

RAeS Hamburg in cooperation with the DGLR, VDI, ZAL & HAW invites you to a lecture

Building a Cargo Capsule Startup

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Date: Thursday 28 May 2026, 18:00

Location: HAW Hamburg, Berliner Tor 5, Hörsaal 01.10 (in-person only!)

What does it take to design and build a spacecraft that can deliver cargo to the International Space Station?

This talk looks at the challenge from the following angles.

First, the engineering reality. Even for a cargo vehicle the bar is extremely high. Visiting the ISS requires strict safety and redundancy, and the integration of many disciplines: structures, avionics, GNC, propulsion, thermal control, software, operations, and many more. To create a safe and reliable capsule, one of the goals is to expose issues early, test aggressively, and fix problems quickly so the final vehicle is safe.

Second, the entrepreneurial side. Building a company as a startup in Germany means dealing with supply chains, financing, and recruiting strong engineers while building credibility in a conservative industry.

As conclusion, we look at what working in a startup means for engineers: you have increased responsibility, the ability to be hands-on, fast personal growth, and close collaboration with experienced experts.

2008 – 2012 Delft University of Technology. Master of Science, Aerospace Engineering - Space Systems Engineering.

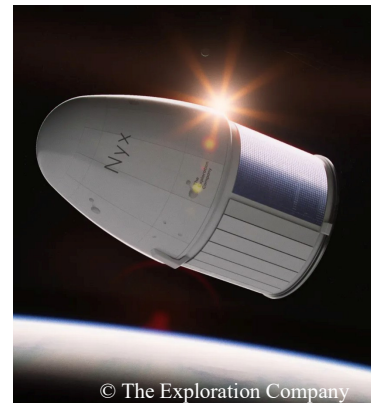
2016 – 2017 Technische Universität Graz. Master's degree, SpaceTech - Master in Business and Systems Engineering.

2011 Research Associate, NASA Ames Research Center

2012 – 2018 System Engineer, Airbus Defence and Space.

2018 - 2021 Deputy Chief Engineer Orion ESM, Airbus Defence and Space.

2021 - Present Co-Founder & Chief Engineer, The Exploration Company.



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