Letter of Intent for Academic & Scientific Cooperation
between
the National Institute for Space Research
and
TU Delft Space Institute

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SPACE RESEARCH (hereinafter: “INPE”) is an internationally recognized institute for space and atmospheric research and space technology. INPE is a research unit of the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI), whose main goals are fostering scientific research and technological applications and qualifying personnel in the fields of space and atmospheric sciences, space engineering, space technology and space applications.

TU DELFT SPACE INSTITUTE (DSI) is a research institute of the Technische Universiteit Delft (Delft University of Technology, hereinafter: “TUD”). Five TUD faculties are key contributors to the Space sector. DSI will contribute substantially to the development of knowledge exchange, cooperation and visibility within and outside of TUD. Sensing from Space, Distributed Space Systems and Space Robotics are the three focal themes of TU Delft Space Institute.

Recognizing that INPE and DSI, hereinafter called the PARTIES, share certain common interests and priorities, in addition to promoting and furthering research, education and learning in their respective countries;

Considering that both Parties have expressed interest in establishing a closer relationship between them for the purpose of exploring cooperative opportunities in the areas of common interest;

Acknowledging that the exploration of cooperative opportunities in areas of common interest may result in the Parties agreeing to work together in a particular area and/or on a specific project which may require the establishment of specific formal cooperation agreements to regulate the terms and conditions for their development;

The Parties have expressed the intention to promote:

• joint research activities;
• dissemination of scholarly publications;
• joint supervision of postgraduate students;
• internships of Master students of TUD at INPE;
• mutual exchange of guest scientists;
• master thesis studies at INPE or TUD;
• PhD thesis of Brazilian students at TUD;
• access of Brazilian students to Space Minor program of TUD and
• provision of guest lectures.

in the following areas:

LIST OF ENVISIONED AREAS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO

• scientific data processing and analysis for Earth Observation and space weather;
• distributed Space Systems (including trains, constellations, swarms of satellites);
• miniaturization of Space Systems (payload, subsystems, systems);
• systems Engineering methodologies (including testing).

Other areas of interest for joint research and cooperation may be identified at a later stage by INPE and DSI.

Both Parties will use their best efforts to advance the above mentioned collaboration and shall work together towards the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that will define the specific terms and conditions for the intended cooperation. Both Parties will endeavor to negotiate and execute this MoU in a timely fashion.

The Parties agree to exchange confidential information for the purpose of examining the possibility of a cooperation between the Parties. All information that is disclosed on a confidential basis shall be held strictly confidential by the receiving party and shall not be disclosed to any third party by the receiving party. This obligation of confidentiality shall not apply to:

a. information which at the time of disclosure is in the public domain;

b. information which after disclosure becomes a part of the public domain by publication or otherwise, except by breach of the confidentiality by the receiving Party;

c. information which the receiving party can prove it was in its possession at the time of disclosure by the disclosing Party;

d. information which the receiving party lawfully obtains from a third Party.
e. information which is developed by the receiving party independently of any information received from the disclosing Party.

The Parties undertake not to apply for any patent, anywhere in the world, on the basis of the information supplied to them by the other Party.

Each Party assigns a focal point of contact who will be responsible for coordinating and overseeing the planning and execution of the cooperation activities that may derive from this LoI and for any other matters related to this LoI. Antonio Fernando Bertachini de Almeida Prado will serve as the focal point of contact for INPE. Ingrid Houthuysen will serve as the focal point of contact for TUD.

The provisions set forth in this LoI will not create any legally binding obligations between the Parties.

Signed and in witness of:

E. K. A. Gill  
Director  
TU Delft Space Institute  
Date: 2016/09/05

Leonel Fernando Perondi  
Director  
National Institute for Space Research  
Date: