

Mr. Laurynas Maciulis

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Laurynas Maciulis acquired M.Sc. degree in aerospace engineering at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University. Just after graduation he pursued a 3 month internship at NASA AMES research center where he was involved in the thermodynamic analysis of re-entry phenomenon with special interest for the non-continuum applications of a drag-induced re-entry and subsequent orbital decay leading to the recovery of small payloads from orbit. During the internship at NASA he and other student from Lithuania Vytenis Buzas together came up with the idea of building the first satellite for their country. After return to Lithuania they further developed the idea into a very successful project called „LituanicaSAT-1“ that manifested with the launch of a 1 kg size cubesat type satellite from the International Space Station into a 5 month successful mission in space. The project caught very wide interest from the general public as well as political leaders of the country and involved many young engineers and students in Lithuania. He is now holding a research fellow position at the Faculty of Informatics and Mathematics in Vilnius University where he is overseeing the development of the second nanosatellite project called „LituanicaSAT-2“. His personal interests encompass a wide range of space technologies and its applications, including spacecraft dynamics, numerical analysis, space telecommunication, embedded systems, novel propulsion methods for cubesats and satellite systems engineering. In addition, he is also teaching aircraft structures and dynamics at Institute of Aviation of Vilnius Gediminas Technical University.