



## Challenges and Solutions in Embedded Security for Space Avionics: GMV's Perspective and Contributions

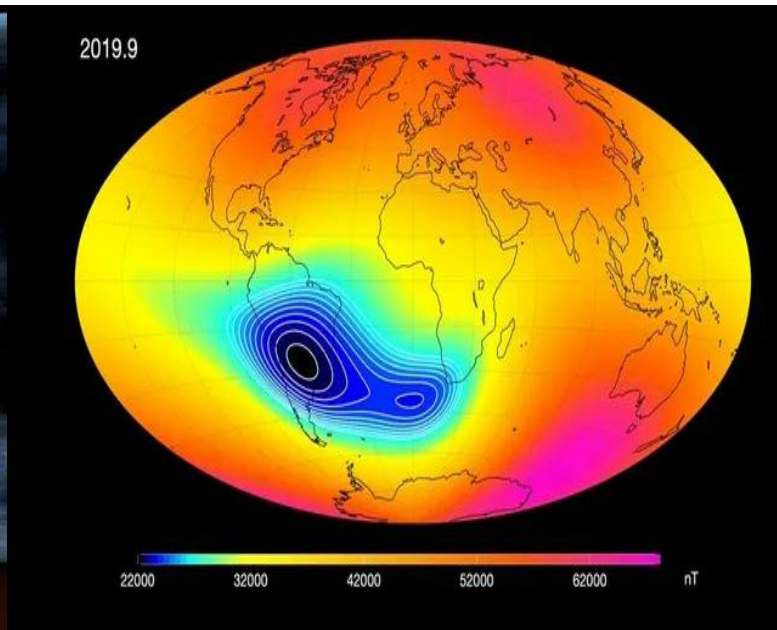
