

Results of the Astrium industrial assessment study

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A one year and a half assessment study has been performed by Astrium for the European Space Agency on the EChO mission, a medium-class mission planned for the next decade. The EChO spacecraft will be launched by Soyouz Fregat from Kourou and directly injected to an orbit around L2. This orbit enables a very stable environment to the cold payload during the observation of exoplanet transits. A summary of the major aspects of the S/C design is illustrated. Major budgets and performances are presented. These study results show that the design is compliant to the mission requirements including the launcher capabilities.