

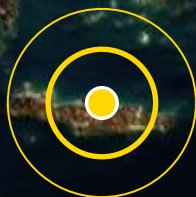


BUILDING EUROPEAN SPACE CAPABILITIES TOGETHER

THE INDUSTRIAL PERSPECTIVE FOR SPACE-CRETE

MATHIEU BERNOU • MANAGING DIRECTOR & CTO, OHB HELLAS

HERAKLION, CRETE • 2 OCTOBER 2026



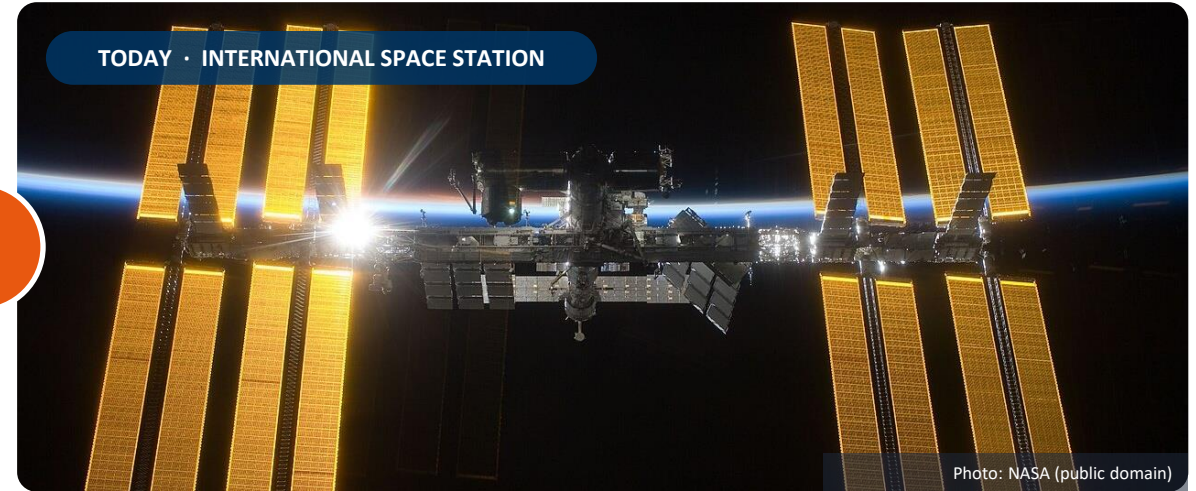
HERAKLION • CRETE

SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY & INDUSTRIAL EXECUTION: AN INSEPARABLE BOND

SCIENCE FORMULATES THE HYPOTHESIS; INDUSTRY FORGES THE INSTRUMENT — NEITHER PURE RESEARCH NOR PURE MANUFACTURING REACHES ORBIT ALONE



&



Science formulates the hypothesis

- **A computer in bronze:** recovered off Antikythera, between Crete and the Peloponnese, it predicted eclipses and planetary cycles.
- **Theory needed an instrument:** brilliant astronomy became useful only through precision gear-cutting.
- **The lesson:** without an instrument, even the best theory stays on papyrus.

Industry forges the instrument

- **An alliance in orbit:** 15 nations, 5 space agencies and hundreds of industrial suppliers operating as one system.
- **Qualified to survive:** every experiment on board flies only after surviving launch, vacuum and radiation.
- **Our bond:** FORTH pushes the frontier, OHB turns it into flight hardware. Neither flies alone.

Research without industry never leaves the lab; industry without research runs out of frontiers. In space, they are an inseparable bond.

THE EUROPEAN ANCHOR: OHB GROUP

EUROPE'S 3RD LARGEST SPACE PRIME • >40 YEARS OF FLIGHT HERITAGE ACROSS EUROPE



>40
years of experience

>2 bn
Euro turnover

12
countries with
OHB locations

>4.000
Experts



Germany | Italy | Sweden | Luxemburg | Czech Rep. | Greece | Austria | UK | Belgium | Chile

THE NATIONAL ANCHOR: OHB HELLAS

DEDICATED SPACE SYSTEMS COMPANY IN GREECE



In numbers:

- Founded in July 2018, in Athens, Greece
- 100% subsidiary of OHB SE
- > 20 Engineers

Our mission:

