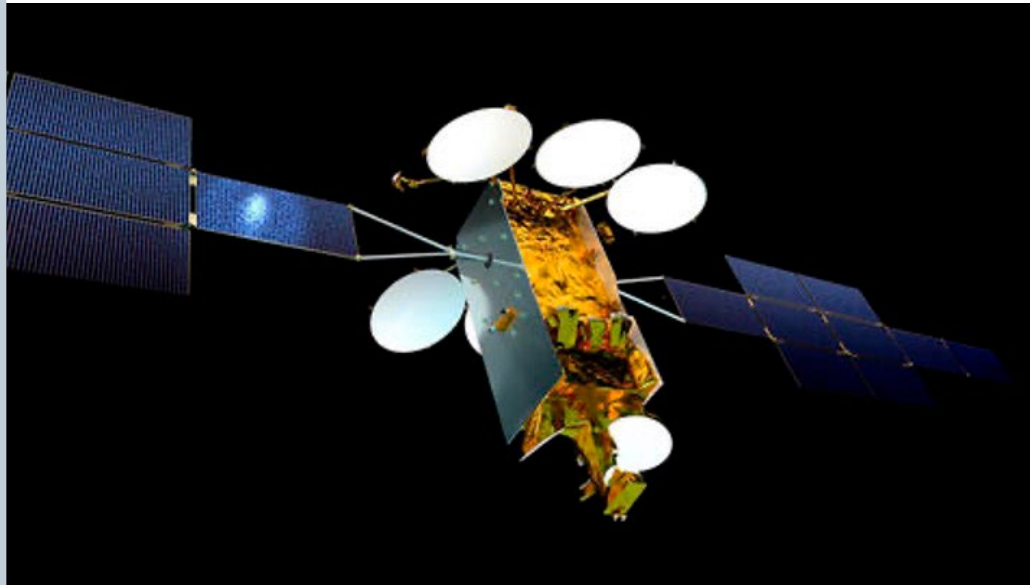
FIRST FLIGHT OF THE CN235

Developed jointly by CASA and IPTN, the CN235 has highly diverse applications, covering the spectrum from airline flights, patrol and anti-drug trafficking to cargo, VIP duties and special missions.

1985

DEVELOPMENT OF EUROSTAR

A series of high-performance communications satellites suited to a full range of communications missions – including links with fixed ground stations, mobile services, broadcast and broadband.



1988

MAIDEN FLIGHT OF THE BO 108

The Bo 108 took off with the most up-to-date technology, including a composite structure, new vibration absorbers, and ultra-modern avionics with screens.



LAUNCH OF THE FIRST ARIANE 4

The first Ariane 4 flew in June 1988 from the Guiana Space Centre in French Guiana, performing 113 successful launches and capturing 50% of the commercial satellite launch services marketplace.



1987

LAUNCH OF A320

With the groundbreaking Fly-by-wire technology, the A320 Family would go on to record spectacular sales success, becoming the best-selling jetliner aircraft family ever.

EXPANDING FRONTIERS

(1990^s)



1991

ARRIVAL OF THE A340

The ultra long-range four engined A340-300, able to seat 295 in a three-class configuration and fly 7,150 nautical miles/13,200 kilometres, was rolled out in October, 1991.



1994

FIRST FLIGHT OF THE EUROFIGHTER

The extremely capable, flexible and versatile swing-role front-line fighter aircraft flew for the first time.



MAIDEN FLIGHT OF THE EC135

The first helicopter in the Eurocopter range and successor to the BO 108. The most important addition to the EC135 is its Fenestron® tail rotor.



1992

MAIDEN FLIGHT OF THE MEDIUM TO LONG-RANGE A330

Carrying 335 passengers in two classes, the A330 marked another milestone with the first Rolls-Royce engine – the Trent 700 – on an Airbus aircraft.

ROLLOUT OF THE A300-600ST BELUGA

The Beluga was the successor to the SuperGuppy transporter for Airbus components.



1995

FIRST FLIGHT OF THE EC120 COLIBRI
With this helicopter, Eurocopter extends its range to include 1.5 metric tonne machines.



1997

SUCCESSFUL LIFT OFF OF THE ARIANE 5
As of early 2019, the heavy-lift vehicle had been launched more than 100 times from the Guiana Space Centre in French Guiana. Its payload lift capability has evolved from the initial 6,900 kg. in geostationary transfer orbit to an enhanced performance of 10,000 kg., along with a capacity of 20 tonnes into low Earth orbit.