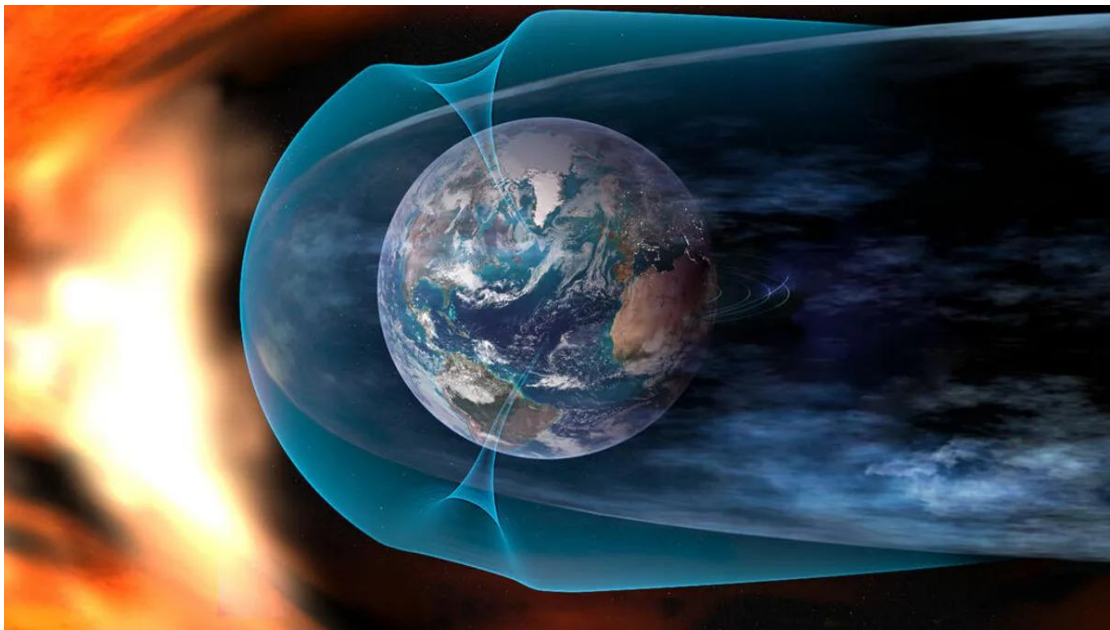
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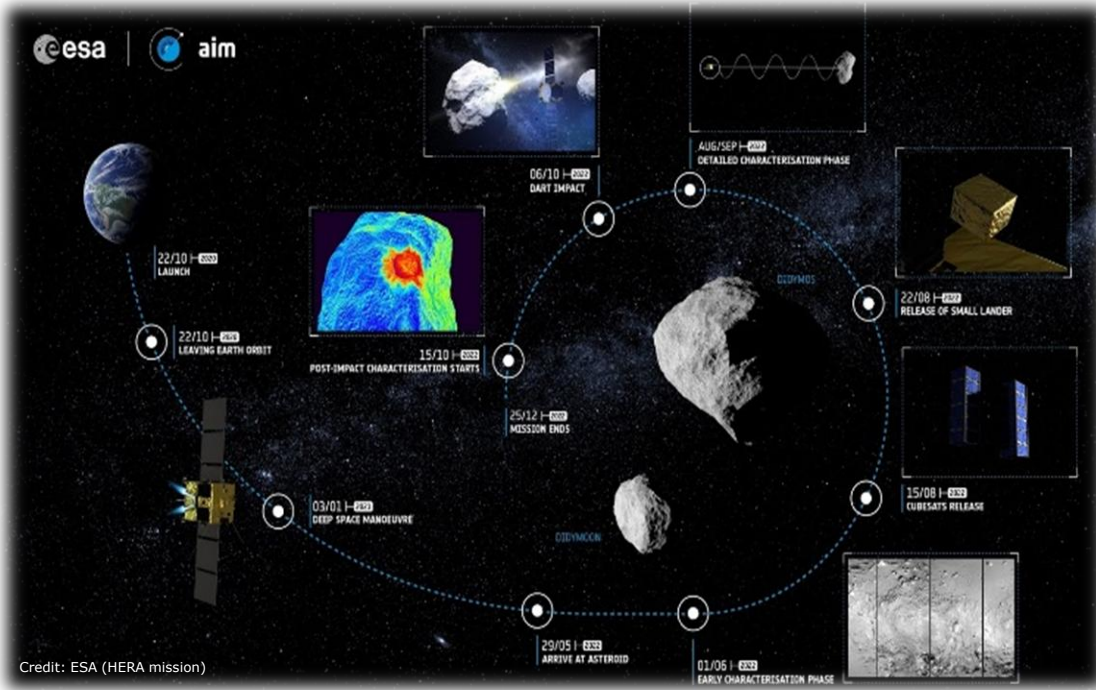
## Anomaly Atlantic South



