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New agreement takes Australian Mission Control Centre to the next level

Saber Astronautics is bringing next generation space mission control technologies to make it easier to fly new spacecraft.

The new Mission Control Centre being built at Adelaide's Lot Fourteen, called the **Responsive Space Operations Centre** (RSOC), will be the first professional control centre in the world to use machine learning in the day-to-day operation of spacecraft. Saber will also incorporate innovative 3D gaming technology in the new control centre and use space radiation data.

The Bureau of Meteorology signed an agreement with Saber to provide space weather information to the Mission Control Centre at Adelaide's new innovation hub, known as Lot Fourteen.

Saber's CEO, Dr Jason Held explains, "Spacecraft operators need to know what is happening in space in the same way a boat needs to know what is happening at sea." Saber Astronautics uses space weather data to diagnose satellite health, giving RSOC customers a better chance to survive. For new businesses entering the space industry this is important, "every minute of down-time is millions of dollars in lost revenue."

The Bureau's Space Weather Services tracks solar storms and high energy radiation, which can produce a range of effects in space and on Earth. Solar storms can damage or disrupt satellites, affecting navigation (including GPS) and communications. The largest storms can even damage power grids.

Dr Sarah Spackman, the Bureau's Space Weather Services National Manager, said "The Bureau of Meteorology is excited to be a part of this initiative. It provides us with an opportunity to develop novel environmental intelligence to help position the rapidly growing Australian space industry at the forefront of efficient spacecraft operations."

The agreement between Saber and the Bureau of Meteorology secures a critical data stream for the RSOC, which goes live for Australian and US space operations customers in March 2021. Concurrent design, pre-flight testing, launch support, and live in-flight operations will all be managed by the RSOC. The Responsive Space Operations Centre was selected by the Australian Space Agency for \$6m in funding last July from the Australian Government's Space Infrastructure Fund.

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**About Saber Astronautics**

Saber Astronautics' mission is the democratization of space, reducing barriers to space flight, and making space as easy as driving a car. Incorporated in 2008, Saber Astronautics provides space operations, mission design services, and related software. Saber has R&D laboratories and mission control centers in the USA and Australia, being a trusted supplier to both traditional space and government customers worldwide.

For more information, please visit www.saberastro.com

About Bureau of Meteorology Space Weather Services

The Bureau of Meteorology provides space weather information and warning services to the Australian region and beyond. The Bureau's Space Weather Services team works closely with the defence, energy, aviation and space sectors to provide forecasts, warnings and alerts, and customized real-time data services.

For more information, please visit <https://www.sws.bom.gov.au>

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