**Registration open to the Space3ac accelerator**

**On the 5th of May 2016, at a conference in the Polish Ministry of Development, the official registration for the new Gdańsk-based space accelerator was announced. The accelerator will support teams, such as Galileo Masters finalists, to enter the market with their concept.**

The Space3ac technology accelerator will support the development of the downstream segment of the space industry, which utilizes data sources such as Earth Observation, satellite navigation, telecommunications and/or meteorological data.

"The mission of the accelerator is to develop the Polish space sector by linking the business, industry, state-owned companies and public administration with startups. We intend to back the export of Polish space-related products and services not only to Europe, but also beyond" said Wojciech Drewczyński, one of the creators of Space3ac.

"The space industry is one of the most innovative and technologically advanced sectors, with increasing significance for the European and global industry. Many inventions and innovative solutions utilising satellite data support us in daily life.
I hope, that as in previous years, our scientists, engineers and entrepreneurs will attend to the competition in large numbers, and propose innovative ideas using satellite navigation" emphasized Jadwiga Emilewicz, Vice-minister of Development.

Startups, Galileo Masters and Copernicus Masters finalists or academic teams working on projects utilising various satellite data can apply to the acceleration program. During the selection of the best projects the following will be taken into account: technical knowledge, market awareness, team composition, business potential, and above all the project itself and the problem, which it should solve.

The application process is open until the 20th of June at the [www.space3.ac](http://www.space3.ac/) website. Initially, 10 teams will be preselected, which will be invited to the Preparation Camp at the Gdańsk Entrepreneurship Incubator Starter taking part between the 27th and 29th of June. The acceleration program for the 5 best teams selected at the preparation camp will start on the 18th of July and will continue to

the 28th of August 2016. The first class of the acceleration program will finish on the 8th of September at a Demo Day, in front of group of international investors.

During the program the participants will learn how to conduct and manage space projects. A large group of local and international mentors will support the teams in business and technical issues needed for project implementation.

The best team will obtain 50 k PLN (ca 12 k EUR) for Research and Development activities. Teams will also get the chance for a commercial implementation of the created technologies among the program partners, especially coming from the industry and state-companies. The current total pool of investment funds coming from national and international sources amounts to 2 M PLN (ca. 450 k EUR) and will likely rise over the next months. In addition to financial support the teams can also benefit from the broad contact network of Space3ac, in such entities as ESA, GSA, POLSA, and Polish and international space industry companies.

Partners of the Space3ac accelerator: City of Gdańsk, Black Pearls VC, Blue Dot Solutions, Industry Development Agency, Pomeranian Special Economic Zone, Polish Space Agency, Polish Agency for Industry Development, Interizon Cluster, Creotech Instruments, O4, “Starter” Entrepreneurship Incubator in Gdańsk.

If you are interested in becoming a Space3ac partner and participate to the project, please write us – we look for both Polish and international partners.

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