



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **PHILIPPE BAPTISTE TO VISIT COMAT, A FLAGSHIP OF THE FRENCH SPACE ECOSYSTEM IN THE TOULOUSE REGION**

Wednesday 1 December, when he will be meeting the members of the Galaxie Club, a trade association of some 100 business executives working to develop the space sector in the Occitanie region of Southwest France, CNES Chairman & CEO Philippe Baptiste will be making a visit to the headquarters of Comat. The space equipment manufacturer based just outside Toulouse has notably contributed to the SuperCam instrument on NASA's Perseverance rover on Mars, the Telemaque acoustic tweezers and Blob educational experiment on ESA's Alpha mission on the International Space Station, and numerous telecommunications programmes.

Reaffirming CNES's support to private initiatives, the French space agency's Chairman & CEO will be visiting this fast-growing player to talk with its CEO Ludovic Daudois about the company's new strategy, expansion projects to accommodate its factory of the future, its partnerships with start-ups and the new challenges facing the space sector.

Under the France Relance 2020-2022 recovery plan, for which CNES is leading the space component, the Toulouse-based SME has been awarded government-funded contracts for its projects to build deployable structures, qualify laser-welding assembly technology and cooperate on optical communications.

#### **About CNES**

CNES (Centre National d'Études Spatiales) is the government agency responsible for shaping France's space policy and implementing it in Europe. Its task is to conceive and orbit satellites, invent the space systems of the future and nurture new services to aid us in our daily lives. Founded in 1961, it is the initiator of major space projects, launch vehicles and satellites, and the partner of choice for industry fuelling innovation. CNES comprises some 2,400 men and women with a passion for space working to open up new and infinite fields of applications in five core areas of focus: Ariane, science, Earth observation, telecommunications and defence. The agency is a key player driving technology innovation, economic development and industrial policy for the nation. It also fosters scientific collaborations and has forged numerous international partnerships. France, represented by CNES, is one of the leading contributors to the European Space Agency (ESA).

#### **About Comat**

Founded in 1977, Comat is a strategic equipment supplier in the space sector, specializing in complex mechanical solutions. It is a leader in three categories: exploration and science, through its contribution to SuperCam and ChemCam and its participation in the Blob box and Telemaque acoustic tweezers for the Alpha mission; telecommunications, providing innovative solutions to large international firms; and smallsats, for which it is developing space mobility systems such as reaction wheels, plasma thrusters and various deployable structures. Comat recently received three accreditations from CNES for three areas of expertise concerning products and services.

## COMAT CONTACTS

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<b>Nadia Lecomte</b>	Head of Communications	Tel. +33 (0)6 31 43 74 73	<a href="mailto:n.lecomte@comat.space">n.lecomte@comat.space</a>
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## CNES CONTACTS

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<b>Olivia Baumann</b>	Press officer	Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 76 59	<a href="mailto:olivia.baumann@cnes.fr">olivia.baumann@cnes.fr</a>
<b>Pascale Bresson</b>	Press officer	Tel: +33 (0)1 44 76 75 39	<a href="mailto:pascale.bresson@cnes.fr">pascale.bresson@cnes.fr</a>
<b>Raphaël Sart</b>	Head of Media	Tel. +33 (0)1 44 76 74 51	<a href="mailto:raphael.sart@cnes.fr">raphael.sart@cnes.fr</a>

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