# Agenda

- 1 Why Embedded Security in Space Avionics?
- 2 Challenges in Embedded Security for Space Avionics
- 3 SAVOIR & SECURITY
- 4 GMV View On Avionics & Security Functions
- 5 Authority – ESA/Integrator Role
- 6 On-going- GMV projects

# Welcome to our units' offices



- **Hardened/Ruggedized** Devices protected versus:
  - Radiation
  - Solar Pressure
  - Electromagnetic Waves
  - Vibrations (launching environment)
  - Wide temperature range
- Hard/Impossible to repair devices (up there):  
**Reliability** is a must
- **Autonomy** is a key factor
  - Independent Systems
  - Huge delay/latency in Ground-Spacecraft communication**
- **Limited** power consumption on board
- Mass and volume shall be **minimized**
- Design and implementation of **Fault-Tolerance** systems
- Critical, Precise and **Deterministic** systems in Hard Real-Time applications
- Extensive and intensive **Validation** and Verification

- **Ad-hoc** projects for each mission: Nobody went there before  
→ how to create **representative** environment, images, conditions?

# GMV: A global technology group

Founded in

**1984**

Multinational technology group.  
**Private capital**



Headquarters in Spain (Madrid).

**Subsidiaries in 12 countries**  
(ops in 70+)

**+3,300**  
employees



Roots tied to the Space and Defence industry

Engineering, development and integration of systems, software, hardware, specialized products and services



Aeronautics, Space, Defense & Security, Cybersecurity, Intelligent Transport Systems, Healthcare, Banking & finances, and ICT industries



Space



Aeronautics



Defense & Security



Telecommunication



Cybersecurity



Intelligent Transport Systems



Healthcare



Public Sector and Corporate ICT



Banking & Finances





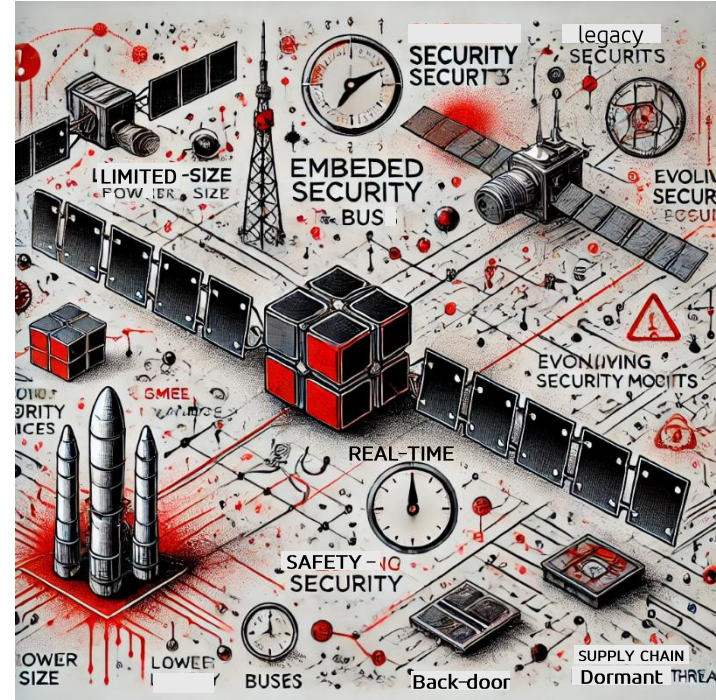
## Why Embedded Security in Space Avionics?

- Space is becoming more interconnected and accessible.
- Increasing reliance on space-based infrastructure (communications, PNT, etc.)
- Security is a critical requirement, not a “tax.”
- Intentional Threats and Spying
- Preventing risks and reducing costs in the long run
- Sophisticated cyber threats: Espionage, jamming, spoofing, hacking.
- Space asset vulnerability: Satellites, Rovers, Gateways, Space Stations, Ground stations, communication links.
- Increased autonomy: New threats emerge as systems become more self-reliant.