*“Our mission as the first dedicated space system company in Greece is to **enhance national space capabilities**, foster strategic growth within the local space industry and research organisations. We **create innovation in space systems** by democratizing the use of state of the art techniques in high performance data processing from earth to space.”*

Locations:

● OHB HELLAS

OHB Hellas mon.E.P.E Imvrou 1 15124 Marousi Greece
info@ohb-hellas.gr
+30 210 6100600

● Hellenic Center for Additive Manufacturing

Patras Science Park , GR 26504, Patras
info@hellenic-cam.gr
+30 2610 391261

● OHB Hellas branch in Crete

Science and Technology Park of Crete, N.Plastira 100, GR 70013, Heraklion, Crete



WHY CRETE IN 2025? THE STRATEGIC DECISION BEFORE SPACE-CRETE

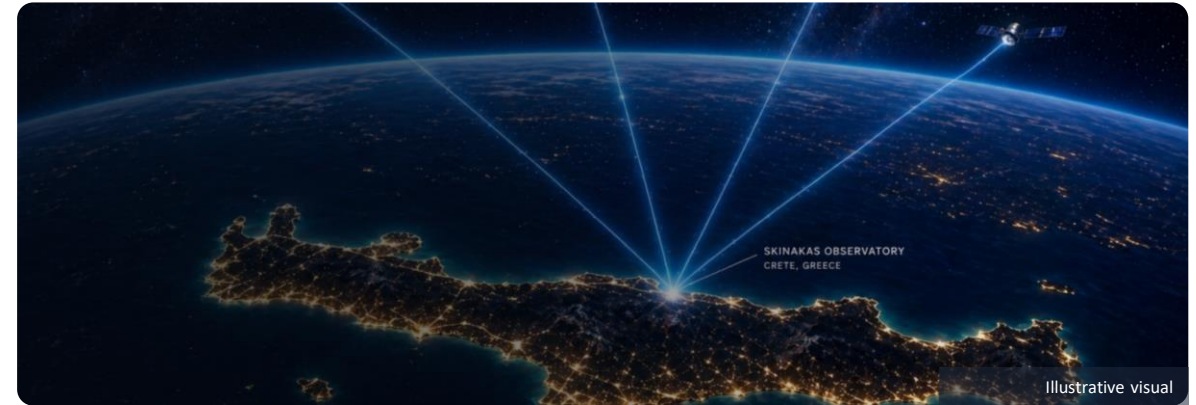
HERAKLION WAS A STRATEGIC CHOICE MADE IN EARLY 2025 — SPACE-CRETE IS ITS FIRST SIGNIFICANT REALISATION

1 Attracting High-Profile Space Talent



- **Global gateway:** Greece's 4th-largest city, direct European flights via Heraklion and the upcoming Kastelli hub.
- **Academic excellence:** elite physics, computing and engineering talent from FORTH and universities of Crete.
- **Quality of life:** climate, culture, coastal living — the Greek aerospace counterpart to Cannes for Thales Alenia Space.
- **Reversing brain drain:** a lifestyle and career magnet bringing the Greek diaspora and European engineers home.

2 Building Crete's European Space Identity



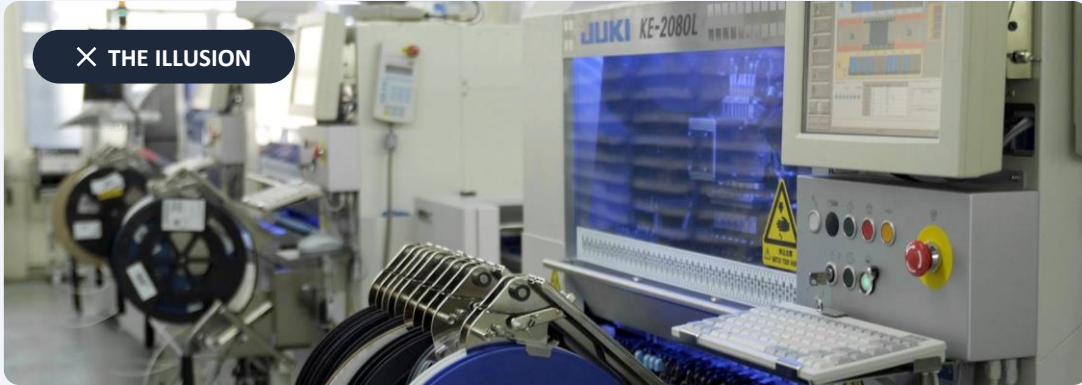
- **A space city brand:** an aerospace identity for Crete, as Bremen is for Germany and Toulouse for France.
- **Symbiosis with FORTH:** seamless daily collaboration with Greece's premier research institute, on campus.
- **Direct access to Skinakas:** an immediate operational link to the 1,750 m optical and quantum testbed.
- **Rooted in Crete:** strong regional support, competitive costs, and a Cretan team co-building a Cretan institution with FORTH.

