## CSI: THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW SPACE INSTRUMENT CALIBRATION FACILITY AT TNO

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#### OUTLINE

- > TNO Space heritage
- > Why is calibration needed?
- Introduction CSI
- > Design of CSI Thermal Vacuum Chamber
- > Instrument Mechanical Manipulation System
- > Conclusion

## **50+ YEARS OF SPACE HERITAGE**



#### **OUR HERITAGE**

#### MORE THAN 45 YEARS OF FLIGHT HERITAGE WITH 100% RELIABILITY





#### **RECENT TNO HERITAGE IN THE SPACE DOMAIN**



#### TROPOMI on Sentinel 5P





### WHY IS CALIBRATION NEEDED

- The received data on earth would have two unknowns if there were no calibration
  - Earth
  - Instrument
- Instruments need calibration on the generated output, this requires a realistic space environment:
  - > Temperature
  - Pressure
  - And known (optical) input conditions



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#### **TRENDS IN SPACE INSTRUMENTS**

- Better ground resolution
- Constellations of multiple instruments
- > Dedicated missions







#### **CURRENT FACILITY AT TNO**



- Vacuum Calibration Facility (VCF)
- TVC in a dark clean room
  - Diameter shroud 1,5 meter, length 2 meter







#### **CSI: THERMAL VACUUM SYSTEM**

- Thermal Vacuum Chamber
  - > Size: vertical cylinder of 2.7 m diameter and 2.5 m height
  - > Shroud covering the full volume of the vessel
    - > temperature range: -80 °C to + 80 °C
    - > temperature rate of change: up to 3 °C/min
  - > Two independent cold plate systems (or inner shroud)
    - temperature range: -173 °C to + 80 °C
  - Anticipated temperature stability of the instrument: <0.2 °C</p>
  - Bake-out temperature: >100 °C
  - Ultimate pressure chamber: < 1x10-7 mbar</p>
  - Cleanliness: cold trap, RGA, and QCM











#### **MECHANICAL MANIPULATION SYSTEM**

- Rotation stage and Hexapod in vacuum
- Maximum mass 300 kg
- Rotation stage:
  - Instrument rotation: +/- 175°
- Hexapod:
  - > Translation and rotation in 6 DOF
  - Maximum tilt is >15°
- Instrument pointing accuracy: < 0.001°</p>





#### THERMAL CONSTRAINS MANIPULATION SYSTEM

- TVC temperature range -80°C to +100°C during bake-out
- Hexapod and rotation table operation window +10° to +50°C
- Hexapod and rotation table survival temperature +10°C to +100°C





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#### CONCLUSION

- TNO has a long heritage in the development of optical earth observation instruments, calibration units and calibrations
- > TNO is investing in a new calibration system to remain a frontrunner in the space domain
- CDR for both the TVC and Manipulation system are scheduled for July 2019
- CSI fully integrated and functional 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2021

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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Take a look: TNO.NL/TNO-INSIGHTS