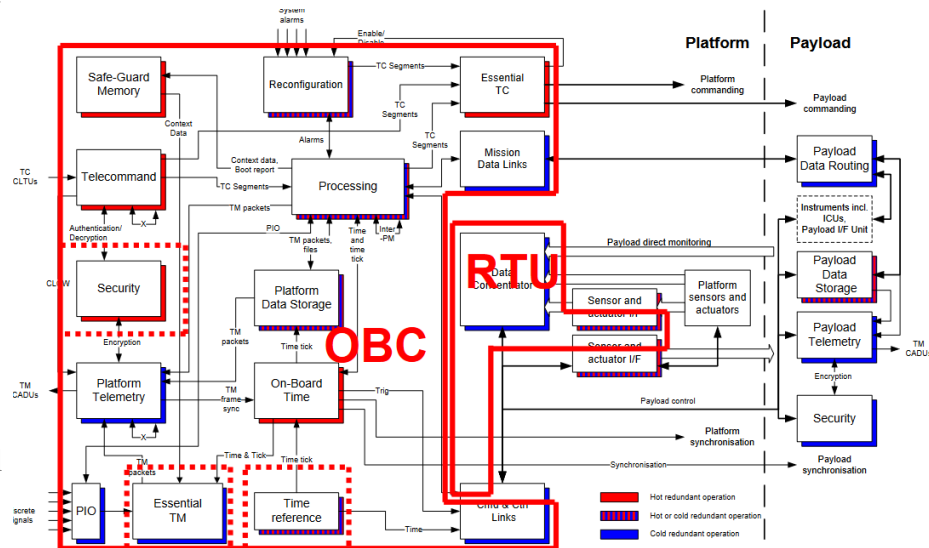


## Challenges in Embedded Security for Space Avionics

- **Limited resources** in space avionics (power, size, memory, buses, processing).  
→ Security features are sometimes overlooked to save resources
- **Latency and remote access issues:** Long delays in communication make real-time response hard.
- **Diverse mission requirements:** from CubeSats to flagship satellite missions.
- **Real-Time Constraints in Critical Operations**
- **Threat models:** Evolving cybersecurity risks, malicious actors
- **Lack of Legacy System Compatibility:** COTS or heritage components, payloads, instruments, HW or SW that cannot accommodate modern security measures
- Interplay between **safety-critical** systems and **security** measures can cause **conflicts**
- **Supply Chain Vulnerabilities:** backdoors, dormant



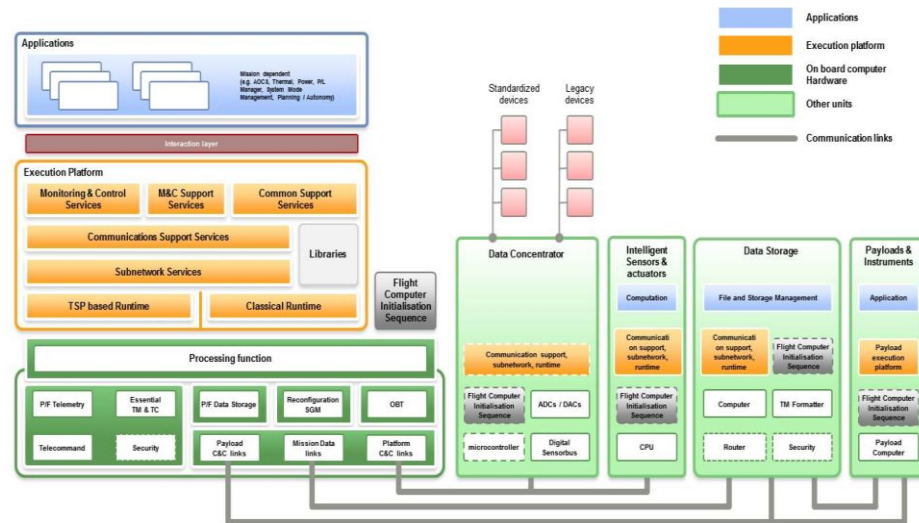
- SAVOIR provides a comprehensive framework for developing highly reliable, fault-tolerant avionics systems.
- Ensures interoperability between different components and subsystems, focusing on safety, security, and reusability.
- Adopted for Spacecraft Bus mainly for larger satellites, traditional space missions, and projects with certification requirements.
- Focus on functional chains, decoupling of hardware from software. On-board systems like navigation, communication, or attitude control can be managed independently and react to real-time data.





