

**EMPOWERING  
INNOVATION  
TOGETHER**  
with Grant Imahara**Media Contact:**

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## Winning Design of Mouser Electronics' International Space Station Design Challenge Is 3D-Printed in Space

**April 17, 2017** – [Mouser Electronics](#) Inc. and Grant Imahara today announced that the winning design in the [International Space Station \(I.S.S.\) Design Challenge](#) has been 3D-printed in space. The winning design, a satellite-launching device, is now in orbit and may one day be used by astronauts for a variety of missions.

Cupertino (Calif.)-based engineer Andy Filo designed the device, which allows astronauts to launch femtosatellites (tiny satellites about the size of a postage stamp and weighing less than 100 grams) in zero gravity. Scientists can use femtosatellites in many different missions and applications, including monitoring disasters, studying Earth's environment, and even flying in formation to create a giant antenna for deep space analysis.

"Mouser is excited to be part of new and innovative projects that bring together engineers and makers from around the world and — in this case — beyond," said Glenn Smith, President and CEO of Mouser Electronics. "Andy's femtosatellite-launching device meets the needs of astronauts as well as Earthbound researchers and engineers."

Filo's femtosatellite project was chosen from 242 entries and digitally transmitted to the I.S.S., where it was 3D-printed on April 3 by Made In Space's Additive Manufacturing Facility (AMF) — the first commercially available off-world manufacturing service and the only 3D printer adapted for use in the vacuum of space. Made In Space and Filo made some last-minute modifications after I.S.S. received the original design, rounding the handle to increase usability and comfort and further editing the design to increase printing speed.

Filo and his creation are showcased in a [video](#) that features celebrity engineer Grant Imahara as the two visit the Made In Space 3D Printing Lab at NASA's Ames Research Center. Mouser will soon release the final video in the I.S.S. Design Challenge series on [Mouser's YouTube channel](#) as well as on the [Empowering Innovation Together](#)™ program page. The I.S.S. Design Challenge is one of several innovative series in the Empowering Innovation Together program, which features the Innovation Lab for new projects ranging from [bringing superhero technology](#) to life to [3D printing a semi-autonomous car](#) with drone technology.

Mouser's valued suppliers [Amphenol](#) and [Intel](#)® are co-sponsors of the I.S.S. Design Challenge. Mouser also partnered with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and Made In Space, along with Hackster and MacroFab.

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### **About Mouser Electronics**

Mouser Electronics, a subsidiary of TTI, Inc., is part of Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway family of companies. Mouser is an award-winning, authorized semiconductor and electronic component distributor focused on rapid New Product Introductions from its manufacturing partners for electronic design engineers and buyers. Mouser.com features more than 4 million products from more than 600 manufacturers. The global distributor's website offers multiple languages and currencies, providing designers worldwide with the newest data on the components now available for the next generation of electronic devices. Mouser ships globally to over 500,000 customers in 170 countries from its 750,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art facility south of Dallas, Texas. For more information, visit [www.mouser.com](http://www.mouser.com).

### **About Grant Imahara**

Well known in the engineering community, Grant Imahara has paired his engineering expertise with a Hollywood TV and film career. In addition to his roles on *MythBusters* and *BattleBots*, Imahara is the inventor behind many famous robotic characters, including the Star Wars prequel-era R2-D2, talking robot sidekick Geoff Peterson from *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson*, and the rhythmic arms on the modern-day Energizer Bunny.

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