



Global Recruitment & Executive Search | Satellite & NewSpace Specialists

# Satellite & NewSpace Snapshot

INDUSTRY INSIGHTS - JANUARY 2025

## A New Year in NewSpace: Twenty Twenty... Thrive?

January has set the tone for a strong year in space.

SpaceX's 12th Transporter mission demonstrated their continued market dominance and unmatched ability to consistently launch a plethora of innovative spacecraft and tech into orbit.

Some much-needed serious competition to the scale of launch operations at SpaceX could be on the horizon however, with Blue Origin successfully sending their giant New Glenn rocket to orbit for the first time.

But the space sector has much more to offer beyond the billionaires, and the wider industry saw many exciting announcements that point towards a prosperous year in space indeed.

### In this issue:

[Stoke Space Secures \\$260m Series C Investment](#)

[Rocket Lab to Launch Eight OroraTech Satellites](#)

## Featured Companies

- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Stoke Space  | ION-X              |
| Astranis     | Satlantis          |
| Telesat      | FOSSA Systems      |
| Planet Labs  | Xona Space Systems |
| Rocket Lab   | SpaceX             |
| OroraTech    | Blue Origin        |
| Loft Orbital |                    |

## Fancy a listen?



## Stoke Space Secures \$260m Series C Investment

Stoke Space has secured \$260 million in funding, led by Breakthrough Energy Ventures, to advance its reusable space vehicles. The investment will help accelerate the development of a cost-effective, environmentally sustainable rocket system. Stoke aims to conduct its first orbital flight by 2026, positioning itself to compete in the expanding commercial space launch market.

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## Key Executive Leadership Changes Unveiled at Telesat

Telesat have announced key executive leadership changes, seeing the appointment of Michel Forest new Chief Technology Officer and Asit Tandon Chief Network and Information Officer. These leadership updates are part of the company's strategy to strengthen its management team and support its expansion plans, particularly its low Earth orbit (LEO) satellite constellation.

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## Astranis Announces Another Launch Contract with SpaceX

Astranis secured another Falcon 9 launch contract to deploy further small GEO satellites into orbit, with the aim to provide affordable internet to underserved regions, as shown by their previous launches for Alaska and the Pacific Islands.

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## Planet Signs \$230m Pelican Satellites Deal

Planet has signed a \$230 million commercial agreement for its Pelican satellites, aimed at providing high-resolution, rapid revisit Earth observation data. The announcement caps a stellar January, full of announcements, including Planet joining ESA's Copernicus Contributing Missions and a \$200m Luno B deal.

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## Rocket Lab to Launch Eight OroraTech Satellites

Rocket Lab will launch a wildfire detection mission for OroraTech, using its Photon satellite platform. The satellites will provide real-time data for early wildfire detection and response, supporting global efforts to protect ecosystems and communities. What we witnessed Stateside last month, and continue to witness in other regions more and more frequently, only further demonstrate the critical importance of such missions.

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## 131 Payloads Launched on Transporter-12 Mission

There are simply too many incredible companies to name here regarding the launch of Falcon 9's 12th Transporter Mission, and SpaceX have now staggeringly launched over 1,100 payloads into orbit across all Transporter missions. Some less publicised payloads worthy of mention on this 12th mission include ION-X, Satlantis and FOSSA Systems, but believe us, this barely scratches the surface!

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## Loft Orbital Announce \$170m Series C Funding Round

Loft Orbital raised \$170 million in Series C funding to boost its satellite infrastructure services. The investment will help expand its operations and enhance its ability to provide flexible, cost-effective satellite platforms for commercial and government clients.

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## Xona Space Systems Appoint New COO

Xona Space Systems has appointed Jonathan Wakenshaw as its new Chief Operating Officer. Wakenshaw will oversee the company's operations as it develops next-gen satellite communication technology. His experience in scaling operations will support Xona's growth in providing advanced satellite services to the commercial and defense sectors.

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