

# 10 Reasons

Why West  
Holland is the  
Hotspot for  
Space



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**Innovation  
Quarter**

*invest &  
innovate in  
West Holland*

# 10 Reasons why West Holland is the Hotspot for Space

Around 80% of all Dutch space activities take place in West Holland. The region is home to the complete chain of academic research & knowledge, first, second & third tier suppliers and end users. ESTEC, the technical heart of the European Space Agency, is located here as well as a vibrant and growing satellite cluster with upstream (small) satellite companies and downstream data users.

## TALENT & KNOWLEDGE



### 1 ACCESS TO TALENT



**TU Delft Faculty of Aerospace Engineering**  
University of Technology  
2,500 students



**Leiden University Faculty of Astronomy, Institute of Air & Space Law**  
Research Oriented University, 300 students

**Leiden, The Hague and Delft, Bsc Mechatronics**  
HBO (University of Applied Sciences),  
800 students

**Leidse Instrumentmakers School**  
Senior Secondary Vocational Education and Training, 300 students



**TU Delft**  
#1 in Europe for  
Aerospace Engineering

### 2 RESEARCH & INNOVATION



**TU Delft** Space Institute / Dutch Optics Centre (in collaboration with TNO)  
**TNO** Institute for Space & Systems Engineering  
**ESA** ESTEC European Space Research & Tech Centre  
**Leiden University** International Air & Space Law / Leiden Observatory  
**SRON** Netherlands Institute for Space Research – (as of 2021)



### 3 AREAS OF TOP EXPERTISE

Satellite Communication Systems  
 Complete Space (Sub) Systems  
 International Space Law  
 Optics & Optomechanics

Nano & Small Satellites  
 New materials and composites  
 Solar Panels  
 Earth Observation Services

## EXCELLENT INFRASTRUCTURE



### 4 HOTSPOTS

#### World Class Space Business Facilities

- Noordwijk:** Space Business Park (ESA, ESTEC, SBIC, GRC)
- Leiden:** University Science Park
- The Hague:** Business Park Ypenburg (composites & manufacturing)
- Delft:** TU Delft Science Park (YES!Delft, RoboValley)



## 5 EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY (ESTEC)

The **European Space Research & Technology Centre** (ESTEC) in Noordwijk is ESA's largest facility in Europe and is the technical heart of the organization. Most ESA projects are born here and are guided through the various phases of development. Some **2500** engineers, technicians and scientists develop and manage all types of ESA missions.



**ESA/ESTEC**

Largest ESA establishment in Europe



## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES



## 6 GALILEO REFERENCE CENTER

Galileo is the global navigation satellite system (GNSS) created by the European Union (EU). Its reference center has the task of evaluating the quality of the signals in space and the performance of the Galileo Service Operator.



## 7 LEADING COMPANIES



## 8 PRESENCE OF RELEVANT AGENCIES & ASSOCIATIONS



### Agencies:

- Netherlands Space Office
- European Patent Office
- Radiocommunications Agency



### Associations:

- SpaceNed (Dutch Space Association)
- NAG Netherlands Aerospace Group
- NIDV (Defence Association)

## INNOVATIONS FROM WEST HOLLAND



## 9 NANO, CUBE & POCKETSATs

The region is internationally renowned for its' comprehensive SmallSat cluster. Examples are:

- TU Delft Satellites: Delfi-C3 (2008), Delfi-n3Xt (2013), Delfi-PQ (2019)
- Expertise in constellation technology and miniaturization
- Realize turn-key small satellite missions, including launch services
- Design of small satellite platforms, for single missions or constellations



1.1

Small Satellite Systems

## 10 OUR GROWING SPACE CLUSTER

### Netherlands Institute for Space Research (coming to Leiden):

- SRON, the Dutch expertise institute for space research
- focuses on astrophysics, Earth science, exoplanets and space technology

### Space Campus Noordwijk (coming soon):

- shared test centre, labspace & makerspace
- shared facilities for assembly and integration
- €26 million public funding

# West Holland, the Hotspot for Space

## Strong European market position

West Holland is home to around 80% of all Dutch space activities. Combined with ESTEC, the technical heart of the European Space Agency, this region is a true hotspot for space innovation. With a sound knowledge infrastructure and the presence of ample talent, the space cluster is known for its' ground-breaking research & development and delivering the best performing and most reliable technology. This makes West Holland the ideal hotspot to launch your business.



West Holland



*InnovationQuarter is the Economic Development Agency for the West Holland region in the Netherlands. We provide free assistance and advice to international companies looking to locate in West Holland. In addition, we facilitate co-operation between companies, academic institutions and government. Moreover, InnovationQuarter funds innovative and fast-growing businesses in the region.*

### WEST HOLLAND OFFERS YOU

- A strategic location in the heart of Europe
- State-of-the-art business, research and incubation facilities
- Highly educated and multilingual workforce
- Excellent quality of life
- A competitive tax climate
- Advantageous tax incentives for R&D activities
- A dedicated foreign investment team, offering confidential, free of charge services to international companies.



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