

nSight-1: a Reliable nano-satellite platform for Remote Sensing Capacity Building

Celebrating 25 years of Capacity Building Dr. Sias Mostert











28 CUBESATS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

8 CUBESATS ON THE PSLV INDIAN ROCKET



QB50-PL

- 8 CubeSats
- Altitude 500km
- Sun Synchronous Orbit 97.1deg
- Part of the Science Campaign
- Launch on 21st April 2017
- PSLV Rocket from Satish Dhawan Space Centre



QB50-ISS

- 28 CubeSats
- Altitude 415km
- Inclination 51.6deg
- Launch on 16th March 2017
- Atlas-V Rocket from Cape
- Canaveral (USA)

South African QB50 Satellites:







ZA AeroSat (QB50 AZ01) Stellenbosch University



nSight 1 (QB50 AZ02) SCS Space

DIGHT 1 Overview

Complete satellite weighs only 2.5 kg

- Part of the international QB50 constellation
- Deployed from the ISS
- Satellite built in six months in 2016

Payloads

- SCS "Gecko" imaging payload
 - Integrated data storage
 - Integrated image processing
- FIPEX atmospheric science instrument (supplied by University of Dresden)
- Radiation tolerant digital design (NMMU)







nSight-1 Imaging capability





30m GSD, 61km x 32km RGB (Bayer) snapshot

Rio de Janeiro (simulated using LANDSAT8)

Demonstrating the results of 25 years

2008

of Capacity Building 1997 2003 2017

From 1 university post graduate program to three programs

- From 1 university research to six universities with research programs in space
- From one technology demonstration satellite, Sunsat, to an experimental platform, nSight 1
- From University satellite plus Science council to Industry plus University plus Science council

1992

 No fewer than thirteen contributing partners from the Space Hub in South Africa



What does it mean for the future?



Launch! (16 April 2017)





Atlas V OA-7 launch – Photo: United Launch Alliance

Arrival at the ISS (22 April 2017)





OA-7 Cygnus capture at the ISS – Photo: NASA

Deployed from the ISS





<u>25 May 2017</u>

51.6°, 400km orbit. Expected lifetime: 12-18 months.



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International collaboration welcome in nSight 2 and nSight 3 missions