

LET-SME: A BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FOR SMEs:

Under its LET-SME¹ instrument, ESA intends to issue an Announcement of Opportunities calling for Innovative Technology proposals. The aim of this instrument is to foster spin-in of SMEs' technologies in fields where ESA strives for innovation and new ideas. As innovation is often the result of co-operation between SMEs and research organisations with established expertise in technology, these organisations may also participate but as subcontractors of SMEs.

The proposals called for are to be focused on feasibility demonstration of new technologies, or on improvement of existing ones, provided this improvement is clearly substantiated.

The funding level will be of 200 000 EURO, for an activity duration of some 18 to 24 months.

The Announcement of Opportunities will address the technology areas listed in the table below.

ON-BOARD DATA SYSTEMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space Wire Physical Layer Tester • Test Board for Dynamic Post Programming Burn-In • Wireless Sensor Networks • LEON Microcontroller
SPACE SYSTEM SOFTWARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Man-Machine-Interface based Automated Testing (MMIT) • Non-maritime aerosol models for Europe • Calibration-Validation (Cal-Val) and user service
ELECTROMAGNETIC TECHNOLOGIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced reflectarray antennas • Reconfigurable active antennas based on Fresnel reflectors
LIFE & PHYSICAL SCIENCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non invasive muscle activity and metabolism monitor • Generic interfaces & tools for tele-medical applications • Sono-crystallisation power ultrasound instrument • Contact-less system for temperature gradient measurement • Low consumption multi-camera for high-speed imaging • Intelligent spectroscopic coupled with high-speed cameras
MECHANISMS & TRIBOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Aperture Deployable Systems • Effects of propellant Swelling on seals
OPTICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Array of High-Performance Segmented Spectral Filter • Development of Compact Hyper-spectral Imager • Novel Optical Receiver Assembly (NORA)
PROPULSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liquefiable cold gas propellant tank PMD • FEED New Propellants
MATERIALS & PROCESSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novel material & process for manufacturing of strut fitting • Inorganic black coating • Carbon based adhesive

¹ : **LET** stands for **L**eading **E**dge **T**echnology and **SME** indicates that **S**mall and **M**edium-sized **E**nterprises are the main target of this call.