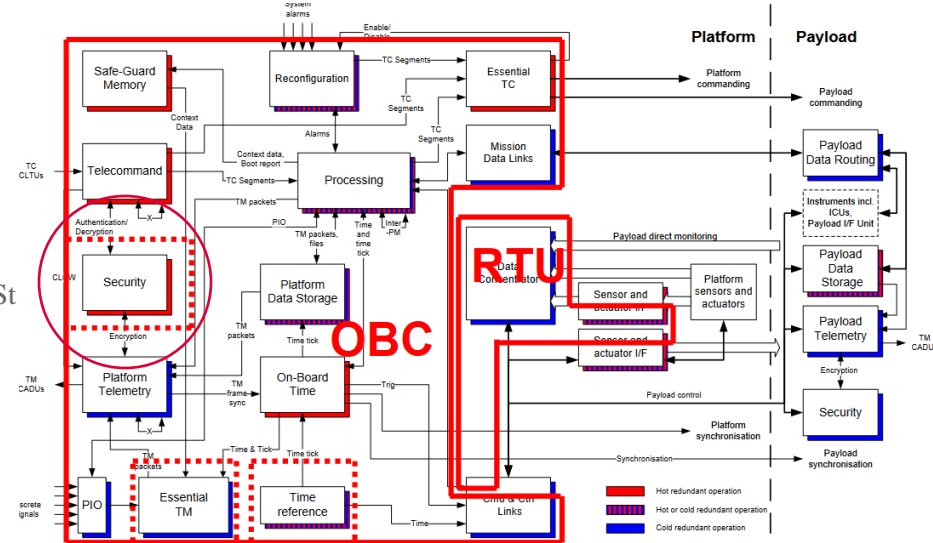


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- CCSDS 350.1-G-3 – Security Threats Against Space Missions, Informational Report
- CCSDS 355.0-B-2 Space Data Link Security Protocol, Recommended Standard
- CCSDS 355.1-B-1 – Space Data Link Security Protocol - Extended Procedures, Recommended Standard
- CCSDS 352.0-B-2 – Cryptographic Algorithms, Recommended Standard
- ECSS-E-ST-80C – Space engineering – Security in space systems lifecycles (1 July 2024)

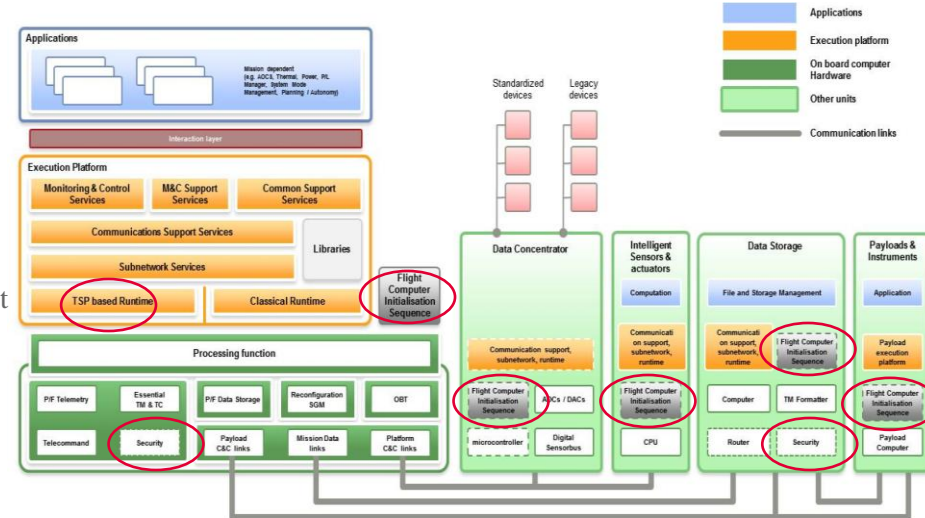


Cybersecurity is needed, not a tax  
Inter-operability & seamless integration vs zero-trust