1996

SUPER JUMBO A3XX
Airbus Industrie sets up Large Aircraft Division, to develop the super jumbo A3XX, later designated the A380.

FIRST OFFICIAL FLIGHT OF THE NH90
The maiden flight took place at the Eurocopter plant in Marignane, France in the presence of military and governmental representatives from France, Italy, Germany and the Netherlands (the nations participating in the NH90 Programme).



1998

FIRST FLIGHT OF C295
Originally designed for the deployment of forces, the C295 can transport over nine tonnes of troops or cargo. Further developed from the CN235, it has a longer fuselage and more powerful engines.

1999

PRODUCTION INVESTMENT CONTRACT SIGNED FOR THE TIGER

The contract marked a decisive step towards production of Tiger, with an initial batch of 160 helicopters (80 for Germany and 80 for France) to be procured.



MAIDEN FLIGHT OF THE EC145

The EC145 offers an increased maximum takeoff weight and payload capacity as well as a modern cockpit identical to that of the EC135.



MAIDEN FLIGHT OF THE EC130 B4

This new member of the Ecureuil/AStar family offers more cabin space, extensive visibility and a reduced sound level.





A NEW ERA BEGINS
(2000^s)

2000

DAY ONE" AS THE OFFICIAL START OF OPERATIONS FOR EADS

On 10 July 2000, the European aerospace and defence landscape was reshaped by the integration of the French, German and Spanish national aerospace champions into a single listed company known as EADS, since renamed Airbus. Today Airbus is the largest aeronautics and space company in Europe.



2001

THE NEW EC725 HELICOPTER IS PRESENTED TO THE FRENCH AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF

This version will be able to carry a higher military payload, and will also have an increased civil range of action compared to the MK2 version of the Cougar / Super Puma.

2002

FIRST FLIGHT TESTS OF THE A318, THE SMALLEST MEMBER OF THE A320 FAMILY

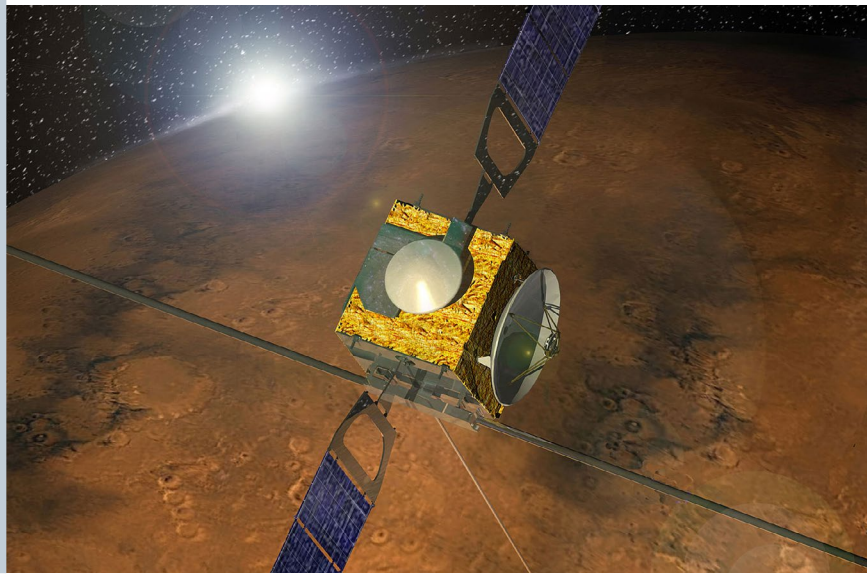
Captain Bernd Schaefer confirmed that the aircraft handled as anticipated on its maiden flight, which kicked off the A318 flight test campaign.



2003

MARS EXPRESS HEADS FOR THE RED PLANET

Mars Express lifted off in June 2003. After arriving at Mars, data from this planetary orbiter helped answer questions about the geology, atmosphere, surface environment, history of water and potential for life on the planet.



LAUNCH OF A400M PROGRAMME

With the first flight performed in December 2009, the A400M developed for tactical and strategic missions – along with force-projection through aerial refuelling.



2004

OPENING OF AMERICAN EUROCOPTER PLANT IN COLUMBUS

The Columbus site mainly focuses on the assembly and customisation of the helicopters sold by American Eurocopter to local and federal government organisations for military operations, homeland security and other parapublic missions.

