

## **Transcript of BNSC corporate video**

Since the dawn of the space age over 50 years ago, the United Kingdom has reached out to explore, understand and utilise space for the benefit of all.

With UK technology in orbit around Saturn, Mars, Venus and the Moon, as well as countless earth orbiting satellites, we are at the forefront of the space age.

While mankind took its first steps on the lunar surface 40 years ago, today, space is part of everyday life – and - thanks to the British National Space Centre - the UK is at the forefront of this 21<sup>st</sup> Century industry.

UK science and engineering expertise features in over 60 operational missions – from Herschel, the largest space telescope ever built – to Galileo, Europe's first satellite navigation system.

It's a 6.5 billion pound industry that supports 68,000 UK jobs.

From the world's leading small satellite company, to building satellites for the European Space Agency, the first commercial military satellite operator, and the world's most successful mobile satcom company, UK space expertise is vital for understanding climate change and how our planet works - and for speeding aid when disaster strikes.

The UK has an outstanding heritage in space innovation.

Spin-off technology from space is already being applied for medical diagnosis in the UK and abroad.

Meanwhile, the innovative UK design for a reusable space-plane, using radical hydrogen propulsion technology may lay the foundation for future green air travel.

In November 2008, the UK government pledged over 900 million Euros of new investment to the European Space Agency focused on areas where the UK has outstanding strengths.

Britain's Science Minister, Lord Drayson, and ESA's Director General, Jean-Jacques Dordain, also signed an agreement for a new ESA centre to be based at the Harwell Science and Innovation Campus, near Oxford.

The campus already has leading science and technology facilities.

Synchrotron radiation sources used for materials and biomedical research - and Europe's largest space science and technology department.

The 4,000 researchers at Harwell work in fields as diverse as fusion energy, climate change and medical science.

ESA in the UK opened its doors in July 2009.

Harwell will be the catalyst for business success in the European and global space programme.

**The Harwell International Space Innovation Centre - the dynamic hub in tomorrow's economy.**