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Strata delivers made-in-UAE exterior panels for MBZ-SAT

COLLABORATION WITH MBRSC TO MANUFACTURE SATELLITE COMPONENTS

DUBAI

BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN
Senior Reporter

Strata Manufacturing and the Mohammad Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) achieved a historic milestone by establishing local satellite component manufacturing of aluminium honeycomb panels for the first time.

Strata will supply locally built components for MBZ-SAT, the region's high-resolution imaging satellite named after President His Highness Shaikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The satellite will be equipped with premium-grade aluminium honeycomb panels, ensuring resilience against extreme temperatures and radiation.

Local supply chain

Salem Humaid Al Marri, director-general of MBRSC, said, "The collaboration and innovation behind MBZ-SAT not only advances the utilisation of satellite-related technologies but also presents a significant opportunity for our local partners such as Strata to advance in the space sector."

"MBRSC remains steadfast in enabling local enterprises, as we actualise the set vision for space as an active industry within the UAE."

The successful delivery of MBZ-SAT components exemplifies Strata's dedication to maintaining the highest



■ New components of MBZ-SAT manufactured for the first time in the UAE by Strata Manufacturing were integrated at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre.

The aluminium honeycomb panels supplied by Strate will protect MBZ-SAT from extreme temperatures and radiation.

standards of global manufacturing quality, reflecting the UAE's ambition to become a key player in the space industry and to localise the space sector, fostering self-reliance and reducing dependence on international suppliers.

Ismail Ali Abdulla, man-

aging director and CEO of Strata, said: "We are thrilled to have successfully delivered the satellite components for the MBZ-SAT project, further strengthening our strategic partnership with MBRSC. Strata is committed to deliver high-quality, globally compet-

itive products that showcase the UAE's industrial sector expertise."

Earth observation

Set to be launched in 2024, MBZ-SAT is set to revolutionise Earth observations with the highest quality accuracy across diverse natural and human-made targets.

Powered by AI functions, it streamlines the collection, processing, and analysis of raw data, accelerating insights and optimising the handling of space images.

Saudi school curricula to teach space science

Move comes as two Saudi astronauts complete ISS mission

CAIRO

BY RAMADAN AL-SHERBINI
Correspondent

Saudi Arabia's Education Ministry has decided to teach earth and space sciences as part of the secondary school curricula in the kingdom starting from the next academic year.

The step comes as two Saudi astronauts completed a 10-day mission to the International Space Station (ISS).

The decision to teach the earth and space sciences aims to promote "students' positive attitudes" towards space science in line with the best international practices related to curricula, and scientific and national criteria, the ministry said.

Developing abilities

"The book on the earth and space sciences will enable students to develop their abilities in nature and applied sciences at the secondary school stage," the ministry added in a statement.

The new syllabus contains an introduction to the earth

Saudi biomedical scientist Rayyanah Barnawi last month became the first Arab woman to go on a space stint. She joined compatriot Ali Al Qarni and two US colleagues in reaching ISS.

and space, exploration of relationship among the earth, air, space, water and living organisms as well as linking important natural phenomena such as solar and lunar eclipses, and moon phases.

The ministry said the introduction of the new subject is part of its "keenness to cope with aspirations and future objectives" aimed to qualify internationally competitive citizens by upgrading learning outputs to keep abreast of world changes, future requirements and labour market needs.

Saudi biomedical scientist Rayyanah Barnawi last month became the first Arab woman to go on a space stint. She joined the male Saudi astronaut Ali Al Qarni and two US colleagues in reaching ISS.

During the trip, they conducted a host of research studies and experiments.