2005

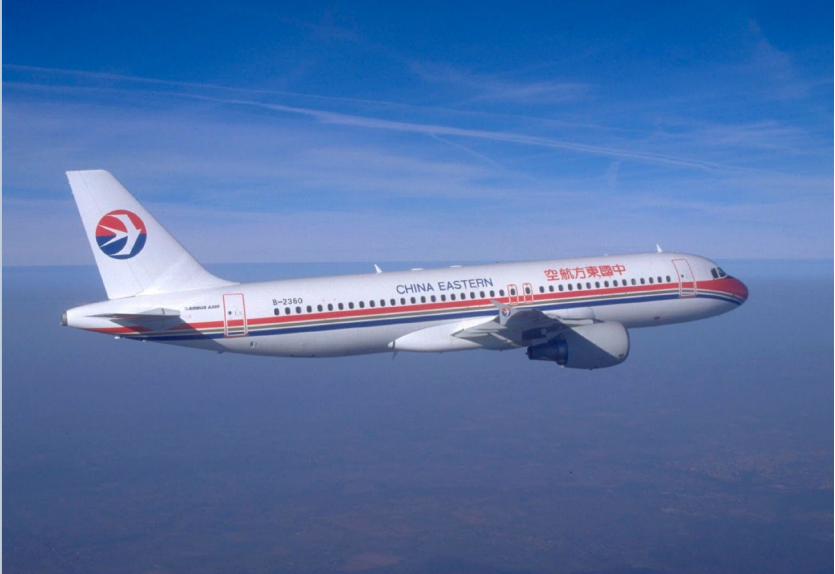
UNVEILING OF THE A380

The world's largest and most modern passenger jet is unveiled to the public. Later that year it would complete its maiden flight.



EUROCOPTER ECUREUIL AS350 PILOTED BY DIDIER DELSALLE LANDS ON MOUNT EVEREST ON MAY 14, 2005

This tremendous achievement breaks the world record for the highest altitude landing and takeoff ever, which sets an ultimate milestone in the history of aviation.



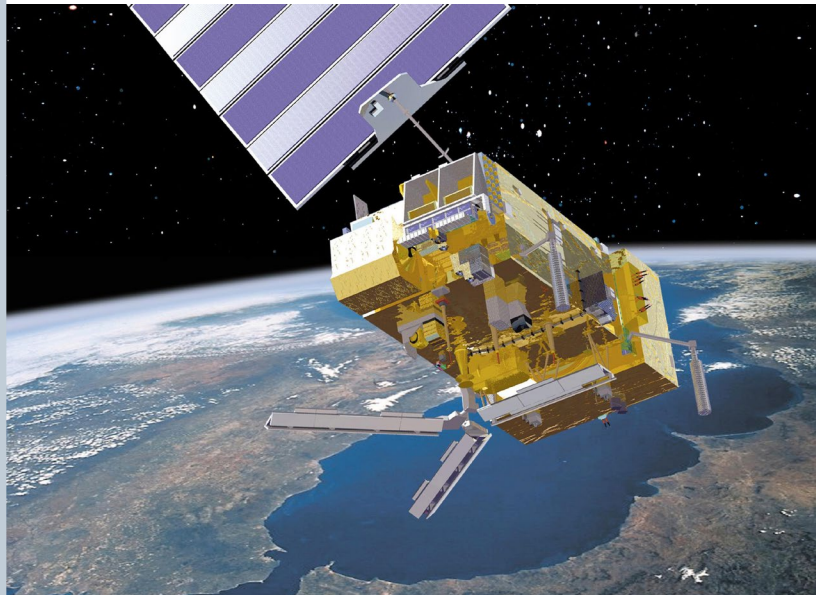
03. EADS AND CHINA AGREE ON STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Airbus strengthened its foothold in China, with an order of 150 A320 family aircraft, the largest order in Airbus history so far, and a new engineering centre to be set up.

2006

LAUNCH OF METOP-A

Observation data provided by Metop enable precise weather forecasting, better prediction of natural disasters, and measurements for issues such as climate change, progressive melting of polar ice and rise in sea levels.



U.S. ARMY SELECTS THE UH-72A LAKOTA

U.S. Army selects the UH-72A Lakota version of the EC145 rotorcraft as the military service's Light Utility Helicopter. More than 400 have been supplied to the U.S. Army and Navy, with production performed at a facility in Mississippi.