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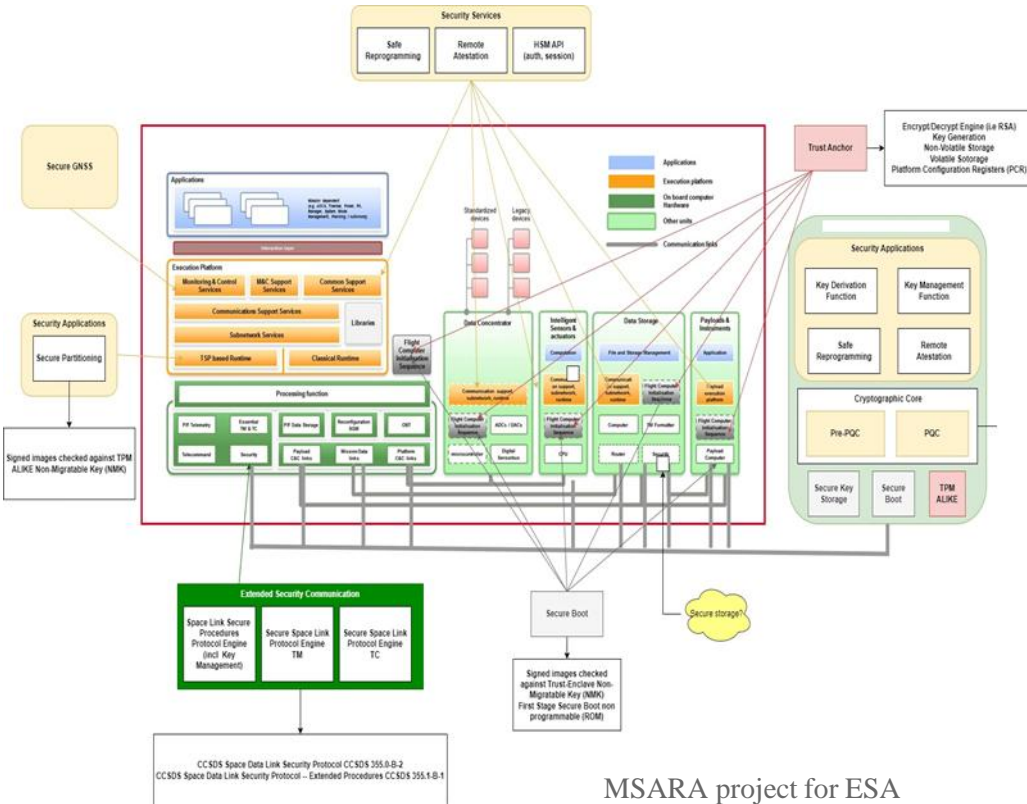


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# GMV VIEW ON AVIONICS & SECURITY FUNCTIONS

- Authentication, Encryption/Decryption, Integrity
- Key Management  
(Generation, Distribution/Negotiation, Usage, Renewal)  
Perfect Forward Secrecy
- Secure key storage in volatile and non-volatile memory.
- Platform Configuration Registers (PCRs) store current state of the hardware and/or software of the system.
- Cryptographic engines (pre-PQC, quantum-resistant, PQC).
- A True random number generator.
- Partitioning/Isolation: Trusted Execution Environment (TEE)
- Anomaly Detection, Isolation and Recovery