Crete is part of our strategy. In early 2025, OHB Hellas chose Heraklion to build Greece's permanent aerospace capital winning SPACE-Crete is the first significant realization of that plan.

STRATEGIC REALISM: CHOOSING WHERE GREECE CAN LEAD

COMPETITIVENESS IN EUROPE COMES FROM MASTERING FLIGHT-CRITICAL NICHES, NOT FROM REPLICATING ENTIRE SATELLITE PROGRAMMES

✗ THE ILLUSION



The Illusion of Doing Everything

- **Whole satellites from scratch:** trying to build complete telecom satellites against established primes.
- **High cost, thin budgets:** resources spread across launchers, buses and payloads, diluted impact.
- **Never flew - will never fly:** no customer buys a system that has never flown
- **Commodity manufacturing:** competing on price on a standard line, not on excellence.



✓ THE STRATEGY



Targeted Subsystem Leadership

- **Own flight-critical niches:** dominate high-margin subsystems where Greek talent already excels.
- **Scarce and strategic:** onboard computing and optical / quantum communications are hard to replicate.
- **Best-in-class supplier:** European primes seek us out because nobody does it better.
- **Heritage step by step:** subsystem → payload → mission, each one flight-proven.

To be visible and competitive in Europe, we must master critical niche subsystems where we can be among the best.

OUR TWO STRATEGIC PILLARS: BUILT FOR OHB HELLAS & OHB GROUP

TWO FLIGHT-CRITICAL NICHES, ONE EUROPEAN AXIS — ONBOARD INTELLIGENCE AND QUANTUM-SECURE OPTICAL LINKS



Photo: ESA, CC BY-SA 3.0 IGO — OPS-SAT processor flatsat

PILLAR 1 · OHB HELLAS

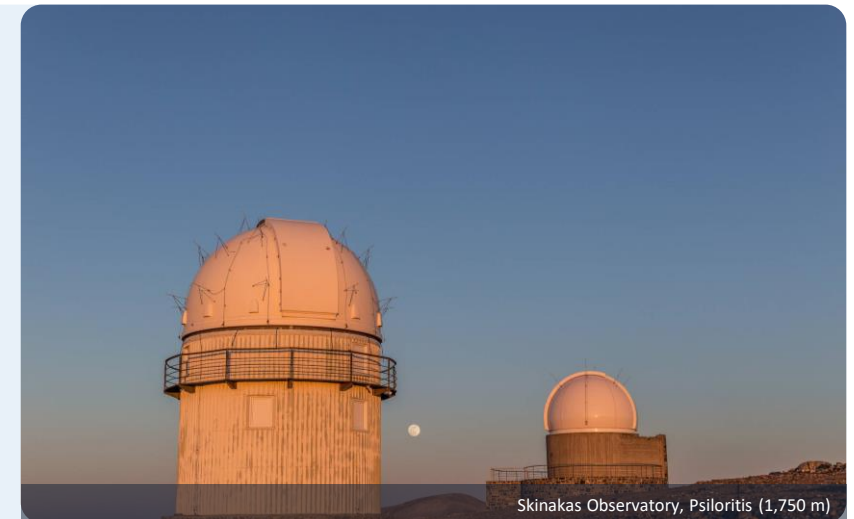
Orbital HPC & Edge AI

- **ABAX processor:** radiation-hardened onboard computing for flight-critical European missions.
- **Real-time AI computer vision in orbit:** detect, classify and select on board.
- **Eliminating the downlink bottleneck:** satellites send down answers, not raw data.
- **Flight-proven code:** FORTH-SPL and OHB Hellas algorithms ran on ESA's OPS-SAT in orbit (2022–2024).

PILLAR 2 · OHB GROUP

Quantum Technologies & QCI

- **Free-space optical laser communications:** high-bandwidth ground-to-space links through clear Mediterranean skies.
- **Ground-to-space quantum cryptography:** quantum key distribution with Skinakas Observatory (1,750 m) as ground station.
- **Plugged into EuroQCI:** Europe's sovereign quantum communication infrastructure.