2007

FIRST FLIGHT OF THE A330 MRTT

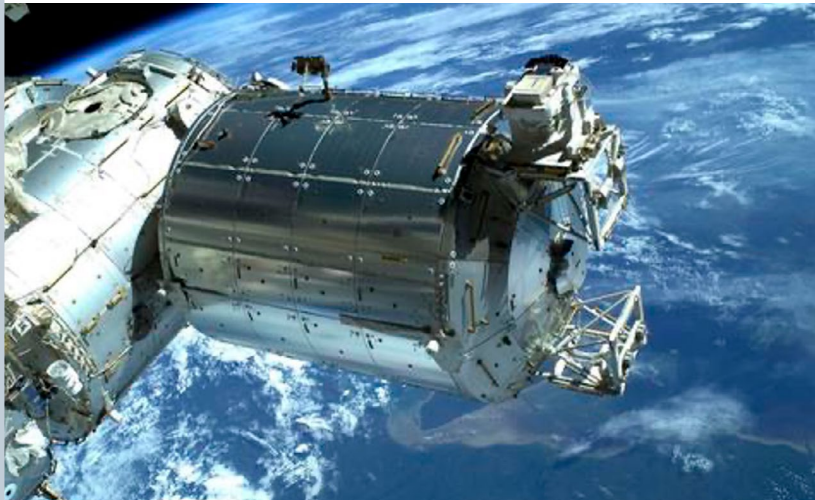
Based on the successful A330-200 airliner, the A330 MRTT is the benchmark for new-generation multi-role tanker/transport.



2008

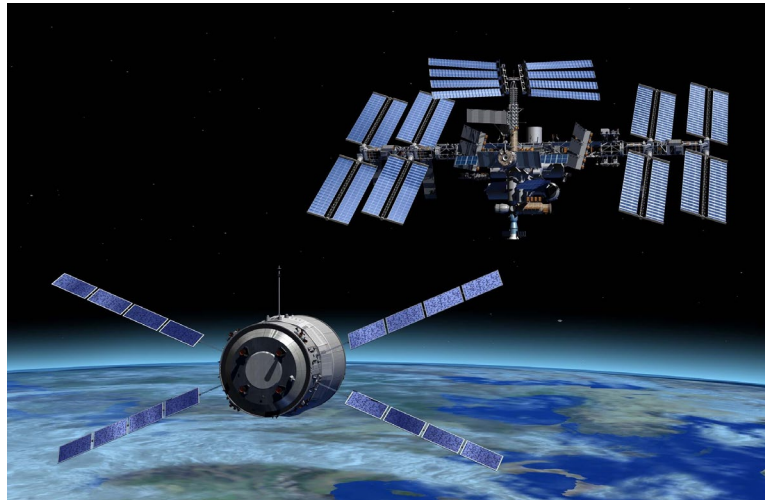
COLUMBUS SETS SAIL FOR ISS ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE ATLANTIS

The Columbus science laboratory was launched aboard Space Shuttle Atlantis on February 7, 2008 and docked at the International Space Station (ISS).



ATV IN SERVICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

The Automated Transfer Vehicle (ATV), is a servicing spacecraft for the ISS with the delivery of propellant, water, air, payload and experiment equipment.



INAUGURATION OF A320 FINAL ASSEMBLY LINE IN TIANJIN, CHINA

Airbus expanded its industrial network by creating a new A320 final assembly line in Tianjin, China – the company's first outside of Europe.