MSARA project for ESA

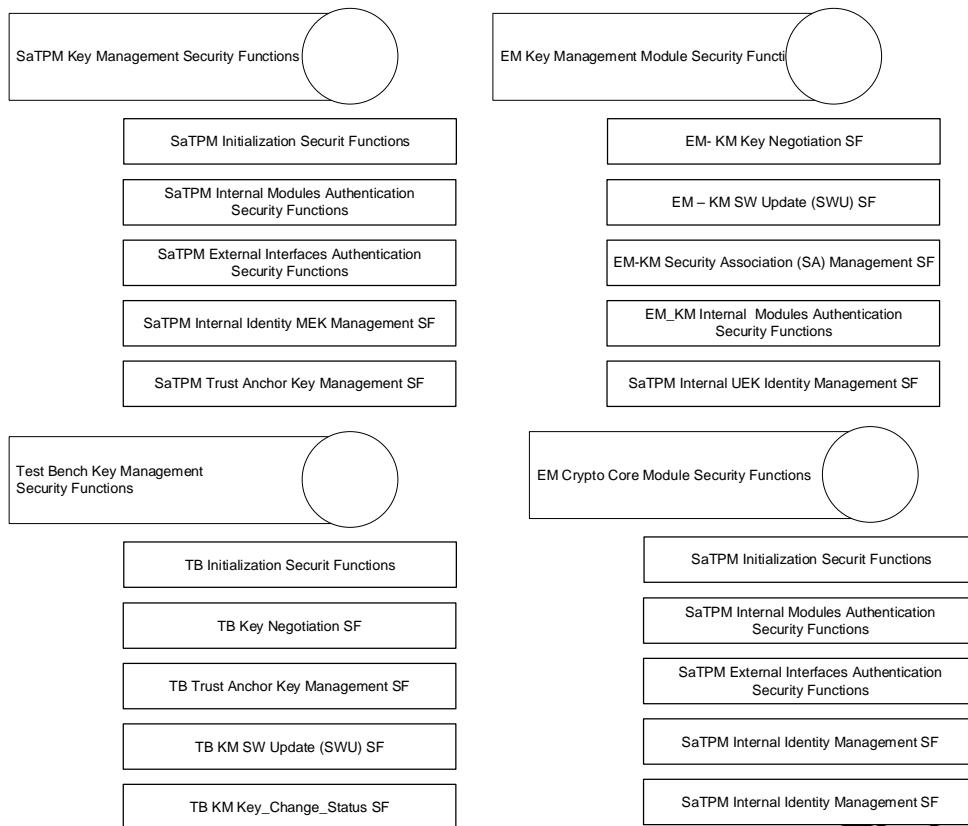
Advance Capabilities in Cryptography to ensure

Quantum Safe Capabilities – PQC

Advance and complete Set of Security Functions to support :

- whole life Satellite Manufacturing Supply Chain
- Informational and operational Mission lifecycle Security requirements
- Enforce the own Satellite Operational and functional Security requirements

Ensure Enhanced key Management with Ground Segment and between SSU end enforce PFS in Communications Space Protocols



