



AN INTERNATIONAL SUBSEA VILLAGE AS ECHOE TO SPACE EXPLORATION

"It is time to develop a permanent research base in the oceans » -Jacques Rougerie

The architect and oceanographer Jacques Rougerie initiates the development of an international subsea village dedicated to research, education and the development of the Blue Economy together with the start-up SPARTAN SPACE. Together, they are searching for partners.

Imagine a permanent underwater campus that would allow researchers, students and engineers to study in situ and continuously over long periods the biodiversity and subsea environment. The concept, an international subsea base, is comparable to an international space station where researchers from different nationalities works on a common goal. The base with 30m diameter can host a crew of 16 aquanauts and will be anchored in a depth between 20m and 30m depth. It will be equipped with a control centre, laboratories and a moon pool for divers, different AUV (Autonomous Underwater Vehicle) and submarines to enter the station. The consortium of the International Subsea Village have started discussing with different naval yards and suppliers on the construction.

After years of research on concepts such as the underwater village offshore the Virgin Islands and the development of different subsea habitats such as Galathée, Hippocampe, Ocean Observer, Aquabulle which he himself has operated, Jacques Rougerie is convinced that the time has come to develop a large scale project on an International Subsea Village. Since 2019 he has developed different designs and since December 2020 Peter Weiss, founder of Spartan Space and his team has joined him in the development of the concept. Very few such stations are operational today and non is crewed permanently. They propose an architecture of various underwater modules that allow to test new technologies in life support systems, renewable energies and robotics. The proposed station would also allow to study the specificities of life in extreme environment. The parallels between space and subsea exploration have always motivated both associates. Both great adventures fascinate humanity, constitute an inspiration for the next generations while offering numerous perspectives for the common good of humanity and scientific knowledge. Technological solutions developed for the International Subsea Village will also bring new perspectives for terrestrial applications in the field of communication, mobility, urbanism and architecture.

“A beautiful goal would be that this station is ready around 2025 in consonance with the return of astronauts to the lunar surface. That would truly inaugurate a new era of human exploration!” states Jacques Rougerie.

About Créations Jacques Rougerie

Jacques Rougerie is a visionary and world-wide renown French architect and Academician specialised in the domain of maritime and costal habitats. Passioned by the oceans and space he bases his work and his innovations on biomimetic, bio-inspired, resilient and sustainable architecture. His emblematic project "SEAORBITER" is an international ocean station dedicated on scientific research, exploration, climate studies and education. He develops since more than 25 years projects on floating villages and lunar stations. He built maritime museums, sport centres and harbour installations. A true explorer, he tries out his own creations. He has lived several times in his underwater habitats and he took part in the world record of 69 days under the sea in the United States in 1992. In 2009 he created the Fondation Jacques Rougerie which is hosted at the Institute de France and created the International Architectural Award on costal, underwater and space habitats. He has always been inspired by the work of Jules Verne and has embraced his maxime: *"Whatever one man can imagine, other men will be able to achieve"*.

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About Spartan Space

The start-up Spartan Space was created beginning 2021 to develop solutions for habitation systems in extreme environments. The young company is composed of engineers, astronauts and architects who are all experts in maritime and space technologies. Its vision is that in the near future men and women will be permanently live and work in the oceans and in space. Technologies enabling such habitats can be transferred from one field to another and can also be used in normal, terrestrial applications. Spartan Space is incubated by the INCUBATOR PACA EST and was selected by CNES for TECHTHEMOON, a selection of French start-ups that develop technology for future lunar exploration.

Website : www.spartan-space.com
Twitter : [@Spartan_space](https://twitter.com/Spartan_space)

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