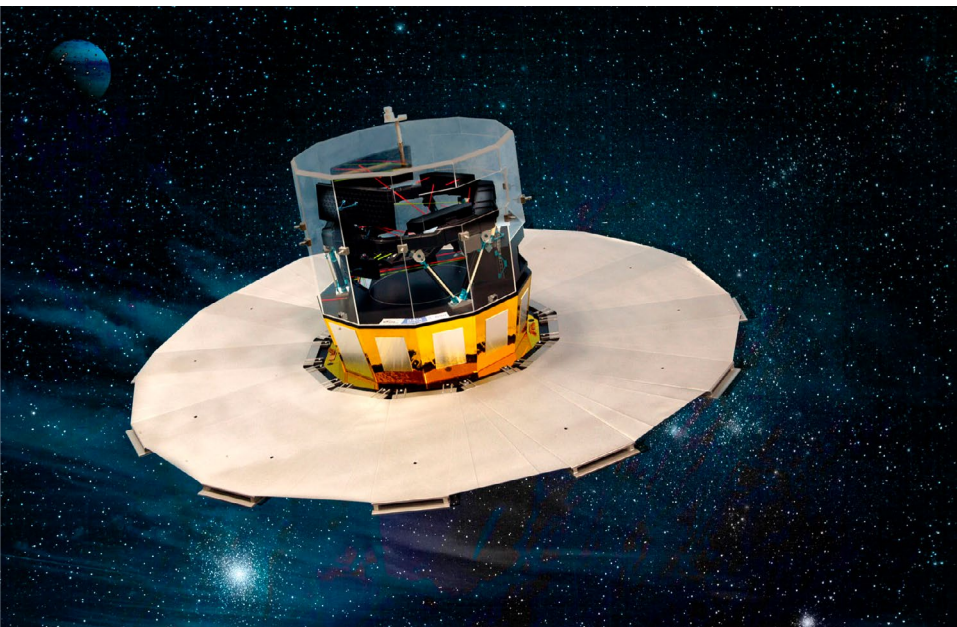


WE MAKE IT FLY
(2010-Today)

2010

THE NEW GENERATION EC145 T2 PERFORMS ITS FIRST FLIGHT

The EC145 T2 was developed with major innovations such as the dual AFCS, reducing pilot's workload, particularly in difficult weather or mission conditions.



LAUNCH OF GAIA

Gaia – an Airbus-designed and-built space surveyor for ESA – is to compile a 3D space catalogue of more than 1,000 million stars, or approximately roughly 1% of the stars in the Milky Way.

2014

EADS RENAMED AIRBUS GROUP

EADS was renamed Airbus Group (which later in 2017 renamed to Airbus). Eurocopter becomes Airbus Helicopters. The rebranding marks a new era in the history of the company as it joins Airbus and Airbus Defence & Space within the new Airbus Group.



FIRST FLIGHT OF THE X3 DEMONSTRATOR

The X3 is a high-speed hybrid helicopter developed to perform vertical takeoffs and landings and obtain cruising speeds of approximately 220 kts.



2013

THE A350 XWB TAKES FLIGHT

Airbus' newest and most efficient jetliner – the A350 XWB – conducted its highly successful maiden flight from Toulouse-Blagnac Airport.



FIRST FLIGHT OF THE A320NEO

The highly-efficient aircraft with new engine option along with standard Sharklets, delivers a 15% fuel burn reduction to carriers.



COMETARY ENCOUNTER

Launched in 2004, the Rosetta spacecraft spent 10 years on a voyage of more than six billion kilometres to reach and study the comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko.



2015

INAUGURATION OF OPERATIONS OF THE A320 FAL IN MOBILE, ALABAMA

The facility joins existing final assembly lines in Hamburg; Toulouse; and Tianjin, China, boosting the production of the best-selling single-aisle aircraft family.



UNVEILING THE H160

The H160 is unveiled on Airbus Helicopters' Heli-Expo booth in Orlando, Florida. Its first flight took place in Marignane (France) on June 13, 2015.



A350-1000 FIRST FLIGHT

Successful maiden flight of the A350-1000 on 24 November 2016.