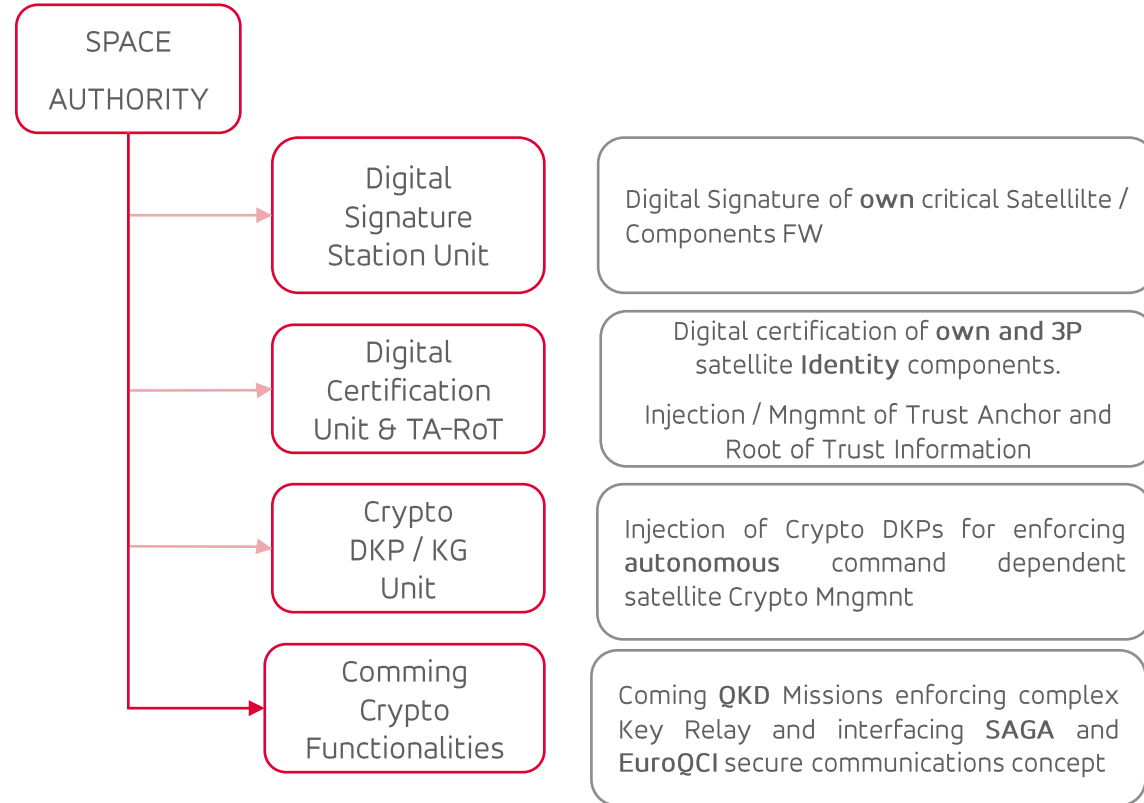


# CRYPTOGRAPHIC AUTHORITIES and AUTOMATIC KEY MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS

Space Authorities face increasing Cryptographic and Key Management complexities Trust Relations and defined Interfaces

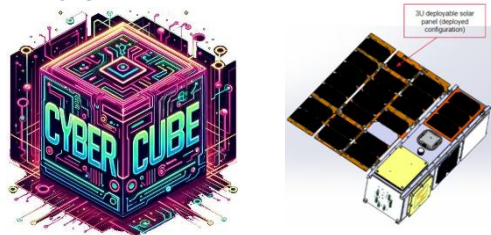
SAVOIR architecture is a Key Security design element to ensure technical feasibility of advance Security functions in Space Segment (inter-satellite and ground centre) comms

- ESA as a SAT owner & certifier: shifting responsibilities.
- Critical space missions: Increased need for secure, resilient systems.
- Focus on standardization: Developing industry-wide security policies for avionics.



## ■ CYBERCUBE:

Security Laboratory Satellite platform on-board. End2end mission with ground control center, flatsat and 3U satellite in LEO orbit to be launched in October 2025



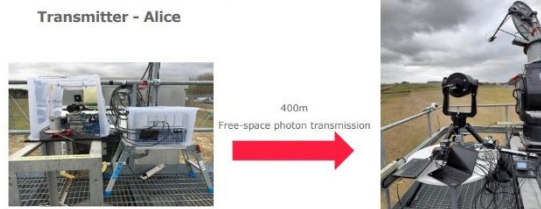
## ■ GMV's role in Galileo control center security:

Protection of European navigation infrastructure. Key management and secure communications for satellite control. Multi-layered security architecture for ground and space



- Definition and specification of a Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) System Based on a Hosted Payload to be flown as piggyback on a Geostationary Satellite. CARAMUEL (+CARIOQA)

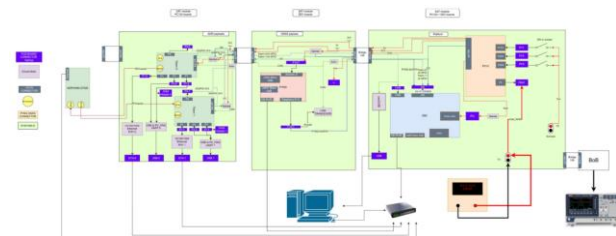
### 400m Test Range - Deployment



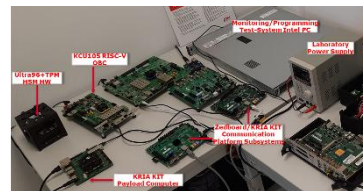
- First phase for 4S system and services test bed. Basic core elements of incremental 4S System & Services Test Bed (4SSTB) to use in support of complex telecommunication systems and services design, verification and validation.



- NEALGALT on-board digital forensics flatsat-like modular avionics demonstrator including collection, monitoring, tag, hashes allowing post-incident forensic work



- TRUSTMOD HW-security Module on-board in representative avionics demonstrator with central node, TPM integration offering security to remote agents intra-satellite



Glad to get questions or  
coffee chats!



Thanks

