

RAeS Hamburg in cooperation with the DGLR, VDI, ZAL & HAW invites you to a lecture

Building a Cargo Capsule Startup

Jon Reijneveld

Chief Engineer Nyx, The Exploration Company

Date: Thursday 28 May 2026, 18:00

Location: HAW Hamburg, Berliner Tor 5, Hörsaal 01.11 (in-person only!)

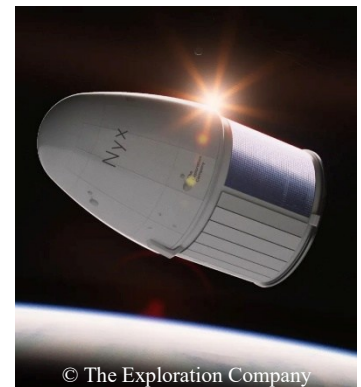
What does it take to design and build a spacecraft that can deliver cargo to the International Space Station?

This talk looks at the challenge from the following angles:

First, the engineering reality. Even for a cargo vehicle the bar is extremely high. Visiting the ISS requires strict safety and redundancy, and the integration of many disciplines: structures, avionics, GNC, propulsion, thermal control, software, operations, and many more. To create a safe and reliable capsule, one of the goals is to expose issues early, test aggressively, and fix problems quickly so the final vehicle is safe.

Second, the entrepreneurial side. Building a company as a startup in Germany means dealing with supply chains, financing, and recruiting strong engineers while building credibility in a conservative industry.

As conclusion, we look at what working in a startup means for engineers: you have increased responsibility, the ability to be hands-on, fast personal growth, and close collaboration with experienced experts.



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Jon Reijneveld:

2008 - 2012 Delft University of Technology. Master of Science, Aerospace Engineering - Space Systems Engineering.

2016 - 2017 Technische Universität Graz. Master's Degree, SpaceTech - Master in Business and Systems Engineering.

2011 Research Associate, NASA Ames Research Center.

2012 - 2018 System Engineer, Airbus Defence and Space.

2018 - 2021 Deputy Chief Engineer Orion ESM, Airbus Defence and Space.

2021 - Present: Co-Founder & Chief Engineer, The Exploration Company.

RAeS/HAW Prof. Dr.-Ing. Dieter Scholz
RAeS Richard Sanderson

Tel.: 040 18119881
Tel.: 04167 92012

info@ProfScholz.de
events@raes-hamburg.de



DGLR Bezirksgruppe Hamburg
RAeS Hamburg Branch
VDI, Arbeitskreis L&R Hamburg
ZAL TechCenter

<https://hamburg.dglr.de>
<https://www.raes-hamburg.de>
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