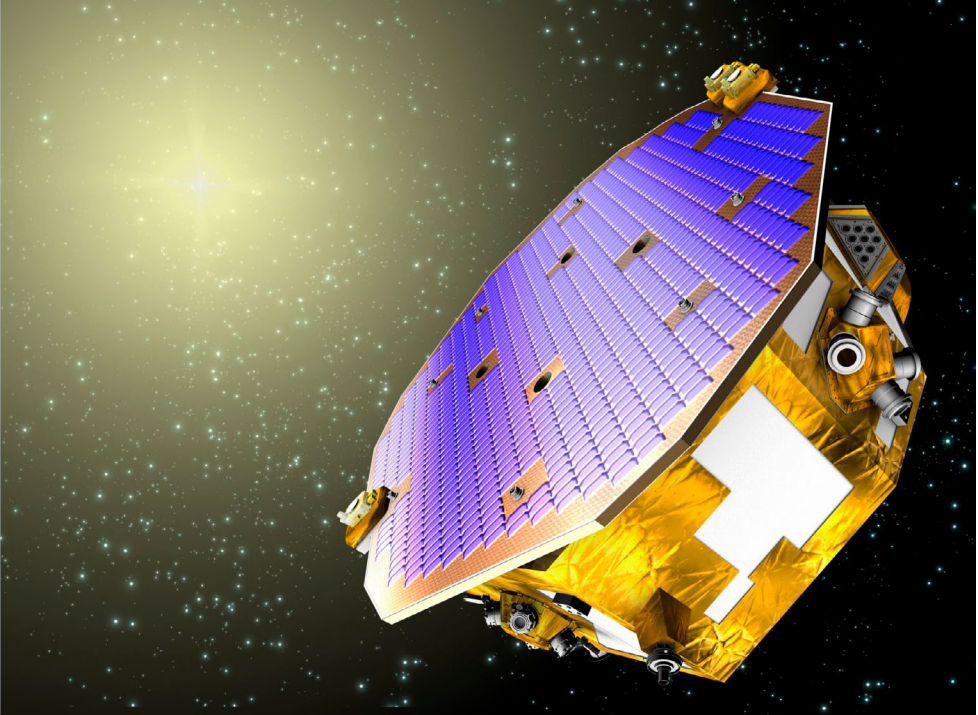
GALILEO GOES LIVE

Galileo, the global navigation satellite system (GNSS) went live in 2016. From the beginning of Galileo through 2018, Airbus was prime contractor for the satellite navigation system's ground control segment

2016

DELIVERY OF THE 10,000TH AIRCRAFT TO SINGAPORE AIRLINES

A year of milestones, including service introductions of the A320neo; first deliveries of the latest A330 Family member tailored for regional routes; start of final assembly for the A330neo; and its 10,000th overall delivery.



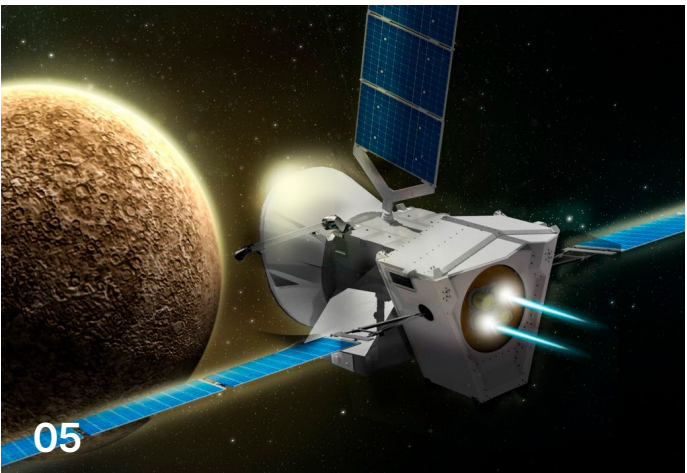
LAUNCH OF THE LISA PATHFINDER

This ESA technology demonstrator mission is one of the most ambitious scientific undertakings to date: proving key elements of Einstein's theory of general relativity.

2017

MAIDEN FLIGHT OF THE A330NEO

Powered by latest-generation Rolls-Royce Trent 7000 engines, the A330neo expands operators' market opportunities with a range capability increase of approximately 400 nautical miles while carrying more payload.



2018

01. EUROPE'S FUTURE COMBAT AIR SYSTEM (FCAS)

The landmark industrial agreement between Airbus and Dassault Aviation envisions a "system of systems" – composed of next-generation fighter aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles, future cruise missiles and drones, and military services.

02. THE AUTONOMOUS DEMONSTRATOR VSR700

Airbus Helicopters started autonomous flight trials of a VSR700 Optionally Piloted Vehicle (OPV) demonstrator, without safety pilot on December 20, 2018.

03. AIRBUS A220 THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF AIRBUS' SINGLE-AISLE AIRCRAFT FAMILY

A milestone partnership between Airbus and Canada's Bombardier took effect in July with Airbus acquiring a majority stake in the C Series Aircraft Limited Partnership.

04. THE FIRST BELUGAXL

Airbus' next-generation super airlifter – performed its maiden flight on 19 July in Toulouse.

05. LAUNCH OF THE BEPICOLOMBO

Launched on an Ariane 5 in October, the BepiColombo to research the solar system's smallest and least-explored terrestrial planet – Mercury.

2019

DELIVERY OF THE 12,000TH AIRBUS JETLINER
Airbus delivered the 12,000th commercial aircraft in the company's 50-year history – an A220-100 assembled in Mirabel, Canada for U.S.-based Delta Air Lines.

A321XLR: EFFICIENCY AND EXTRA-LONG RANGE
After its official launch at the 2019 Paris Air Show, Airbus' extra-long-range single-aisle A321XLR steadily built up a strong base of orders and commitments from customers around the world.



2022

A321XLR: FIRST FLIGHT
Airbus' latest family member, the extra-long-range single-aisle A321XLR completed its maiden flight in June 2022.



2025

ARIANE 6 FIRST COMMERCIAL LAUNCH
The Ariane 6 launcher performed its first commercial mission designated VA263, with an A62 variant, launched on March 6, 2025. It successfully launched into orbit the CSO-3 reconnaissance satellite which was built by Airbus Defence and Space.