Skinakas Observatory, Psiloritis (1,750 m)

THE REAL DEAL: ORBITAL HPC IS WINNING IN EVERY SPACE DOMAIN

ONE TECHNOLOGY, NEEDED EVERYWHERE — AND EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS WON IN EACH DOMAIN



1

INNOVATION · AI ONBOARD

Neuro-Respond

Neuromorphic AI on board: event-based vision and autonomous fault detection.

ESA · OHB HELLAS PRIME



2

INSTITUTIONAL · COPERNICUS

Sentinel Next Generation

Data processing unit for the next Sentinel satellites — from 1 to 10 Gbps.

OHB HELLAS · DATA PROCESSING UNIT



3

SCIENCE · DEEP SPACE

AIRGUS

Neural compression so science missions — like a future Enceladus explorer — send home more.

ESA · OHB HELLAS PRIME



4

DEFENCE · EU-FUNDED

ODIN'S EYE II

Onboard data processing for European space-based early warning — moving from design into manufacturing.

OHB HELLAS · ONBOARD PROCESSING

*Orbital HPC is needed in every space domain
and we are winning European competitions in each of them.
Our strategy is working.*

FROM CODE TO ORBIT: THE HERAKLION FACILITY & PHASED ROADMAP

A DISCIPLINED RAMP-UP IN HERAKLION: QUALIFY OUR OWN FLIGHT COMPUTER FIRST, BUILD SATELLITES WHEN MISSIONS CALL

CLEANROOM · FLIGHT INTEGRATION



1

PHASE 1 · CORE ANCHOR

Qualify ABAX, our flight computer, in Heraklion

- **From TRL 6 to flight:** shake it, put it in vacuum, prove it survives space.
- **A real first customer:** a real product in the facility from day one.



2

PHASE 2 · OPPORTUNISTIC

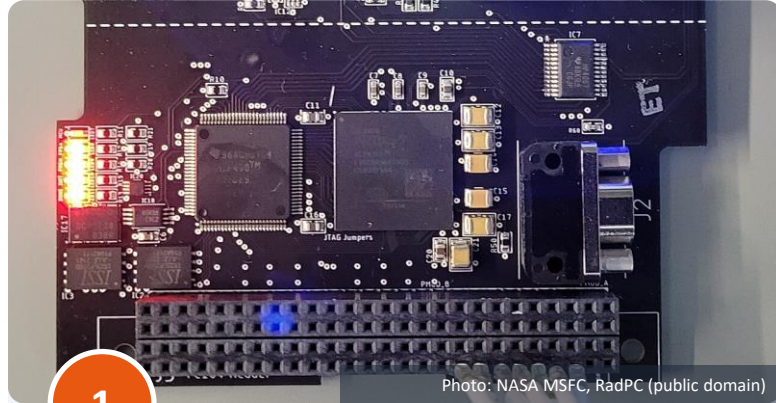
Scale into small-satellite assembly

- **Sized for growth:** assemble, integrate and test complete small satellites in the same cleanroom.
- **Demand-driven:** activated as national or European missions arise.

We anchor on Orbital HPC prototypes first, then scale opportunistically.

MADE IN CRETE, FLYING IN EUROPE: THREE INVITATIONS

THE DOORS OF THE HERAKLION FACILITY ARE OPEN — SPACE IS BUILT BY THE PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM



TO LOCAL SMEs & START-UPS

Become a tech champion

- **HW electronics & accelerators:** FPGA, GPU and SoC boards for onboard computing.
- **Embedded SW:** bringing ground HPC and cloud technologies on board satellites.
- **Modern SW & AI:** agile, DevOps-style development and AI in orbit.



TO STUDENTS & RESEARCHERS

Build a space career here

- World-class space careers right here in Heraklion.
- Industrial PhDs with the University of Crete, working on real OHB projects.
- Hands-on experience with flight hardware and European partners.



TO REGIONAL LEADERS & PARTNERS

Build a permanent pillar

- A lasting high-tech industrial pillar in Heraklion.
- A centre built to stand on its own and last.
- Crete recognised as a European space hub.



Join us in the foyer at 11:00 for the Coffee Break & Networking:

Let's discuss research topics, industrial qualification, and your career in space.