



Subject: Your opportunity to perform applied research on the International Space Station

Dear Sir/Madam,

Czechtrade together with the European Space Agency have the pleasure in inviting you to the SURE Announcement of Opportunity 2006 Information Workshop at 09:30 hrs on 31st January, 2006, at which you will hear first hand from ESA about a unique opportunity to perform applied research on board the International Space Station (ISS).

With the SURE Announcement of Opportunity (AO) 2006, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Scientists from *the Czech Republic* enjoy priority access to ISS and have the possibility to benefit from financial support from the European Commission while conducting applied research on board the ISS.

The SURE AO 2006 falls under the four year SURE Project (acronym for The International Space Station: a Unique REsearch Infrastructure), recently selected by the European Commission under the 6th Framework Programme.

The facilities and resources available onboard the Station not only allow scientists to carry out groundbreaking research, but also offer SMEs from the Biotechnology, Health, Food, New Material, Nanotechnology, and other sectors the opportunity to increase their competitive advantage by using the space environment as a platform for applied R&D.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the SURE AO 2006 Information Workshop which will provide you with further information. The agenda for the day will be published on the web at this address: www.spaceflight.esa.int/sure

We would be pleased if you would confirm your participation by writing to the e-mail address SUREAO2006@esa.int prior to 17:00 hrs on January 25th, 2006.

Best regards,

ESA/ESTEC and CzechTrade

Attachment: SURE AO 2006 Information Pack